

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019



PRESS COUNCIL  
OF IRELAND



OFFICE OF  
THE PRESS  
OMBUDSMAN

*The Press Council of Ireland  
and the Office of the Press  
Ombudsman exist to safeguard  
and promote professional and  
ethical standards in Irish  
newspapers, magazines and  
online news publications.*

All photographs used in this report were taken by members of the Press Photographers Association of Ireland and featured in the 2020 Press Photographer of the Year Award.

We are grateful to the members of the PPAI for allowing us continued permission to reproduce these images in our Annual Report.

Cover: SUMMER SHOWER Marc O'Sullivan Marc O'Sullivan Photography

*A torrential summer rain shower on Abbey Street, Dublin*

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SUMMER FUN Tom Honan *Tom Honan Photography*

*The Stokes Family from West Limerick enjoying an ice cream on Portmarnock Beach*

# INTRODUCTION

## PRESS COUNCIL OF IRELAND

*The Press Council of Ireland is responsible for the oversight of the professional principles embodied in the Code of Practice, and with upholding the freedom of the press. It operates with the support and cooperation of member publications and journalists. It decides on appeals from decisions of the Press Ombudsman and on complaints referred to it directly by the Press Ombudsman. It is independent of both government and media.*

## OFFICE OF THE PRESS OMBUDSMAN

*The Office of the Press Ombudsman receives complaints from members of the public and seeks to resolve them by conciliation or mediation to the satisfaction of everyone concerned. Where conciliation or mediation is not possible, the Press Ombudsman will make a decision on the complaint based on the Code of Practice.*

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The year 2019 proved to be a challenging year for member publications of the Press Council of Ireland. Member publications include national and local newspapers, magazines and online-only news publications.

Income from advertising for member publications - a critical part of their revenue stream - continued to decline as the advertising market directed more and more of its campaigns towards social media. Unregulated social media conglomerates, using micro-targeted advertisement campaigns, are now in receipt of most online advertising revenue, leaving the rest of the market competing for a declining share of this essential source of income.

Newspaper and magazine print circulation also continued to decline in 2019, although trojan efforts have been made by both to reallocate resources to provide an effective digital strategy to attract new readers online while holding on to their existing print readers. As many readers come to the realisation that a lot of news through their social media feeds is unreliable, they are turning to member publications of the Press Council so as to ensure that the news they receive is trustworthy.

Member publications of the Press Council are a vital pillar of democracy. They uncover truth and hold power to account. They have provided and continue to provide a crucial, trustworthy service to the communities in which they circulate and to the audience which they reach online. Because of their track record of reliability, credibility and responsibility they have earned the trust of their readers.

The Press Council has played an important role in maintaining and building on this trust. Our member publications adhere to a Code of Practice that safeguards and promotes the highest professional



Seán Donlon - Chairman

and ethical standards in the press. In return, the Press Council protects and promotes the freedom of the press, and it is this freedom that allows the press to act as a check on State and corporate power, because the health of an independent press is an essential part of our democracy.

In this regard the Press Council continues to call on the Government to review the detrimental impact our current defamation law has on press freedom, and consequently on the commercial viability of the press in Ireland. When people are defamed they are entitled to take court action for any wrongful loss of reputation. However, if the award is so large and the consequences so harsh that publishers run the risk of going out of business, there is a real danger that democracy will suffer through the suppression of the means of communicating facts and opinions.

# COMPLAINTS

TOTAL 252

## **32 Decided by Press Ombudsman (see page 5 for breakdown)**

## **25 Resolved by the editor to the satisfaction of the complainant**

Nine complaints were resolved through the Office's formal conciliation process and 16 complaints were resolved when the complainant, after contacting the Office for advice, contacted the editor directly and the editor resolved the matter to the complainant's satisfaction without the need for a formal complaint to proceed.

## **13 Consideration postponed because subject matter of complaint was subject matter of ongoing court proceedings**

## **2 Complainant did not pursue matter following editor's response**

## **1 Decided by Press Council on referral**

## **66 Not pursued beyond preliminary stage by complainant**

These were cases where the complainant was given the contact details for the publisher, together with advice on the Code of Practice and how to make a complaint, but decided not to pursue the matter further with the Office after the initial contact. Some of these complaints may subsequently have been satisfactorily resolved following the submission of the complaint directly to the editor of the publication concerned.

## **29 Out of time**

These were complaints that were received outside the three-month deadline for making a complaint.

## **26 Miscellaneous**

## **21 Unauthorised third party**

These were complainants who were not personally affected by an article, or who complained about an article written about another person, but without that person's permission to make a complaint.

## **13 User Generated Content**

## **12 Publication not member of Press Council**

All national newspapers, most local newspapers, many magazines and some online-only news publications are members of the Press Council.

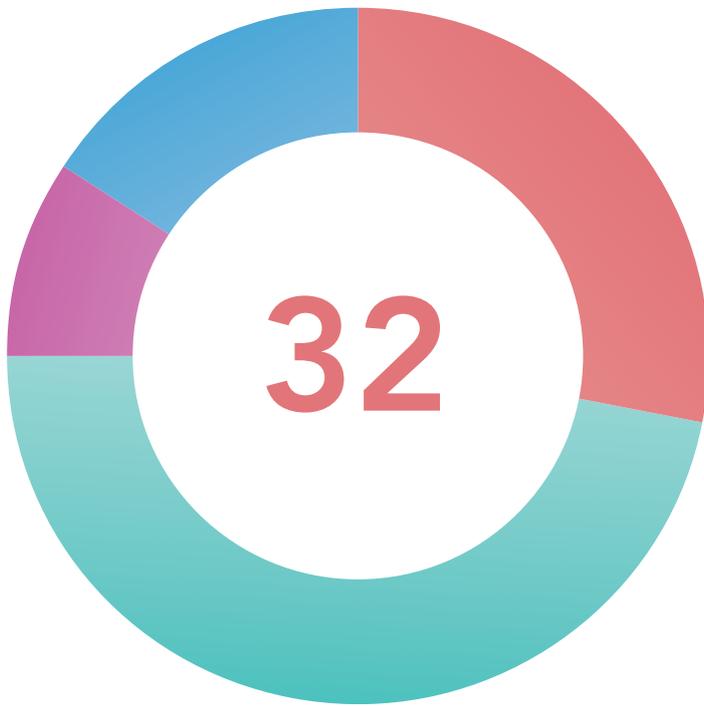
## **9 Other regulatory authority**

These were mostly for the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland or the Advertising Standards Authority of Ireland.

## **3 Live at end 2019**

## COMPLAINTS DECIDED BY PRESS OMBUDSMAN:

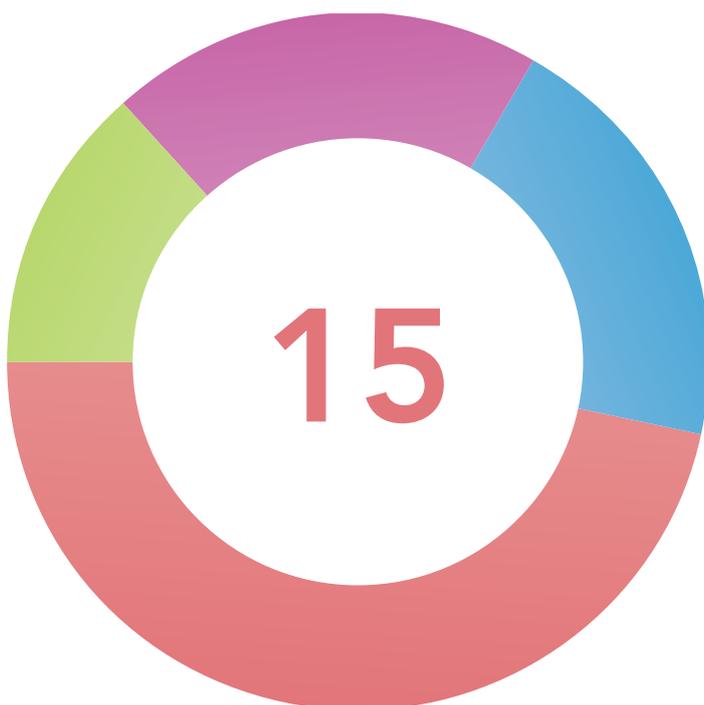
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- 15 Not upheld
- 9 Upheld
- 5 Sufficient remedial action offered by the publication to resolve the complaint
- 3 Insufficient evidence to make a decision

