

Quarterly analysis of standards themes arising

Themes between October and December 2021

Theme	Issues arising	Actions by IPSO in response
Reporting of coronavirus	<p>An article about lockdown parties was investigated under Clause 16 (Payment to criminals) but did not breach the Code.</p> <p>Five potentially inaccurate articles about different aspects of the coronavirus pandemic were resolved directly between the complainants and publications.</p> <p>Two third-party complaints about the deaths of two celebrity figures in articles published by two different publications.</p>	<p>IPSO's Covid Report was published in November 2021, in which the regulator reviewed all complaints about Covid-related reporting to identify trends and offer guidance on reporting in this area.</p> <p>Complaints about coverage of the coronavirus pandemic continue to be actively monitored.</p> <p>IPSO publishes case studies of coronavirus-related complaints on its website to highlight relevant complaints. https://www.ipso.co.uk/responding-to-covid-19/covid-case-studies/</p>
Privacy	<p>Upheld complaint in which a woman's privacy was breached by the inclusion of an extract from a confidential report about her in the article.</p> <p>Complaint about a potential breach of a man's privacy was not upheld.</p> <p>Three third parties concerned about a potential breach of privacy of a domestic abuse victim who was pictured.</p>	<p>Complaints about a potential breach of privacy are actively monitored.</p>
Transgender matters	<p>Upheld complaint regarding the publication of inaccurate information about new NHS guidance.</p> <p>Complaint about a comment piece made by multiple complainants was not upheld.</p> <p>Third party complaint about the description of the gender of a defendant in a court report.</p>	<p>IPSO's guidance for journalists and editors on the reporting of transgender people will be revised in 2022.</p>
Court reporting	<p>Upheld complaint after a publication misrepresented a man's crime by misreading a press release.</p>	<p>IPSO's guidance for journalists and editors on court reporting will be published shortly.</p>

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	<p>Two upheld complaints when publications inaccurately reported that a defendant was a grandmother, which was not the case.</p> <p>Upheld complaint after a publication reported a point made in a court case by the prosecution as a fact.</p>	
Accuracy	<p>Upheld complaint after a report conflated two people with the same name in an article about a local business.</p> <p>Complaints about seven different publications inaccurately reporting a woman's profession were all resolved directly.</p>	<p>These issues will be monitored to ensure that there are not consistent failures in such processes.</p>