

IPSO annual statement for National World Publishing Ltd: 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

1 Factual information about the Regulated Entity

1.1 A list of its titles/products.

Attached on separate spreadsheet

1.2 The name of the Regulated Entity's responsible person.

Gary Shipton, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of National World and Regional Director of its titles in the South of England, is the responsible person for the company.

1.3 A brief overview of the nature of the Regulated Entity.

The regulated entity National World is a national and regional multimedia organisation in the UK. Its national brands are The Scotsman (Scotland), The News Letter (Northern Ireland) and [nationalworld.com](https://www.nationalworld.com). We provide news and information services to the communities we serve through our portfolio of publications and websites.

During 2022, following the launch of [nationalworld.com](https://www.nationalworld.com) a number of new metro 'World' sites were established and some existing local sites were aggregated into new county-wide 'World' platforms. National World bought It's Not A Newspaper Ltd which owned two sites, Newschain online and World of Women's Sport. At the end of the year, National World also acquired a number of aggregation and blog websites from ScoopDragon Publishing Ltd. They mainly focus on UK football clubs but also cover topics such as Eurovision and education news.

In 2023, National World purchased the Banbridge Chronicle and the Newry Reporter in Northern Ireland.

We continue to set the highest editorial standards by ensuring that our staff are provided with excellent internally developed training resources. The Editors' Code of Practice is embedded in every part of our editorial operations and we commit absolutely to the principles expounded by IPSO.

National World continues to operate an internal Editorial Governance Committee with the key remit to consider, draft, implement and review the policies, procedures and training for the whole Group to ensure compliance with its obligations under IPSO.

2 Copies of any internal manuals, codes or guidance used by journalists

Below

3. Brief details of the compliance process

Our training process

The Editors' Code is the standard used throughout the Group. Our staff undergo training to ensure they fully understand the Editors' Code and know how to apply the Code in real-life settings when seeking and drafting editorial content and dealing with any issues that may subsequently arise.

Updates to the Editors' Code and supporting Codebook along with any guidance issued is communicated to all members of staff. This communication takes place through National World's Editorial Learning and Development Department and is reinforced by the Editorial Directors and Editors in their regular briefings to their teams.

The Editorial Learning and Development Department provides an online training programme which tests staff on a range of scenarios which touch on various aspects of the Code and this module has been updated to reflect the more recent changes in the Editors' Code.

The Editors' Code is made available to new trainees joining National World and trainees are also put through the National Qualification in Journalism run by the National Council for the Training of Journalists. This includes training in ethical issues which is tested in the Media Law and Practice exam.

It is a condition of employment of all editorial staff, contained within their contracts, that they fully observe the standards required by IPSO as explained within the Code. It is also a condition of commissioned freelance contributors that they fully comply with the Code. This is also made clear through the induction process for all new editorial employees.

Law and ethics refreshers are an integral part of the National World training programme and the Editorial Learning and Development website includes material on ethical issues as well as the IPSO Code and National World complaints procedures.

Pre-publication guidance is provided in the first instance internally by the Deputy Editor-in-Chief and the Legal Director. All Editors have been informed of the IPSO contacts for which pre-publication advice should be sought. National World has a robust editorial management structure which ensures that whenever a story might require verification it is fully assessed but responsibility for the tone and content of every title remains with the Editor.

Our record on compliance

Whenever there is an adverse adjudication against a National World publication, it is referred to National World's Editorial Governance Committee. The Committee examines the censure in the context of other adjudications and then initiates a full investigation. The investigation identifies the failings and the steps needed to ensure no repetition locally or across the Group.

These recommendations can include training requirements and potential changes to National World's editorial policies and procedures.

4. Details of the steps taken by the Regulated Entity in response to any adverse Adjudications by the Regulator during the previous year.

The following were upheld complaints published on IPSO's website in 2022.