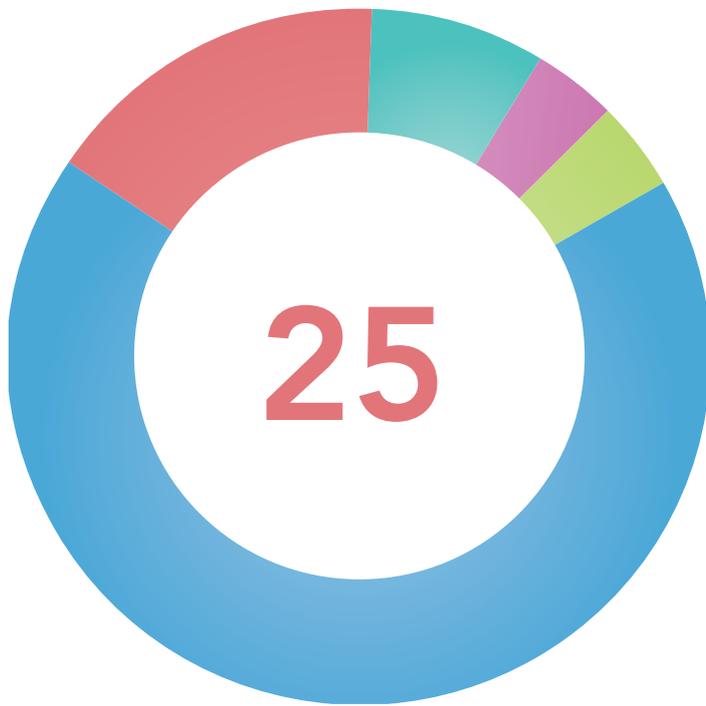
## APPEALS RECEIVED BY THE PRESS COUNCIL

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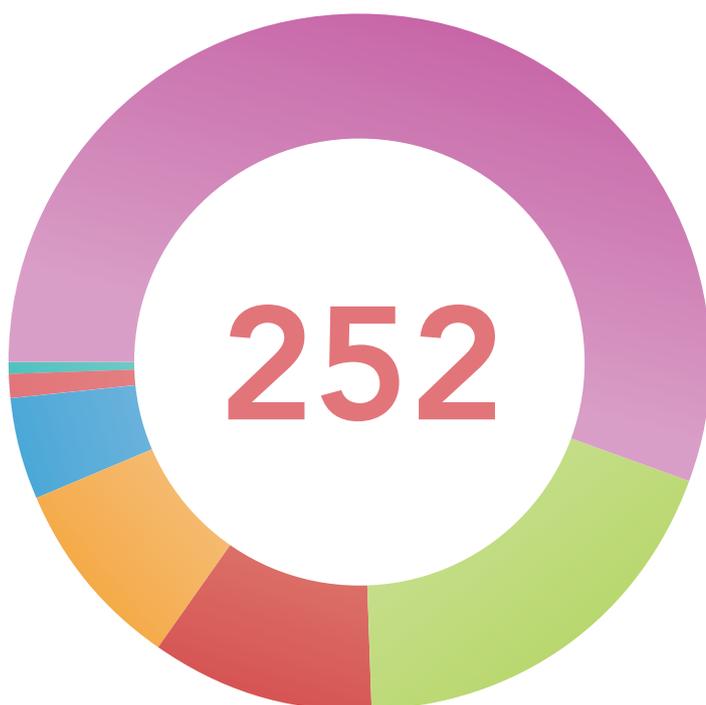
- 7 Not admitted
- 3 Rejected
- 3 Upheld
- 2 Carried over to 2020

## RESOLVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE COMPLAINANT



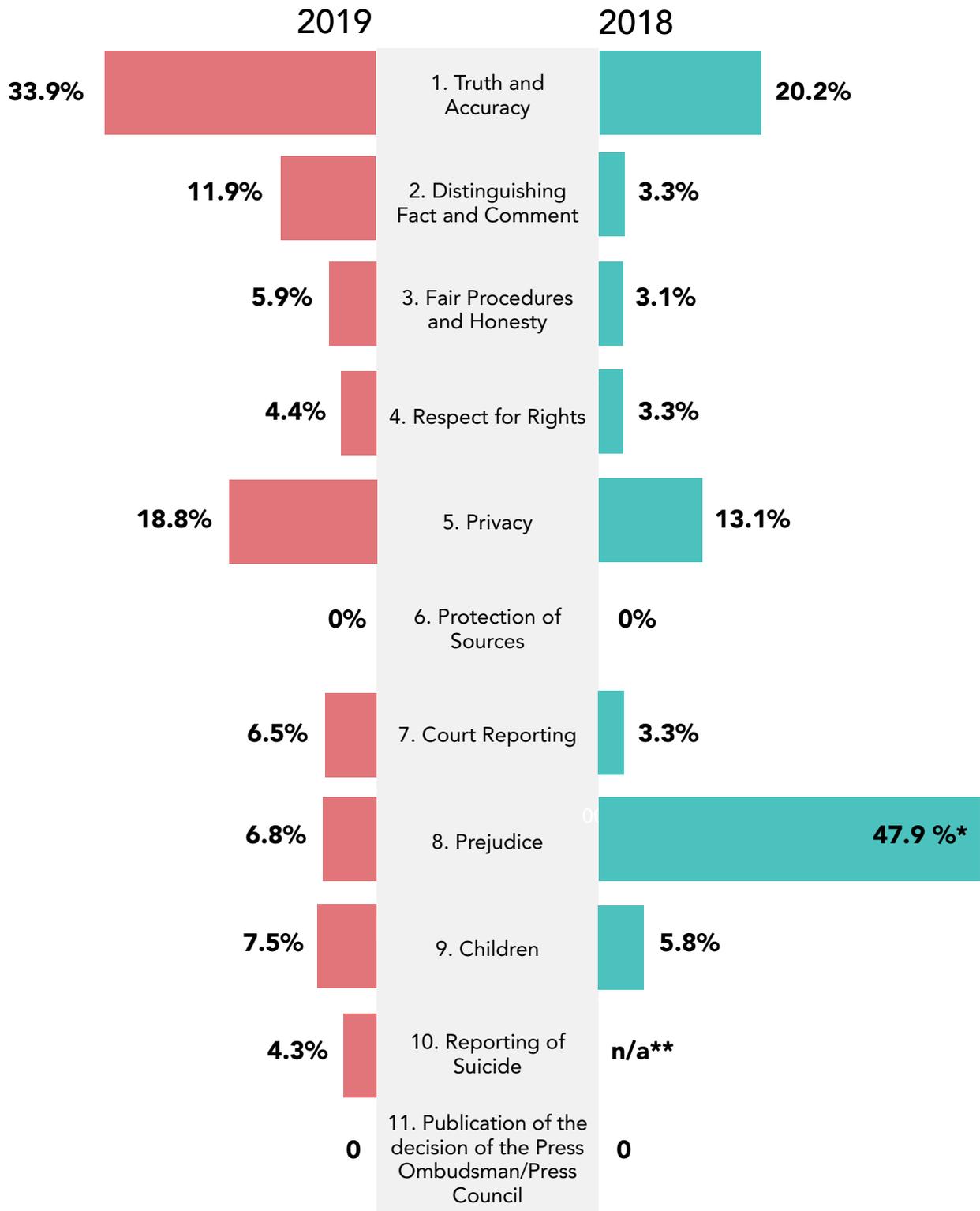
- 17 Amendment/deletion of online material
- 4 Publication of correction/clarification/apology
- 2 Undertaking about future coverage of subject matter of complaint
- 1 Publication of podcast
- 1 Meeting with editor

## PUBLICATION LEADING TO COMPLAINT



- 140 National newspaper (print and online)
- 48 Not indicated by complainant
- 26 Local newspaper (print and online)
- 22 Online-only news publication
- 12 Non-member publication
- 3 Student publication
- 1 Magazine

## PRINCIPLES OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE CITED BY COMPLAINANTS:



\*In 2018, 93% of complaints (160) made under Principle 8 were about one article (a cartoon).

