

**PCC ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED**

**Meyer hails landmark year in 2007, as record numbers turn to PCC to help protect their privacy**

2007 was a landmark year for the Press Complaints Commission. It handled a record number of complaints about privacy intrusion; it reinforced its digital presence, including by expanding its remit to encompass audio-visual material; and it did more proactive, behind-the-scenes work than ever to help ordinary people caught in the media spotlight.

Launching the organisation's 2007 annual report, the Chairman of the PCC, Sir Christopher Meyer, said:

"Not only have we established ourselves as a fast and effective arbitrator of privacy disputes, discreetly settling over a hundred such complaints to the satisfaction of the complainant in 2007, but we also help prevent intrusions in dozens more cases with pre-publication advice and action to disperse media scrums. Additionally, we made almost 250 rulings on privacy under the Code of Practice to add to our case law. Our annual report sets out in detail how we achieve this and, for the first time, includes real examples from our files.

"What is more, the flexible service offered by the PCC is clearly sought-after in resolving complaints about digital media. This is because, when information can go round the world in the blink of an eye, consumers are chiefly demanding quick solutions to their problems. The majority of complaints in 2007 – for the first time – concerned articles as they appeared online, not in the paper.

"I believe that 2007 has shown, more than ever before, the PCC to be worthy of the increasing confidence that is being placed in us, by the industry, by the political establishment and – most important – by the members of the public who use our wide-ranging services."

To read the report, [click here](#)

**ENDS**

Notes for editors:

1. The Press Complaints Commission is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines and their websites. There are seven industry representatives and ten members of the public on the Commission's board.
2. The PCC administers a Code of Practice which covers accuracy and privacy in reporting and contains numerous rules about how news may be gathered.
3. The Code of Practice has applied to written words and still pictures on newspaper and magazine websites since 1997, and moving pictures and sound since January 2007.
4. Details of all the Commission's adjudications and resolved complaints can be found on its website – [www.pcc.org.uk](http://www.pcc.org.uk) – which regularly breaks news about the outcome of complaints.
5. For more information, contact Stephen Abell on 020 7831 0022 or 07659 158536.
6. Hard copies of the Annual Report can be requested from [catherine.speller@pcc.org.uk](mailto:catherine.speller@pcc.org.uk).

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