01972-22 The Radcliffe School v [miltonkeynes.co.uk](https://www.miltonkeynes.co.uk)

The Radcliffe School, acting on its own behalf and on behalf of the family of two of its pupils, complained to the Independent Press Standards Organisation that [miltonkeynes.co.uk](https://www.miltonkeynes.co.uk) breached Clause 6 (Children) of the Editors' Code of Practice in an article headlined "Pupils in shock after 'bullied' classmate aged 12 reportedly takes his own life in Milton Keynes", published on 8 February 2022.

The article reported on the response of the Radcliffe School to the death of one of its pupils. It included a social media post, made by the sister of the pupil who had died, commenting on allegations against the school.

The complainant, acting on behalf of the child's parents, said that the inclusion of the social media post breached Clause 6, where the publication had used the social media post of a minor – the sibling of the deceased child, a 15-year-old – in a published article without the express consent of a responsible adult.

The Committee acknowledged that there was a public interest in reporting on the allegations against the school. However, the Committee did not consider that the public interest was so exceptional as to justify publishing the child's social media post, and override the paramount interest of that child.

The committee rejected complaints that Clause 1 (Accuracy) and Clause 4 (Intrusion into grief or shock) had been breached.

National World's governance committee held a full review of the adjudication and has made clear to editors that only in exceptional circumstances should a child's social media post be published and that the most senior editor of a news brand should evaluate those circumstances and confirm them with reasons in writing as exceptional prior to publication.

National World Editorial Complaints Policy (External)

National World is committed to upholding standards in editorial quality and content and acting in compliance with our regulatory guidelines and obligations.

We take all complaints about editorial content very seriously and seek to accordingly abide by the Independent Press Standards Organisation ("IPSO") requirements and the Editors' Code of Practice ("the Code").

What does this policy cover?

This policy applies to complaints about breaches of the Code and any other complaint in editorial content in our printed publications or on electronic services such as websites and apps, including text, pictures, video, audio/visual and interactive content, and which are either published or targeted at an audience in the UK. It does not cover:

- complaints about advertising (as that is regulated by the Advertising Standards Authority);
- complaints about online material on sites which we do not own and which are not under our control;
- at our discretion, legal or contractual matters which are dealt with more appropriately in the courts or tribunals or elsewhere.

How to complain

Complaints should be made in writing, either by email to the Editor identified on the website of the publication to which the complaint relates or by post to the address of the relevant publication and addressed in the first instance to the Editor.

In line with IPSO's policies, complaints about the Editors' Code will only be accepted within four months from the date of the behaviour complained of or first publication of the article that you are complaining about. If at the time you submit your complaint, the article remains accessible on a website or other electronic service operated by us however, complaints may be accepted up to 12 months from the date of the behaviour or first publication of the article you are complaining about, provided it is still possible to investigate the complaint fairly given the period of time which has elapsed. National World shall have sole discretion in determining this.

Complaints about the Editors' Code must include:

- a copy of the article in question, or a link to the relevant webpage or a web address, if the complaint is about published material (or reference to the publication title, issue date, page and article title if a copy is unavailable);
- a written explanation of your concerns with reference to the Editors' Code;
- any other documents that will help us assess your complaint.

Complaints received without this essential information cannot be considered. We may however, at our discretion, seek further details from you after your initial contact. If you cannot provide any requested information we may be unable to consider your complaint.

We reserve the right to reject, without further investigation, complaints that show no breach of the Editors' Code, or those which are vexatious and/or disproportionate, or those which are without justification (such as an attempt to argue a point of view or to lobby).

We may also decline to consider complaints from third parties not directly affected by the alleged breach of the Editors' Code. When considering whether to accept such a complaint, the position of the party most closely involved in the matter will be taken into account.

What happens to your complaint?

The complaints process is free of charge irrespective of the outcome of your complaint

We aim to acknowledge receipt of your complaint within 5 working days of receipt. You in turn agree to respond promptly to any request for further information.

If we receive multiple complaints about the same issue we may choose to make one response to all such complaints.

We will aim to respond to complaints in writing within 7 working days of receiving everything we need from you to allow us to investigate your complaint.

We will always treat you courteously and with respect. We expect the same from you. We may decline to consider a complaint which is abusive or gratuitously offensive.