\*\* In 2018, the provision in relation to suicide was a sub-section of Principle 5: in 2019 it became a standalone Principle.

Complainants often cite a breach of more than one Principle of the Code of Practice in their complaint. The full text of the Code is published on pages 28 and 29.



HORSING AROUND Lorraine O'Sullivan *Lorraine O'Sullivan Photographs*  
*Competitors and staff pictured during the Tattersalls International Horse Trials 2019*

# PRESS OMBUDSMAN'S REPORT

The number of complaints received by the Office in 2019 was 252. Twenty-five complaints were resolved to the satisfaction of complainants and publishers. The Press Ombudsman issued a formal decision in 32 complaints, nine of these complaints were upheld.

## THE NINE COMPLAINTS UPHELD BY THE PRESS OMBUDSMAN WERE AS FOLLOWS:



Peter Feeney - Press Ombudsman

### **A Mother and Extra.ie**

A report about the well-being of a child whose stepfather was in prison was judged to have breached requirements of the Code of Practice in regard to a failure to take reasonable care in checking facts before publication (Principle 4), the privacy of the child's mother (Principle 5) and a failure to have regard for the vulnerability of a child (Principle 9).

The decision was not appealed.

### **Mr Colm Keaveney and The Irish Times**

A complaint about a report concerning the bankruptcy status of the complainant on a particular date resulted in a decision that Principle 1 (Truth and Accuracy) had been breached.

Both the complainant and the newspaper appealed the decision. The Press Council rejected both appeals.

### **A Mother and Evoke.ie**

An article based on information and photographs taken from an Instagram account which dealt with struggles to overcome health issues was found to be in breach of Principle 3 (Fair Procedures and Honesty), Principle 5 (Privacy) and Principle 9 (Children).

The decision was not appealed.

### **Mr Jim Corr and the Sunday World**

The newspaper had made no effort to contact the complainant before publishing claims regarding his views on controversial matters and was therefore found to be in breach of Principle 4 (Respect for Rights).

The decision was not appealed.

### **Mr Eddie Sheehy and Village**

The Press Ombudsman decided that Village had breached Principle 1 (Truth and Accuracy) in an article on the subject of a previous complaint to the Office of the Press Ombudsman by the complainant.

The decision was not appealed.



**STAND HERE LEO!** Aidan Crawley *APA-EFE*

*German Chancellor Angela Merkel with Taoiseach Leo Varadkar in Farmleigh, Dublin*

### **A Man and the Irish Examiner**

The newspaper acknowledged that it had published something inaccurate in a headline but did not correct the inaccuracy in the print edition and a correction in the online edition was not carried out promptly. Principle 1 (Truth and Accuracy) of the Code of Practice was therefore breached.

The newspaper appealed the decision. The Press Council rejected the appeal.

### **A Woman and the Waterford News & Star**

An account of an inquest into the death of a man by suicide was found to have breached Principle 5 (Privacy).

The newspaper appealed the decision. The Press Council upheld the appeal (see page 17).

### **Ireland South East Development Office and The Irish Times**

Principle 1 (Truth and Accuracy) was breached in a report about unemployment levels in the South East.

The decision was not appealed.

### **A Woman, her Son and the Sunday World**

The Press Ombudsman decided that the newspaper had breached Principle 5 (Privacy) and Principle 9 (Children) in a report about a woman accompanied by her son visiting her husband in prison.

The newspaper appealed the decision. The Press Council upheld the appeal (see page 17).

All decisions of the Press Ombudsman and outcomes of appeals to the Press Council are available on our website [www.pressombudsman.ie](http://www.pressombudsman.ie)



L-R: Julia Tereno, Sarah Gallagher, Seán Donlon (Chairman), Muireann Duffy and Janice Furphy

## STUDENT BURSARY AWARDS

The Press Council gave bursary awards to four students in 2019. Muireann Duffy from the University of Limerick received the top award for a series of articles she had written on the subject of services available for people with cancer. Second place awards were given to Sarah Gallagher of Dublin City University and Janice Furphy of Coláiste Dhúlaigh. The subject matter of Sarah's articles was transgender people and the hurdles they face in accessing services. Janice's articles were on the survivors and families of the victims of the Stardust fire tragedy of 40 years ago. A commendation award was made to Julia Tereno of NUI Galway for a series of articles on various topics including gun control laws in her native Brazil, women candidates running in local elections in Galway and preparation for Brexit by local businesses in Galway.

## COMMUNICATIONS/OUTREACH PROGRAMME

The Press Ombudsman and Case Officer attended a large number of conferences, seminars and presentations in 2019. The subject matter of these events included suicide prevention measures, promotion of human rights, children's online safety campaigns, development of digital media, reporting of court proceedings, media literacy, mental health, national security in the digital age and women's rights. Presentations on the work of the Press Council were made to students at NUI Galway, University of Limerick and Griffith College.

## ADVISORY NOTICES

The Office of the Press Ombudsman on occasion issues Advisory Notices to editors, typically drawing editors' attention to upcoming circumstances where there is likely to be media interest, often at

times of tragedy and distress. Also, on occasion organisations working on behalf of the public good can avail of Advisory Notices to inform editors of particular concerns. Editors welcome Advisory Notices as they draw attention to circumstances which journalists may not be aware of or issues which may impact on readers in unforeseen ways.

There were seven Advisory Notices issued in 2019.

An Advisory Notice was issued in response to concerns expressed by Headline (the national media programme for responsible reporting and representation of mental health and suicide) and Shine (campaigning for the rights of people with mental illness) on confusion between the use of the terms "Psychosis" and "Psychopathy".

An Advisory Notice was issued on behalf of a family when a relative was released from prison. Family members did not wish to comment to reporters and requested that their privacy be respected.

An Advisory Notice was issued in response to concerns expressed by the National Suicide Research Foundation on the threat to vulnerable people of an online campaign which could encourage young people to make contact online with strangers.

An Advisory Notice was issued on behalf of a family where a family member had been murdered outside of Ireland and it was felt that some details could have an adverse effect on younger family members.

An Advisory Notice was issued in response to a family who did not wish for photographs to be taken at the funeral of a family member killed in a road accident.

An Advisory Notice was issued at the request of a woman concerned that the reporting of a current court case might include information about a crime almost two decades ago when she had been a victim of the person currently before the courts.

An Advisory Notice was issued on behalf of the family of a man currently on trial. The family did not wish to be approached by the media and requested that their privacy be respected.

# CASE OFFICER'S REPORT



Bernie Grogan - Case Officer

## The complaints process

Any person or organisation can make a complaint about an article published in a member publication of the Press Council of Ireland (a full list of member publications can be found on pages 21 to 27), or about the behaviour of a journalist, so long as

- the person or organisation making the complaint is personally affected
- the complaint presents evidence of a possible breach of the Press Council's Code of Practice
- the article was published, or the behaviour took place, within the previous three months

Through our conciliation service our Office provides a quick, fair and free method of resolving complaints. We work closely with both the complainant and the editor to find a resolution to the complaint that is mutually acceptable, because the aim of the conciliation process is to produce a resolution to complaints in a non-legalistic and speedy manner.

Before a complaint can be considered by our Office the complainant must take up the matter in writing directly with the editor. It is the case – and the statistics for the year bear this out - that editors, when presented with a complaint that has clear merit, prove more than willing to take the matter

onboard and make a genuine effort to offer swift redress to complainants.

## How complaints are resolved

Complaints are resolved in a myriad of different ways and often editors will offer more than one means of resolving a complaint. The range of outcomes that can be achieved for the complainant at the end of the conciliation process depends on the nature and significance of the complaint, and whether the article was published in print, online, or both. There were a variety of ways in which complaints were resolved during the year, including:

- the amendment or deletion of an online article
- the publication of a correction, apology or clarification
- an undertaking by the editor on future coverage of the subject matter of the article under complaint
- the publication of a right of reply
- an explanation from the editor as to the background to the article
- a meeting with the editor

## Online articles

Two-thirds of the complaints that were resolved to the satisfaction of complainants related to online articles. While amending an online article is a very speedy resolution to a complaint, an online article is part of a publication's archive and editors will look for supporting evidence that an online article presented a breach of the Code before altering its archive.

