

Thurrock Media Services Limited

Annual Statement 2017

Thurrock Media Services Limited is the publisher of Thurrock Independent, as well as its online counterpart www.thurrockindependent.com. These publications were launched in May 2017.

Thurrock Independent is owned and produced in Thurrock by local people who care passionately for our community. The paper is a watchdog for high standards, supports local people and their activities in the community and speaks up for our Borough. The Editor and publisher Neil Speight, who is also the responsible person for IPSO. Neil has had almost 40 years of experience in the publishing industry, many of them in senior editorial and publishing roles, including owning his own publishing company.

Approach to editorial standards

We protect and respect the rights of our readers. The paper adheres fully to the expectations of IPSO. Should a reader have cause to complain, we will look into the issues they raise and act on them.

Thurrock Media Services is aware that IPSO provides pre-publication guidance. We would seek guidance from IPSO if there were any concerns about a story and its compliance with the terms of the Editors' Code of Practice.

As the local newspaper, we have a duty of care to the Thurrock community. As such, we are committed to abiding by the terms of the Editors' Code of Practice and are committed to upholding the highest editorial standards. We take all reasonable steps in ensuring the accuracy of our stories.

Complaints

Thurrock Independent carries information about our membership to IPSO on the front page of the newspaper, and on our website, with information about how to get in touch to make a complaint.

In the first instance, complaints are handled by the editor, but complainants are advised that they can contact IPSO if we cannot reach a resolution. There were no complaints upheld by IPSO against Thurrock Media Services in the period.

Training

As a small publisher, we provide on the job training for newcomers to the industry in partnership with the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ). We also offer work experience to students training at other colleges and universities and operate a local awareness programme of media careers with organisations including the Prince's Trust and Thurrock Council.