Appeals process

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your original complaint you have the right to appeal the decision by notifying the Editor, in writing, within 7 working days of receipt of the letter notifying you of the outcome.

Upon receipt of such appeal letter, the Editor shall forward this for consideration to the Deputy Editor-in-Chief where appropriate, who will then aim to assess the appeal within 7 working days of receipt of such notification. After that you will be issued a letter confirming whether your appeal has been upheld or partially upheld and whether any actions will accordingly be taken.

For the avoidance of doubt, you will have no further right of appeal with the company following the determination of this appeals process. However, you may look to exercise your right to take the matter to IPSO.

Complaint to IPSO on exhaustion of our complaints procedure

If you are unhappy with our final response to your complaint you may complain to IPSO for consideration. Further details can be found at <http://www.ipso.co.uk>.

Policy Changes

We reserve the right to amend this policy as and when required.

Any complaint will be considered against the published policy on the date of receipt of your complaint.

Editorial complaints that do not relate to the Editors' Code will be considered to the same principles although the time scales for consideration will be subject to legal limitations where a civil claim is made.

National World Publishing Ltd List of Brands

Newspapers

Parent Title/Main Edition	Edition	Edition	Edition	Edition
Banbury Guardian				
Bucks Herald				
Biggleswade Chronicle				
Boston Standard				
Bedford Times & Citizen				
Bucks & Winslow Advertiser				
Buxton Advertiser				
Chronicle & Echo				
Derbyshire Times				
Daventry Express				
Eastwood & Kimberley Advertiser				
Peterborough Telegraph				
Gainsborough Standard				
Hucknall Dispatch				
Hemel Gazette				
Horncastle News				
Leamington Spa Courier				
Leighton Buzzard Observer				
Louth Leader				
Luton News				
Mansfield Chad	Ashfield Chad			
Harborough Mail				
Milton Keynes Citizen				
Matlock Mercury				
Market Rasen Mail				
Melton Times				
Northants Telegraph	Corby Telegraph			
Rugby Advertiser				
Skegness Standard				
Sleaford Standard				
Worksop Guardian				
Berwickshire News				
Buchan Observer				
Cumbernauld News				
Deeside Piper				
East Fife Mail				

Edinburgh Evening News				
Ellon Times				
Angus County Press				
Fife Free Press				
Falkirk Herald				
Fraserburgh Herald				
Fife Herald	St. Andrews Citizen			
Glenrothes Gazette				
Galloway Gazette				
Kirkintilloch Herald				
Lanark Gazette				
Linlithgow Gazette	Boness Journal	Queensferry Gazette		
Midlothian Advertiser				
Milngavie & Bearsden Herald				
Mearns Leader				
Motherwell Times				
Stornoway Gazette				
Southern Reporter				
Scotland on Sunday				
Scotsman				
Berwick Advertiser				
Hartlepool Mail				
Morpeth Herald				
News Post Leader				
Northumberland Gazette				
Shields Gazette				
Sunderland Echo				
Clitheroe Advertiser				
Chorley Guardian				
Blackpool Evening Gazette				
Fleetwood Weekly News				
Burnley Express Friday - Burnley				
Garstang Courier				
Lytham St. Annes Express				
Lancaster Guardian				
Lancashire Evening Post				
Morecambe Visitor				
Nelson Leader - Nelson				
Wigan Observer				
Wigan Post Weekly				
Crawley Observer				