## Court reports

Quite a number of complaints that were resolved related to court reports. We receive many complaints from people who have given evidence in open court who are not aware that all evidence, including their names and addresses, can be published as part of the public record (so long as reporting restrictions have not been imposed and

it does not otherwise breach the Code of Practice). Full names and addresses are published so as to distinguish the person giving evidence from any other person with the same name living in the same community or area, which could lead to a person being wrongly identified.

Notwithstanding this, editors listen to the concerns of their readers when presented with a complaint about a court report when, while the information published may be accurate, other issues arise. For instance, a man who was the subject of an assault by his neighbour complained that a newspaper, when reporting on the escape from prison of his attacker, referred to the fact that the complainant was currently on holidays. The editor met the man and apologised for the distress caused and undertook to speak to the newspaper's reporters about not mentioning the location of victims in future.

In another case a number of newspapers, when reporting on the dismissal of an appeal by a man on the severity of his sentence for rape, published online some details of the assault (the graphic details had formed part of the evidence given during the man's original trial). The woman who was the

subject of the assault was very upset and distressed when she read the details of the assault carried out on her some years previously. On receipt of the complaint the newspapers deleted the information in question.

### Podcast

This year for the first time we dealt with a complaint about a podcast. A presenter of a current affairs radio programme complained that the podcast, which reported on an interview he carried out with a newly elected councillor, was distorted and had taken out of context his line of questioning of the councillor. The complaint was resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant after his grievance was read out on a future podcast and the original podcast was linked to that podcast.

### Mediation

Complaints can also be resolved through mediation. This is where an editor and the complainant meet, on a strictly voluntary and confidential basis, to discuss a complaint with the aim of arriving at a mutually satisfactory settlement. The process is facilitated by a trained mediator who will assist the parties to clarify the issues involved and explore



**CROSS COUNTRY Morgan Treacy INPHO Photography**

*A general view of athletes running in the Men's Senior Race at the 2019 European Cross Country Championships, Bela Vista Park, Lisbon, Portugal*

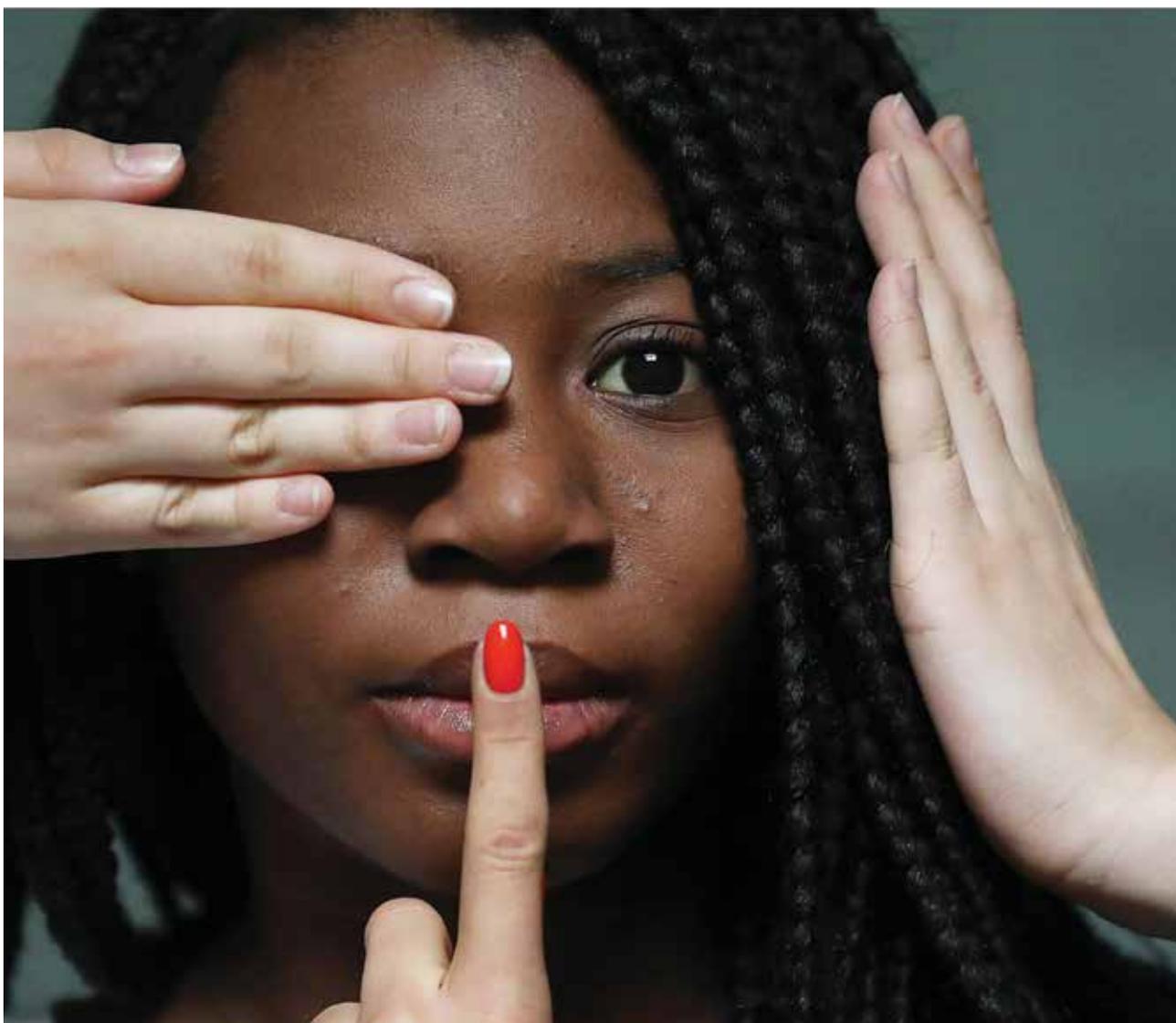
various options for coming to a resolution. The confidentiality of the process can encourage frankness and honesty when exploring possible solutions, and both parties are directly involved in arriving at an agreement. It is swift and flexible and if a settlement cannot be reached the complaint will then be speedily processed in the usual manner through the Office's conciliation process.

### **Information seminars and training sessions**

Our Office is committed to publicising the service that we provide as widely as possible, and to seeking out opportunities to engage with the public so as to ensure that the service we provide is familiar to everyone who might need it.

We are always happy to offer advice and assistance to anyone who, while not wishing to make a formal complaint, may seek guidance on how to proceed with an issue relating to the press.

We also run information seminars and training courses for voluntary organisations and support groups to assist them in their dealings with the press. These seminars are useful for advocacy teams, information officers and service users. They include an explanation of how a complaint should be made, what can be complained about, and what the likely outcome will be. Organisations should contact our office directly if they would like us to run an information seminar or training course for their members.



**ENDING RACISM** Julien Behan *Julien Behan Photography*

*Kelly Mathias at "Be Heard Ending Racial Discrimination in Ireland", a consultation event hosted by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission together with the National Youth Council of Ireland*

# THE PRESS COUNCIL OF IRELAND

The Press Council of Ireland has 13 members, who ex officio constitute the Board of Directors of The Press Council of Ireland CLG.

In 2019 Mr Denis Doherty and Mr Deaglán de Bréadún reached the end of their terms of office on the Council. They were replaced by Ms Sunniva McDonagh and Ms Siobhán Holliman.

At 31 December 2019 the members of the Press Council were as follows:

## Independent members:

- Mr Seán Donlon (Chairman)
- Mr Brendan Butler (Deputy Chairman)
- Ms Denise Charlton
- Ms Patricia O'Donovan
- Dr Ruth Barrington
- Professor Maeve Conrick
- Ms Sunniva McDonagh

## Members drawn from the press industry:

- Mr Ken Davis
- Dr John J Lynch
- Mr Ruadhán Mac Cormaic
- Ms Catherine Lee
- Mr Frank Fitzgibbon
- Ms Siobhán Holliman

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Press Council held its Annual General Meeting on 29 May 2019. The meeting approved the company accounts and re-appointed Smith & Williamson as the company's auditors.

