

THE LEVESON INQUIRY:  
THE CULTURE, PRACTICES AND ETHICS OF THE PRESS

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WITNESS STATEMENT OF CHRISTOPHER IAN PARKER

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I, CHRISTOPHER IAN PARKER, c/o Microsoft Limited, Microsoft Campus, Thames Valley Park, Reading, RG6 1WG, WILL SAY as follows:

1. I am an Associate General Counsel, Legal and Corporate Affairs at Microsoft Limited. I make this statement in response to a request made pursuant to section 21 of the Inquiries Act 2005 in a letter (the "Request Letter") dated 13 December 2011 from Ms Sharon Hiles, the Senior Assistant Solicitor to the Leveson Inquiry, that Microsoft Limited provides a witness to address the nine questions set out in the Request Letter (the "Questions").
2. I am an English barrister and I lead the Legal and Corporate Affairs team at Microsoft Limited. This means that I am responsible for managing the Legal and Corporate Affairs team, including UK-based attorneys, and advising Microsoft Limited on legal and policy matters arising from its business. My main place of work is at Microsoft Limited's Campus in Reading. Prior to joining Microsoft Limited, I was Senior Counsel for Apple Europe and Legal & Government Affairs Director at Compaq Computer Ltd. I also spent more than 17 years at Digital Equipment Co. Ltd. (DEC) in various legal roles.
3. Microsoft Limited is a UK-based sales and marketing company that conducts certain sales-related and marketing-related activities on behalf of other Microsoft companies, including our ultimate holding company, Microsoft Corporation. Microsoft Corporation is a company established under the laws of Washington, USA, based in Redmond, Washington, USA. Microsoft Limited does not operate the Bing search engine and does not own or control servers used for the Bing search engine.
4. I have reviewed the Questions. They appear to concentrate on certain matters relating to the status and operation of Microsoft Corporation, the operation of Microsoft Corporation's Bing search engine and the relationship between search engines and news.

5. As a sales and marketing company, Microsoft Limited is not able to provide answers to the Questions but has passed the matters raised by the Request Letter to Microsoft Corporation. Microsoft Corporation is happy to provide its views and I am pleased to exhibit their response on these matters. (Exhibit CIP).

I believe the contents of this witness statement are true.



CHRISTOPHER IAN PARKER

23 December 2011