West Sussex County Times				
Eastbourne Herald				
Hastings, St Leonards & Rye Observer	Bexhill & Battle Observer			
Mid Sussex Times				
Portsmouth News				
Sussex Express - Lewes	Sussex Express - Uckfield	Sussex Express - Seaford	Sussex Express - Hailsham	
Chichester Observer	Bognor Regis Observer	Midhurst & Petworth Observer		
West Sussex Gazette				
Littlehampton Gazette				
Worthing Herald				
Coleraine & Ballymoney Times				
Banbridge Chronicle				
Derry Journal Friday				
Derry Journal Tuesday				
Lurgan Mail				
Londonderry Sentinel				
Larne Times	Carrick Times	Newtonabbey Times		
Mid Ulster Mail				
Newry Reporter				
Newsletter - Ulster				
Portadown Times				
Ulster Star				
Brighouse Echo				
Doncaster Free Press				
Dewsbury Reporter	Batley News	Spensborough Guardian		
Halifax Courier				
Scarborough News				
Yorkshire Evening Post				
Bridlington Free Press				
Harrogate Advertiser	Knaresborough Post	Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale Herald	Ripon Gazette	Wetherby News
Pontefract & Castleford Express				
Pocklington Post				
Sheffield Star				
Sheffield Telegraph				
Todmorden News				
Wakefield Express				
Whitby Gazette				
Yorkshire Post - Main Edition				

Digital sites

Digital site

3addedminutes.com

anguscountyworld.co.uk

banburyguardian.co.uk

bedfordtoday.co.uk

biggleswadetoday.co.uk

birminghamworld.uk

blackpoolgazette.co.uk

bristolworld.com

bucksherald.co.uk

burnleyexpress.net

buxtonadvertiser.co.uk

chad.co.uk

daventryexpress.co.uk

derbyshiretimes.co.uk

derryjournal.com

dewsburyreporter.co.uk

doncasterfreepress.co.uk

edinburghnews.scotsman.com

falkirkherald.co.uk

farminglife.com

fifetoday.co.uk

gallowaygazette.co.uk

glasgowworld.com

halifaxcourier.co.uk

harboroughmail.co.uk

harrogateadvertiser.co.uk

hartlepoolmail.co.uk

hemeltoday.co.uk

hucknalldispatch.co.uk

lancasterguardian.co.uk

leightonbuzzaonline.co.uk

lep.co.uk

lincolnshireworld.com

liverpoolworld.uk

londonworld.com

lutontoday.co.uk

manchesterworld.uk

meltontimes.co.uk

miltonkeynes.co.uk

nationalworld.com

newcastleworld.com

newschainonline.com

newsletter.co.uk
northamptonchron.co.uk
northantstelegraph.co.uk
northernirelandworld.com
northumberlandgazette.co.uk
nottinghamworld.com
peopleworld.co.uk
peterboroughtoday.co.uk
portsmouth.co.uk
scotsman.com
shieldsgazette.com
stornowaygazette.co.uk
sunderlandecho.com
sussexexpress.co.uk
thescarboroughnews.co.uk
thesouthernreporter.co.uk
thestar.co.uk
wakefieldexpress.co.uk
warwickshireworld.com
wiganoday.net
worksopguardian.co.uk
worldofwomenssport.com
yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk
yorkshirepost.co.uk

goonernews.com
chelseanews.com
manunews.com
mancitynews.com
wslnews.net
walkon.com
newcastleunitednews.org
rangersfcnews.com
hammersheadlines.com
celticfcnews.com
bladesnews.com
boronews.com
afcbournemouthnews.com
astonvillanews.com
brentfordnews.com
seagullsnews.com
crystalpalaceneews.com
itonlyrugby.com
evertonnews.com
fulhamnews.com
leedsunitednews.com
nottinghamforestnews.com
leicestercitynews.com
saintsnews.com
spursnews.com

wolvesfcnews.com
birminghamcitynews.com
roversnews.com
blackpoolfcnews.com
burnleyfcnews.com
cardiffcitynews.com
huddersfieldtownnews.com
hullcitynews.com
boronews.com
norwichcitynews.com
qprnews.com
readingfcnews.com
bladesnews.com
stokecitynews.com
blackcatsnews.org
swanseacitynews.com
watfordfcnews.com
laticsnews.com
westbromnews.com
wanderersnews.com
addicksnews.com
derbycountynews.com
pompeynews.com
owlsnews.com
wrexhamworld.com
celticfcnews.com
heartsnews.com
apidsnews.com
dynamonews.com
lagalaxynews.com
torontofcnews.com
nflreports.com
ncaareports.com
ukeducationnews.co.uk
eurovisionworld.org