## CODE COMMITTEE

The Code Committee is responsible for keeping the Code of Practice under review and updating it when necessary, in consultation with the Press Council.

## Members of the Code Committee:

- Mr Brendan Keenan (Chairman)
- Mr Kieran McDaid (Irish Daily Star)
- Mr Cormac Bourke (INM)
- Mr Colin Kerr (Euro Times)
- Mr Chris Dooley (The Irish Times)
- Mr David Burke (Tuam Herald)
- Mr Seamus Dooley (NUJ)
- Mr Peter Feeney (Press Ombudsman) (ex officio)

## APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

The independent public interest directors of the Press Council are appointed by an independent Appointments Committee following a process of public advertisement, short-listing and interview. The Committee also receives nominations from the press industry for the remaining six industry seats on the Council.

At 31 December 2019 the members of the Appointments Committee were:

- Mr Dermot McCarthy
- Ms Bride Rosney
- Professor Frances Ruane
- Mr Seán Donlon (Chairman of the Press Council)



Miriam Laffan - PA/Administration



**BEAT AT BEALTAINE** Lorraine Teevan *Lorraine Teevan Photography*

*Ailbhe Ní Ríán takes part in the “Uisneach Bealtaine” fire celebration.*

## ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT PRESS COUNCILS OF EUROPE (AIPCE)

The Press Council is an active member of the Alliance of Independent Press Councils of Europe and undertook responsibility for the development of a common website for European press councils, [www.presscouncils.eu](http://www.presscouncils.eu), as part of the “Media Councils in the Digital Age” project funded by the European Union.

## REFERRAL

The Press Ombudsman may exercise his discretion to refer a complaint directly to the Press Council for decision. The Chairman of the Press Council may then activate a sub-committee of the Council to consider the complaint and make a decision.

A complaint from Mr Ken O’Shea about The Sunday Business Post was referred to the Press Council by the Press Ombudsman, and the Council activated a sub-committee to consider the complaint. The complaint related to the newspaper’s reporting of an internal RTÉ disciplinary procedure which took place in 2012 following the broadcasting the previous year of the “Frontline” programme, a televised presidential candidates’ debate. The sub-committee

decided that the newspaper breached Principle 1 (Truth and Accuracy), Principle 2 (Distinguishing Fact and Comment) and Principle 3 (Fair Procedures and Honesty) of the Code of Practice. The newspaper appealed the decision to the full Council, which upheld the decision of the sub-committee (the members of the sub-committee recused themselves from the appeal hearing).

## APPEALS

Either party may appeal a substantive decision of the Press Ombudsman, or a decision of a sub-committee of the Press Council where the Press Ombudsman has exercised his power to refer a complaint directly to the Press Council, on one or more of the following grounds:

1. The procedures followed in making the decision were not in accordance with the published procedures for submitting and considering complaints.
2. That significant new information relevant to the original complaint is available that could not have been made available to the Press Ombudsman or the Press Council sub-committee before making the decision.
3. That there has been an error in the Press Ombudsman’s or Press Council sub-committee’s application of the Principles of the Code of Practice.



Back Row L-R: Denise Charlton, Frank Fitzgibbon, Brendan Butler, Deaglán de Bréadún (retired from the Council in 2019), Catherine Lee, Dr John J Lynch, Ruadhán Mac Cormaic, Ken Davis and Dr Ruth Barrington.  
 Front Row L- R: Prof Maeve Conrick, Seán Donlon (Chairman) and Patricia O'Donovan.  
Missing from the photograph: Sunniva McDonagh and Siobhan Holliman.

In 2019 the Council considered 13 appeals. Three appeals were upheld, three were rejected and seven were not admitted for consideration because they did not contain sufficient evidence to support the grounds cited in the appeal.

The three appeals upheld were as follows:

### **A Woman and the Waterford News & Star**

The Waterford News & Star appealed a decision of the Press Ombudsman to uphold a complaint that an article reporting on an inquest into the death of a man breached Principle 5.3 (Privacy) of the Code of Practice. The Press Council upheld the appeal on the grounds that the provision contained in Principle 5.3 of the Code that the feelings of grieving families should be taken into account in publishing information in situations of personal grief or shock should not be interpreted as restricting the right to report judicial proceedings.

### **Mr Bulelani Mfaco and The Irish Times**

Mr Mfaco appealed a decision of the Press Ombudsman not to uphold a complaint that a court report about a man who was accused of racially

abusing a taxi driver was in breach of Principle 8 (Prejudice) of the Code of Practice because the word n\*\*\*\*r was spelled out in the report. The Press Council upheld the appeal on the basis that publication of the word complained about breached Principle 8 of the Code because it was likely to cause grave offence and that the context did not justify its use.

### **A Woman, her Son and the Sunday World**

The Sunday World appealed a decision of the Press Ombudsman to uphold a complaint that the reporting of the visit of the woman to her husband in prison breached Principle 5 (Privacy) of the Code of Practice, and that publication of a photograph of the woman's son, although his face was pixilated, breached Principle 9 (Children) of the Code. The Press Council upheld the appeal under Principle 5 on the basis that the photograph of the woman had been taken in a public place and the subject matter of the article was of public interest. It also upheld the appeal under Principle 9 on the basis that the newspaper had taken reasonable steps to conceal the identity of the child.

All appeals to the Press Council are available at [www.presscouncil.ie](http://www.presscouncil.ie).

# FINANCE REPORT

The finances of the Press Council of Ireland are provided for, under the terms of its Constitution, by the Administrative Committee of the Press Council, which was chaired in 2019 by Brendan Butler, Deputy Chairman of the Council.

The Press Council and the Office of the Press Ombudsman are fully funded by member publications and each member title of the Council is levied in accordance with formulae determined by the Administrative Committee.

The Administrative Committee is charged with making full provision for the administrative needs of the Press Council and of the Office of the Press Ombudsman including funding, premises and staffing.

The Administrative Committee includes representatives of NewsBrands Ireland, Local Ireland, Magazines Ireland, online-only news publications and the National Union of Journalists. It determines its own membership, with the exception of the Chairman, who is appointed by the Press Council.

At 31 December 2019 the members were:

- Mr Brendan Butler (Chairman)
- Mr Adrian Acosta
- Mr Vincent Crowley
- Mr Seamus Dooley
- Mr David McDonagh
- Ms Ann Marie Lenihan
- Mr Eoin McVey
- Mr Johnny O'Hanlon
- Mr Paul Henderson
- Mr Colin Kerr



TEETHING TIE Dara Mac Dónaill *The Irish Times*

*Minister for Health Simon Harris at the launch of the HSE National Breastfeeding Week 2019 with some young attendees*

The costs for 2019 of the Press Council and the Office of the Press Ombudsman, together with comparative figures for the previous year, were as follows:

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Directors' fees	€55,000	€55,000
Staff salaries	€221,329	€225,105
Employer PRSI contributions for staff	€13,873	€13,777
Retirement benefits - defined contribution scheme	€6,255	€6,255
Seminars	€2,085	€2,028
Hotels, travel and subsistence	€2,745	€1,624
Printing and stationery	€8,040	€6,987
Telephone	€1,295	€1,332
Computer costs	€7,346	€10,499
Memberships	€508	€897
Legal and professional	€3,125	€4,200
Auditors' remuneration	€3,000	€3,270
Bank charges	€310	€274
Sundry expenses	€7,133	€1,901
Rent, rates and services	€33,977	€34,343
Cleaning	€1,222	€1,359
Insurances	€4,410	€4,439
Repairs and maintenance	€180	€215
Conference attendance costs	€1,119	€1,470
Management services	€18,000	€20,000
Annual Report and launch	€2,454	€4,823
Student Bursary Awards	€4,128	€4,129
Meeting room facilities	€5,993	€3,117
Depreciation	€200	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>€403,727</b>	<b>€407,044</b>



**SHANE LOWRY WINS THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP IN IRELAND** *Brendan Moran Sportsfile*

*The 148th Open Championship at Royal Portrush, Antrim, was won by Shane Lowry, the first Open Championship to take place in Ireland since 1951*

