1. **Accuracy**
i) The Press must take care not to publish inaccurate, misleading or distorted information or images, including headlines not supported by the text.

ii) A significant inaccuracy, misleading statement or distortion must be corrected, promptly and with due prominence, and – where appropriate – an apology published. In cases involving IPSO, due prominence should be as required by the regulator.

iii) A fair opportunity to reply to significant inaccuracies should be given, when reasonably called for.

iv) The Press, when free to editorialise and campaign, must distinguish clearly between comment, conjecture and fact.

v) A publication must report fairly and accurately the outcome of an action or determination to which it has been a party, unless an agreed settlement states otherwise, or an agreed statement is published.

2. **Privacy**
i) Everyone is entitled to respect for his or her private and family life, home, health and correspondence, including digital communications.

ii) Editors will be expected to justify intrusions into privacy are particularly relevant to enquiries about individuals in hospitals or similar institutions.

iii) The restrictions on intruding into privacy are particularly relevant to enquiries about individuals in hospitals or similar institutions.

3. **Harassment**
i) Journalists must not engage in intimidation, harassment or persistent pursuit.

ii) They must not persist in questioning, telephoning, pursing or photographing individuals once asked to desist, nor remain on property when asked to leave and must not follow them, requested, they must identify themselves and whom they represent.

iii) Editors must ensure these principles are observed by those working for them and take care not to use non-compliant material from other sources.

4. **Intrusion into grief or shock**
In cases involving personal grief or shock, enquiries and approaches must be made with sympathy and discretion and publication avoided sensitively. These provisions should not restrict the right to report legal proceedings.

5. **Reporting suicide**
When reporting suicide, to prevent subsequent acts care should be taken to avoid excessive detail of the method used, while taking into account the media’s right to report legal proceedings.

6. **Children**
i) All pupils should be free to complete their time at school without unnecessary intrusion.

ii) They must not be approached or photographed at school without permission of the school authorities.

iii) Children under 16 must not be interviewed or photographed on issues involving their own or another child’s welfare unless a custodial parent or similarly responsible adult consents.

iv) Children under 16 must not be paid for material involving their welfare, nor parents or guardians for material about their children or words, unless it is clearly in the child’s interest.

v) Editors must not use the fame, notoriety or position of a parent or guardian as sole justification for publishing details of a child’s private life.

7. **Children in sex cases**
1. The press must not, even if legally free to do so, identify children under 16 who are victims or witnesses in cases involving sex offences.

2. In any report of an action involving a sexual offence against a child –
   i) The child must not be identified.
   
   ii) The adult may be identified.

iii) The word "incest" must be used where a child victim might be identified.

iv) Care must be taken that nothing in the report implies the relationship between the accused and the child.

8. **Hospitals**
i) Journalists must identify themselves and obtain permission from a responsible executive before entering non-public areas of hospitals or similar institutions.

ii) The restrictions on intruding into privacy are particularly relevant to enquiries about individuals in hospitals or similar institutions.

9. **Reporting of Crime**
i) Relatives or friends of persons convicted or accused of crime should generally be identified without their consent, unless they are genuinely relevant to the story.

ii) Particular regard should be paid to the potentially vulnerable position of children who witness, or are victims of, crime. This should not restrict the right to report legal proceedings.

10. **Clandestine devices and subterfuge**
i) The press must not seek to obtain or publish material acquired by using hidden cameras or clandestine listening devices, or by intercepting private or mobile telephone calls, emails, or by the unauthorised removal of documents or photographs, or by accessing digitally-held information without consent.

ii) Engaging in misrepresentation or subterfuge, including by agents or intermediaries, can generally be justified only in the public interest and then only when the material cannot be obtained by other means.

11. **Victims of sexual assault**
The press must not identify victims of sexual assault or publish material likely to contribute to such identification unless there is adequate justification and they are legally free to do so.

12. **Discrimination**
i) The press must avoid prejudicial or pejorative reference to an individual’s race, colour, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or to any physical or mental disability.

ii) Details of an individual’s race, colour, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental illness or disability must be avoided unless genuinely relevant to the story.

13. **Financial journalism**
i) Even where the law does not prohibit it, journalists must not use for their own profit financial information they receive in advance of general publication, nor should they pass such information to others.

ii) They must not write about shares or securities in whose performance they know that they or their close families have a significant financial interest without disclosing the interest to the editor or financial editor.

iii) They must not buy or sell, either directly or through nominees or agents, shares or securities about which they have written recently or about which they intend to write in the near future.

14. **Confidential sources**
Journalists have a moral obligation to protect confidential sources of information.

15. **Witness payments in criminal trials**
i) No payment or offer of payment to a witness – or any person who may reasonably be expected to be called as a witness – should be made in any case once proceedings are active as defined by the Contempt of Court Act 1981. This prohibition lasts until the suspect has been freed unconditionally by police without charge or bail or the proceedings are otherwise discontinued; or has entered a guilty plea to the court; or, in the event of a not guilty plea, the court has announced its verdict.

ii) Where proceedings are not yet active but are likely to proceed, editors must not make or offer payment to any person who may reasonably be expected to be called as a witness, unless the information concerned ought demonstrably to be published in the public interest and there is an over-riding need to make or permit payment for this to be done, and all reasonable steps have been taken to secure no financial dealings influence the evidence those witnesses give. In no circumstances should such payment be conditional on the outcome of a trial.

iii) Any payment or offer of payment made to a person later cited to give evidence in proceedings must be disclosed to the prosecution and defence. The witness must be advised of this requirement.

16. **Payment to criminals**
i) Payment or offers of payment for stories, pictures or information which seek to exploit a particular crime or to glorify or glamorise criminality, must not be made directly or via agents to convicted or confessed criminals or to their associates – who may include family, friends and colleagues.

ii) Editors invoking the public interest to justify payment or offers would need to demonstrate that there was good reason to believe the public interest would be served. If, despite payment, not publication was emerged, then the material should not be published.

The Public Interest
There may be exceptions to the clauses marked * where they can be demonstrated to be in the public interest.

1. The public interest includes, but is not confined to:
   i) Detecting or exposing crime, or the threat of crime, or serious impropriety.
   ii) Protecting public health or safety.
   iii) Protecting the public from being misled by an action or statement of an individual or organisation.
   iv) Disclosing a person or organisation’s failure or likely failure to comply with any obligation to which they are subject.
   v) Disclosing a miscarriage of justice.
   vi) Raising or contributing to a matter of public debate, including serious cases of impropriety, unethical conduct or incompetence concerning the public.
   vii) Disclosing concealment, or likely concealment, of any of the above.

2. There is a public interest in freedom of expression itself.

3. The regulator will consider the extent to which material is already in the public domain or will or will become so.

4. Editors involving the public interest will need to demonstrate that they reasonably believed publication – or journalistic activity taken with a view to publication – would both serve, and be proportionate to, the public interest and explain how they reached that decision at the time.

5. An exceptional public interest would need to be demonstrated to over-ride the normally paramount interests of children under 16.