

## **IPSO Annual Report 2022**

Barrnon Media titles:

Cumberland & Westmorland Herald, weekly newspaper plus website

Keswick Reminder, weekly newspaper plus website

Cumbria Crack, online-only breaking news website

Responsible person:

Emily Atherton

Group Editor, Barrnon Media

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### **Introduction**

Barrnon Media owns two independent weekly print titles covering a large part of rural North Cumbria, plus the county's biggest breaking news website, Cumbria Crack. The Cumberland & Westmorland Herald (CWH), established in 1860, has just completed its third full year as part of Barrnon Media. It went into administration during early 2020 and is now part of a small but growing media business.

The CWH covers four market towns and 75 parishes in Eden (population 53k) and the Keswick Reminder (KR) covers five parishes in Keswick (population 4.9k).

These two long-established local papers were recently Highly Commended in the Campaign of the Year section of the Regional Press Awards for a campaign to raise vital funds for, and awareness of locally-based charity Hospice at Home Carlisle and North Lakeland.

2022 also saw the publication of a stand-out 24-page supplement in both papers to mark the platinum jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, packed with archive photographs of her visits to the area, and local celebrations of her silver and golden jubilees as well as her coronation.

We also continued a partnership between Cumbria Crack and the Cumbria Food Awards.

The publishing company has three main departments, editorial, advertising and distribution. The editor remains Emily Atherton - the first woman and only the 8th editor in the Herald's history.

The Cumberland & Westmorland Herald and Keswick Reminder are both printed by Newsquest, in Glasgow. The CWH circulation figures stand at c7k copies weekly. This includes c300 copies mailed out to subscribers each week and c200 digital subscribers. The KR sells c1.6k papers a week.

### **Editorial standards**

The CWH and KR adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice. We strive to ensure that our articles are fair and accurate, and that readers have a right of reply if there is something they do not agree with.

Editorial complaints are accepted in the first instance by letter, telephone or email. Depending on the extent of the complaint, for instance a minor correction or clarification, it can be firstly handled by an experienced journalist or the news editor/deputy editor before being passed on to the editor. Any complaints that have legal implications are immediately lodged with the editor – and the MD is made aware.

A column for corrections and clarifications appears, as and when required, in both print titles. Also in every edition (P2 CWH; P2 KR) is a statement that the CWH and KR abide by the IPSO code of practice. It also informs readers that if they want to make representations about articles they should write in the first instance to the editor and that, if not satisfied, they can contact IPSO, whose postal address, email address, telephone number and website details are provided.

The home page of Cumbria Crack carries a statement that it is IPSO regulated.

Reporters are fully aware of the need to keep detailed and accurate notes of interviews for future reference if necessary. They are provided with a copy of the Editor's Code.

### **Record on compliance**

To my knowledge, from 1st January, 2022, to 31st December, 2022, there was only one approach made to IPSO about an article in the Cumberland & Westmorland Herald. This complaint was not pursued by the complainant and did not get as far as being investigated by the committee.

During the period there were a small number of complaints which were resolved satisfactorily via dialogue and explanation and the remainder were factual inaccuracies which were corrected at the earliest available opportunity in our print and digital products.

### **Training**

Staff have taken part in in-house digital training during 2022 and we are in the process of booking a legal refresher course for all editorial staff to take place within the next 2-3 months.

Signed

Emily Atherton

IPSO responsible person

14<sup>th</sup> April, 2023