# MEMBER PUBLICATIONS

## NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS

TITLE	ADDRESS	PHONE	WEBLINK
Irish Daily Mail	DMG Media (Ireland), 3rd Floor, Embassy House, Herbert Park Lane, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.	01 637 5800	<a href="http://www.mailonline.ie">www.mailonline.ie</a>
Irish Daily Mirror	2nd Floor, 9A Beckett Way, Park West Business Park, Clondalkin, Dublin 12.	01 868 8600	<a href="http://www.irishmirror.ie">www.irishmirror.ie</a>
Irish Daily Star	Independent Star Ltd, Independent House, 27 - 32 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.	01 499 3400	<a href="http://www.thestar.ie">www.thestar.ie</a>
Irish Examiner	Linn Dubh, Assumption Road, Blackpool, Cork.	021 427 2722	<a href="http://www.irishexaminer.com">www.irishexaminer.com</a>
Irish Farmers Journal	Irish Farm Centre, Bluebell, Dublin 12.	01 419 9599	<a href="http://www.farmersjournal.ie">www.farmersjournal.ie</a>
Irish Independent	Independent House, 27 - 32 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.	01 705 5333	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
Irish Mail on Sunday	DMG Media (Ireland), 3rd Floor, Embassy House, Herbert Park Lane, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.	01 637 5800	<a href="http://www.mailonline.ie">www.mailonline.ie</a>
Irish Sunday Mirror	2nd Floor, 9A Beckett Way, Park West Business Park, Clondalkin, Dublin 12.	01 868 8600	<a href="http://www.irishmirror.ie">www.irishmirror.ie</a>
Sunday Independent	Independent House, 27 - 32 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.	01 705 5333	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
Sunday World	5th Floor, Independent House, 27 - 32 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.	01 884 8973	<a href="http://www.sundayworld.com">www.sundayworld.com</a>
The Business Post	Post Publications Ltd, 2nd Floor, Block B, The Merrion Centre, Merrion Road, Dublin 4.	01 602 6000	<a href="http://www.businesspost.ie">www.businesspost.ie</a>
The Herald	Independent House, 27 - 32 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.	01 705 5333	<a href="http://www.herald.ie">www.herald.ie</a>
The Irish Sun	The Watermarque Building, 1st Floor, 50 Ringsend Road, Dublin 4.	01 479 2579	<a href="http://www.thesun.ie">www.thesun.ie</a>
The Irish Sun on Sunday	The Watermarque Building, 1st Floor, 50 Ringsend Road, Dublin 4.	01 479 2579	<a href="http://www.thesun.ie">www.thesun.ie</a>
The Irish Times	The Irish Times Building, PO Box 74, 24 - 28 Tara Street, Dublin 2.	01 675 8000	<a href="http://www.irishtimes.com">www.irishtimes.com</a>
The Sunday Times	The Watermarque Building, 1st Floor, 50 Ringsend Road, Dublin 4.	01 479 2424	<a href="http://www.sundaytimes.ie">www.sundaytimes.ie</a>

## LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

TITLE	ADDRESS	PHONE	WEBLINK
Bray People	Channing House, Upper Rowe Street, Wexford.	053 914 0100	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
Carlow Nationalist	Hanover House, Hanover, Carlow.	059 917 0100	<a href="http://www.carlow-nationalist.ie">www.carlow-nationalist.ie</a>
Clare Champion	Barrack Street, Ennis, Co. Clare.	065 682 8105	<a href="http://www.clarechampion.ie">www.clarechampion.ie</a>
Connacht Tribune	15 Market Street, Galway.	091 536 222	<a href="http://www.connachttribune.ie">www.connachttribune.ie</a>
Connaught Telegraph	No. 1 Main Street, Castlebar, Co. Mayo.	094 902 1711	<a href="http://www.con-telegraph.ie">www.con-telegraph.ie</a>
Derry News	26 Balliniska Road, Springtown Industrial Est, Derry, BT480NA.	+44 28 7129 6600	<a href="http://www.derrynow.com">www.derrynow.com</a>
Donegal Democrat	Pier 1, Quay Street, Donegal.	074 912 8000	<a href="http://www.donegallive.ie">www.donegallive.ie</a>
Donegal News	St. Anne's Court, High Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.	074 912 1014	<a href="http://www.donegalnews.com">www.donegalnews.com</a>
Donegal People's Press	Larkin House, Oldtown Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.	074 974 0160	<a href="http://www.donegallive.ie">www.donegallive.ie</a>
Donegal Post	Pier 1, Quay Street, Donegal.	074 974 0160	<a href="http://www.donegaldaily.com">www.donegaldaily.com</a>
Drogheda Independent	9 Shop Street, Drogheda, Co. Louth.	041 983 8658	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
Dublin Inquirer	65 Crumlin Road, Dublin 12.	087 392 4796	<a href="http://www.dublininquirer.com">www.dublininquirer.com</a>
Dundalk Democrat	7 Crowe Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth.	042 933 4058	<a href="http://www.dundalkdemocrat.ie">www.dundalkdemocrat.ie</a>
Enniscorthy Guardian	Channing House, Upper Rowe Street, Wexford.	053 914 0100	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
Fingal Independent	Main Street, Swords, Co. Dublin.	01 840 7107	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
Gorey Guardian	Market Street, Gorey, Co. Wexford.	053 942 1091	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
Inish Times	33 Upper Main Street, Ardaraven, Buncrana, Co. Donegal.	074 934 1055	<a href="http://www.donegallive.ie">www.donegallive.ie</a>
Kildare Nationalist	Hanover House, Hanover, Carlow.	045 432 147	<a href="http://www.kildare-nationalist.ie">www.kildare-nationalist.ie</a>
Kildare Post	Unit WD5, Toughers Industrial Park, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.	045 408200	<a href="http://www.KildareNow.com">www.KildareNow.com</a>
Kilkenny People	34 High Street, Kilkenny.	056 772 1015	<a href="http://www.kilkennypeople.ie">www.kilkennypeople.ie</a>
Laois Nationalist	Coliseum Lane, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.	057 867 0216	<a href="http://www.laois-nationalist.ie">www.laois-nationalist.ie</a>
Leinster Express	107 Main Street, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.	057 862 1666	<a href="http://www.leinsterexpress.ie">www.leinsterexpress.ie</a>
Leinster Leader	Unit WD5, Toughers Industrial Park, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.	045 897 302	<a href="http://www.leinsterleader.ie">www.leinsterleader.ie</a>
Leitrim Observer	3 Hartley Business Park, Carrick-On-Shannon, Co. Leitrim.	071 962 0025	<a href="http://www.leitrimobserver.ie">www.leitrimobserver.ie</a>
Limerick Leader	29 Glentworth Street, Limerick.	061 214 500	<a href="http://www.limerickleader.ie">www.limerickleader.ie</a>

