

Oldham Chronicle Ltd
Annual Statement to IPSO
January – December 2021

1.1

Titles Published

Oldham Evening Chronicle (Monthly)
Oldham-chronicle.co.uk (On-line)

1.2

The publisher's responsible person is Content Director, Kevin Bailey. He can be contacted at Sarah Moor Studios, Henshaw Street, Oldham, OL1 3EN and by email editor@oldham-chronicle.co.uk

1.3

Credible Media purchased the Oldham Chronicle title in 2017. It continued the established values of the previous owner, who had been publishing the title since 1854, and remains proudly local. Initially taking the publication on-line, the newspaper is now printed monthly with 20,000 distributed across the borough. Credible Media is also the publisher of Oldham Business Edge magazine, a quarterly B2B publication for the local business community. The company's other business interests include live events and broadcast radio.

Our Editorial Standards

The newspaper has a long and proud tradition for reflecting life in Oldham and for doing this in a way that is neither sensational or confrontational.

The Newsroom is built on a trust that has developed with individuals and partner organisations. All our journalists sign up to adhere to the Editor's Code of Practice as part of their contract. The code is issued physically and by email to all staff members. Freelance suppliers are also issued with, and required to follow, the Code.

Editorial staff will always endeavour to follow best practice and do their utmost to verify the stories that are put forward for publication. Staff are made aware of Clause 1 of the Code (Accuracy) and our aim is to ensure fair, balanced, and accurate reporting. Newspaper articles involving possible contentious issues are reviewed by the Executive Editor or Content Director who may seek code compliance advice from IPSO and/or the company's lawyers if necessary.

2.

Editorial staff work with the IPSO Code of Practice. We are currently updating the Oldham Evening Chronicle house guide.

3.

Complaints

Readers can contact the newspaper by email, Facebook, Twitter, telephone, or by Royal Mail. All this information is clearly displayed online, and on page 2 in every printed edition.

Where editorial complaints are received by staff, they are forwarded to the Content Director to review. Should the complaints be in relation to minor amendments on digital pages, these are acted upon immediately, and the complainant is always contacted after the adjustment has been made.

For more serious complaints, we will engage with the complainant immediately, and if appropriate we have the option to remove information ‘as live’ whilst any investigation is ongoing.

Should the complaint merit a printed or online correction and/or apology, we will endeavour to action this once any investigation has been completed. The complainant will receive a summary of all action taken.

A link to a “How to Complain” page is accessible from our homepage. The wording of this page is as follows:

The Oldham Evening Chronicle is a member of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (which regulates the UK’s magazine and newspaper industry).

We abide by the Editors’ Code of Practice and are committed to upholding the highest standards of journalism. If you think that we have not met those standards and want to make a complaint, please contact Head of News Content, Alex Brooke 0161 633 2121 alex@crediblemediagroup.com.

If we are unable to resolve your complaint, or if you would like more information about IPSO or the Editors’ Code, contact IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or visit www.ipso.co.uk

Each member of staff – who are qualified journalists or have held senior roles for a substantial amount of time – have access to the IPSO guidelines, and the latest copy of McNae’s Essential Law for Journalists. Staff are encouraged to refer upwards should they encounter an issue. The IPSO guidelines are also available on the internal shared server which can be accessed remotely if necessary.

There is no official ‘staff training’ as we are a small team, however, the team will often discuss legal and moral issues with senior staff, particularly if there has been a recent highly publicised case.

4.

We have not had any complaints or adjudications in the 12 months (January – December 2021) covered by this statement.

5.

- Number of staff employed: two
- Number of publications: twelve per year (monthly)
- Distribution figure for the printed paper: approximately 20,000
- Annual turnover: £ [REDACTED].