Longford Leader	Leader House, Dublin Road, Longford.	043 334 5241	<a href="http://www.longfordleader.ie">www.longfordleader.ie</a>
Mayo News	The Fairgreen, Westport, Co. Mayo.	098 253 11	<a href="http://www.mayonews.ie">www.mayonews.ie</a>
Meath Chronicle	Market Square, Navan, Co. Meath.	046 907 9600	<a href="http://www.meathchronicle.ie">www.meathchronicle.ie</a>
Midland Tribune	Main Street, Birr, Co. Offaly.	057 912 0003	<a href="http://www.offalylive.ie">www.offalylive.ie</a>
Munster Express	37 The Quay, Waterford.	051 872 141	<a href="http://www.munster-express.ie">www.munster-express.ie</a>
The Nationalist	Queen Street, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.	052 617 2500	<a href="http://www.tipperarylive.ie">www.tipperarylive.ie</a>
Nenagh Guardian	13 Summerhill, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.	067 312 14	<a href="http://www.nenaghguardian.ie">www.nenaghguardian.ie</a>
New Ross Standard	Channing House, Upper Rowe Street, Wexford.	053 914 0100	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
Northern Standard	The Diamond, Monaghan, Co. Monaghan.	047 821 88	<a href="http://www.northernstandard.ie">www.northernstandard.ie</a>
Roscommon Herald	St. Patricks Street, Boyle, Co. Roscommon.	071 966 2004	<a href="http://www.roscommonherald.ie">www.roscommonherald.ie</a>
Sligo Champion	Connacht House, Markievicz Road, Sligo.	071 916 9222	<a href="http://www.sligochampion.ie">www.sligochampion.ie</a>
The Anglo Celt	Kilmore Business Park, Dublin Road, Cavan.	049 433 1100	<a href="http://www.anglocelt.ie">www.anglocelt.ie</a>
The Argus	Partnership Court, Park Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth.	042 933 4632	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
The Avondhu	Avondhu Press, 18 Lower Cork Street, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork.	025 24451	<a href="http://www.avondhupress.ie">www.avondhupress.ie</a>
The Corkman	The Spa, Mallow, Co. Cork.	022 423 94	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
The Echo	Linn Dubh, Assumption Road, Blackpool, Cork.	021 427 2722	<a href="http://www.echolive.ie">www.echolive.ie</a>
The Kerryman	Denny Street, Tralee, Co. Kerry.	066 714 5560	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
The Leader	29 Glentworth Street, Limerick.	061 214500	<a href="http://www.limerickleader.ie">www.limerickleader.ie</a>
The Southern Star	Ilen Street, Skibbereen, Cork.	028 212 00	<a href="http://www.southernstar.ie">www.southernstar.ie</a>
Tipperary Star	Friar Street, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.	0504 291 00	<a href="http://www.tipperarylive.ie">www.tipperarylive.ie</a>
Tuam Herald	Dublin Road, Tuam, Co. Galway.	093 241 83	<a href="http://www.tuamherald.ie">www.tuamherald.ie</a>
Tullamore Tribune	William Street, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.	057 932 1152	<a href="http://www.offalylive.ie">www.offalylive.ie</a>
Waterford News & Star	Gladstone House, Gladstone Street, Waterford.	051 874 951	<a href="http://www.waterford-news.com">www.waterford-news.com</a>
Western People	Tone Street, Ballina, Co. Mayo.	096 60 999	<a href="http://www.westernpeople.ie">www.westernpeople.ie</a>
Westmeath Examiner	Blackhall Place, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.	044 934 6700	<a href="http://www.westmeathexaminer.ie">www.westmeathexaminer.ie</a>
Westmeath Independent	11 Sean Costello Street, Athlone, Co. Westmeath.	090 643 4300	<a href="http://www.westmeathindependent.ie">www.westmeathindependent.ie</a>
Wexford People	Channing House, Upper Rowe Street, Wexford.	053 914 0100	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>
Wicklow People	Channing House, Upper Rowe Street, Wexford.	053 914 0100	<a href="http://www.independent.ie">www.independent.ie</a>

## MAGAZINES

TITLE	ADDRESS	PHONE	WEBLINK
Accountancy Ireland	Chartered Accountants House, 47 - 49 Pearse Street, Dublin 2.	01 637 7392	<a href="http://www.accountancyireland.ie">www.accountancyireland.ie</a>
Auto Trade Journal	Glencree House, Lanesborough Road, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon.	090 662 5676	<a href="http://www.autotrade.ie">www.autotrade.ie</a>
Business Plus	30 Morehampton Road, Dublin 4.	01 660 8400	<a href="http://www.bizplus.ie">www.bizplus.ie</a>
Euro Times	ESCRS, Temple House, Temple Road, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.	01 209 1100	<a href="http://www.eurotimes.org">www.eurotimes.org</a>
Hotpress	100 Capel Street, Dublin 1.	01 241 1500	<a href="http://www.hotpress.com">www.hotpress.com</a>
Irish Auto Trade Yearbook & Diary	Glencree House, Lanesborough Road, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon.	090 662 5676	<a href="http://www.autotrade.ie">www.autotrade.ie</a>
Irish Bodyshop Journal	Glencree House, Lanesborough Road, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon.	090 662 5676	<a href="http://www.bodyshop.ie">www.bodyshop.ie</a>
Irish Country Magazine	Irish Farm Centre, Bluebell, Dublin 12.	01 419 9500	<a href="http://www.irishcountrymagazine.ie">www.irishcountrymagazine.ie</a>
Irish Medical Times	Merchants Hall, 25 Merchants' Quay, Dublin 8.	01 817 6347	<a href="http://www.imt.ie">www.imt.ie</a>
Irish Tatler Magazine	Post Publications Ltd, 2nd Floor, Block B, The Merrion Centre, Merrion Road, Dublin 4.	01 602 6000	<a href="http://www.irishtatler.com">www.irishtatler.com</a>
ITIA Yearbook & Diary	Glencree House, Lanesborough Road, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon.	090 662 5676	<a href="http://www.tyretrade.ie">www.tyretrade.ie</a>
Law Society Gazette	Blackhall Place, Dublin 7.	01 672 4828	<a href="http://www.lawsocietygazette.ie">www.lawsocietygazette.ie</a>
MOTORSHOW - Annual Car Buyers Guide	Glencree House, Lanesborough Road, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon.	090 662 5676	<a href="http://www.motorshow.ie">www.motorshow.ie</a>
RTE Guide	RTE Publishing, RTE, Donnybrook, Dublin 4.	01 208 2920	<a href="http://www.rteguide.ie">www.rteguide.ie</a>
Síocháin	Garda Síochána Retired Members Association, 5 Harrington Street, Dublin 8.	01 478 1525	<a href="http://www.gardaretired.com">www.gardaretired.com</a>
Stubbs Gazette	The Priory, Stillorgan Road, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.	01 672 5939	<a href="http://www.stubbsgazette.ie">www.stubbsgazette.ie</a>
The Gloss	Gloss Publications Ltd., The Courtyard, 40 Main Street, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.	01 275 5130	<a href="http://www.thegloss.ie">www.thegloss.ie</a>
The Irish Field	Irish Farm Centre, Bluebell, Dublin 12.	01 405 1100	<a href="http://www.irishfield.ie">www.irishfield.ie</a>
The Irish Journalist	NUJ, 2nd Floor, Spencer House, Spencer Row, Off Store Street, Dublin 1.	01 817 0340	<a href="http://www.nuj.org.uk">www.nuj.org.uk</a>
TYRE Trade Journal	Glencree House, Lanesborough Road, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon.	090 662 5676	<a href="http://www.tyretrade.ie">www.tyretrade.ie</a>

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>WEBLINK</b>
WMB	2nd Floor, Paradigm House, Dundrum Office Park, Dundrum, Dublin 14.	01 296 4025	<a href="http://www.womenmeanbusiness.com">www.womenmeanbusiness.com</a>
Woman's Way	Harmonia Ltd., Rosemount House, Dundrum Road, Dundrum, Dublin 16.	01 240 5300	<a href="http://www.womansway.ie">www.womansway.ie</a>
Work & Life Magazine	IMPACT Trade Union, Nerneys Court, Dublin 1.	01 817 1500	<a href="http://www.impact.ie">www.impact.ie</a>

## ONLINE ONLY PUBLICATIONS

TITLE	ADDRESS	PHONE	WEBSITE
BreakingNews.ie	Landmark Digital, Assumption Road, Blackpool, Cork.	021 480 2309	www.breakingnews.ie
buzz.ie	1st Floor, Independent House, 27 - 32 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.	01 499 3440	www.buzz.ie
CarlowLive.ie	Iconic Newspapers Ltd, 30 Hatch Lane, Dublin 2.	01 678 0000	www.carlowlive.ie
CorkBeo.ie	Morrison House, Morrison Quay, Cork.	021 494 970	www.corkbeo.ie
DerryNow.com	26 Balliniska Road, Springtown Industrial Est, Derry, BT480NA.	00 44 28 7129 6600	www.derrynow.com
DonegalLive.ie	Pier 1, Quay Street, Donegal.	074 912 8000	www.donegallive.ie
DublinLive.ie	2nd Floor, 9A Beckett Way, Park West Business Park, Clondalkin, Dublin 12.	01 868 8600	www.dublinlive.ie
EchoLive.ie	Linn Dubh, Assumption Road, Blackpool, Cork.	021 427 2722	www.echolive.ie
EVOKE.ie	DMG Media (Ireland), 3rd Floor, Embassy House, Herbert Park Lane, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.	01 637 5800	www.evoked.ie
Extra.ie	DMG Media (Ireland), 3rd Floor, Embassy House, Herbert Park Lane, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.	01 637 5800	www.extra.ie
KildareNow.com	Unit WD5, Toughers Industrial Park, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.	045 408200	www.kildarenow.com
Offaly Express	107 Lower Main Street, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.	057 862 1666	www.offalyexpress.ie
OffalyLive.ie	Main Street, Birr, Co. Offaly.	057 912 0003	www.offalylive.ie
Rollercoaster.ie	DMG Media (Ireland), 3rd Floor, Embassy House, Herbert Park Lane, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.	01 6375800	www.rollercoaster.ie
TheJournal.ie	Journal Media Ltd, 3rd Floor, Latin Hall, Golden Lane, Dublin 8.	01 255 1300	www.thejournal.ie
TipperaryLive.ie	Tipperary Star, Friar Street, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.	0504 291 00	www.tipperarylive.ie
WaterfordLive.ie	Iconic Newspapers Ltd, 30 Hatch Lane, Dublin 2.	01 678 0000	www.waterfordlive.ie

## STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

TITLE	ADDRESS	PHONE	WEBSITE
Icarus	House 6, Trinity College, Dublin 2.	01 896 2335	<a href="http://www.icarusmagazine.com">www.icarusmagazine.com</a>
JOLT - Journal of Literary Translation	House 6, Trinity College, Dublin 2.	01 896 2335	<a href="http://www.trinitypublications.ie">www.trinitypublications.ie</a>
Miscellany	House 6, Trinity College, Dublin 2.	01 896 2335	<a href="http://www.trinitypublications.ie">www.trinitypublications.ie</a>
Motley	UCC Students' Union, 54 College Road, Cork.	021 490 3218	<a href="http://www.motley.ie">www.motley.ie</a>
Pirhana!	House 6, Trinity College, Dublin 2.	01 896 2335	<a href="http://www.trinitypublications.ie">www.trinitypublications.ie</a>
SIN	C/o Students' Union, Aras na Mac Leinn, NUI Galway.	091 493 262	<a href="http://www.sin.ie">www.sin.ie</a>
University Observer	UCD Students' Union, UCD Sports & Student Centre, Belfield, Dublin 4.	01 716 3835	<a href="http://www.universityobserver.ie">www.universityobserver.ie</a>
The University Times	House 6, Trinity College, Dublin 2.	01 896 2335	<a href="http://www.universitytimes.ie">www.universitytimes.ie</a>
TN2	House 6, Trinity College, Dublin 2.	01 896 2335	<a href="http://www.trinitypublications.ie">www.trinitypublications.ie</a>
Trinity Film Review	House 6, Trinity College, Dublin 2.	01 896 2335	<a href="http://www.trinitypublications.ie">www.trinitypublications.ie</a>
Trinity News	House 6, Trinity College, Dublin 2.	01 896 2335	<a href="http://www.trinitynews.ie">www.trinitynews.ie</a>
UCC Express	UCC Students' Union, 54 College Road, Cork.	021 490 3218	<a href="http://www.uccexpress.ie">www.uccexpress.ie</a>

# CODE OF PRACTICE

## PREAMBLE

The freedom to publish is vital to the right of the people to be informed. This freedom includes the right of the press to publish what it considers to be news, without fear or favour, and the right to comment upon it.

Freedom of the press carries responsibilities. Members of the press have a duty to maintain the highest professional and ethical standards.

This Code sets the benchmark for those standards. It is the duty of the Press Ombudsman and Press Council of Ireland to ensure that it is honoured in the spirit as well as in the letter, and it is the duty of Press Council print and online media members (the press) to assist them in that task.

In dealing with complaints, the Ombudsman and Press Council will give consideration to what they perceive to be the public interest. It is for them to define the public interest in each case, but the general principle is that the public interest is invoked in relation to a matter capable of affecting the people at large so that they may legitimately be interested in receiving and the print and online news media legitimately interested in providing information about it.

### Principle 1 – Truth and Accuracy

- 1.1 In reporting news and information, the press shall strive at all times for truth and accuracy.
- 1.2 When a significant inaccuracy, misleading statement or distorted report or picture has been published, it shall be corrected promptly and with due prominence.
- 1.3 When appropriate, a retraction, apology, clarification, explanation or response shall be published promptly and with due prominence.

### Principle 2 – Distinguishing Fact and Comment

- 2.1 The press is entitled to advocate strongly its own views on topics.
- 2.2 Comment, conjecture, rumour and unconfirmed reports shall not be reported as if they are fact.
- 2.3 Readers are entitled to expect that the content of the press reflects the best judgment of editors and writers and has not been inappropriately influenced by undisclosed interests. Wherever relevant, any significant financial interest of an organization should be disclosed. Writers should disclose significant potential conflicts of interest to their editors.

### Principle 3 – Fair Procedures and Honesty

- 3.1 The press shall strive at all times for fair procedures and honesty in the procuring and publishing of news and information.
- 3.2 The press shall not obtain information, photographs or other material through misrepresentation or subterfuge, unless justified by the public interest.
- 3.3 Journalists and photographers must not obtain, or seek to obtain, information and photographs through harassment, unless their actions are justified in the public interest.

### Principle 4 – Respect for Rights

Everyone has constitutional protection for his or her good name. The press shall not knowingly publish matter based on malicious misrepresentation or unfounded accusations, and must take reasonable care in checking facts before publication.

## Principle 5 – Privacy

- 5.1 Privacy is a human right, protected as a personal right in the Irish Constitution and the European Convention on Human Rights, which is incorporated into Irish law. The private and family life, home and correspondence of everyone must be respected.
- 5.2 Readers are entitled to have news and comment presented with respect for the privacy and sensibilities of individuals. However, the right to privacy should not prevent publication of matters of public record or in the public interest.
- 5.3 Sympathy and discretion must be shown at all times in seeking information in situations of personal grief or shock. In publishing such information, the feelings of grieving families should be taken into account. This should not be interpreted as restricting the right to report judicial proceedings.
- 5.4 Public persons are entitled to privacy. However, where people hold public office, deal with public affairs, follow a public career, or have sought or obtained publicity for their activities, publication of relevant details of their private life and circumstances may be justifiable where the information revealed relates to the validity of their conduct, the credibility of their public statements, the value of their publicly expressed views or is otherwise in the public interest.
- 5.5 Taking photographs of individuals in private places without their consent is not acceptable, unless justified by the public interest.

## Principle 6 – Protection of Sources

Journalists shall protect confidential sources of information.

## Principle 7 – Court Reporting

The press shall strive to ensure that court reports (including the use of images) are fair and accurate,

are not prejudicial to the right to a fair trial and that the presumption of innocence is respected.

## Principle 8 – Prejudice

The press shall not publish material intended or likely to cause grave offence or stir up hatred against an individual or group on the basis of their race, religion, nationality, colour, ethnic origin, membership of the travelling community, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, illness or age.

## Principle 9 – Children

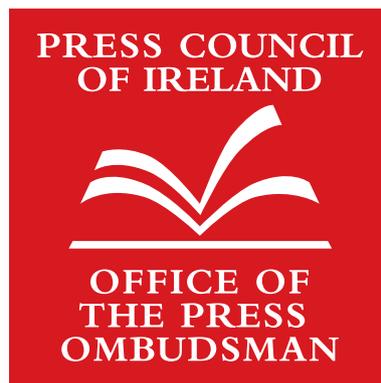
- 9.1 The press shall take particular care in seeking and presenting information or comment about a child under the age of 18.
- 9.2 Journalists and editors should have regard for the vulnerability of children, and in all dealings with children should bear in mind the age of the child, whether parental or other adult consent has been obtained for such dealings, the sensitivity of the subject matter, and what circumstances if any make the story one of public interest. Young people should be free to complete their time at school without unnecessary intrusion. The fame, notoriety or position of a parent or guardian must not be used as sole justification for publishing details of a child's private life.

## Principle 10 – Reporting of Suicide

In the reporting of suicide, excessive detail of the means of suicide should be avoided.

## Principle 11 - Publication of the Decision of the Press Ombudsman / Press Council

- 11.1 When requested or required by the Press Ombudsman and/or the Press Council to do so, the press shall publish the decision in relation to a complaint with due prominence.
- 11.2 The content of this Code will be reviewed at regular intervals.



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