

IPSO annual statement

Introduction

The Irish News is a daily newspaper which has been published in Belfast since 1891. Its main circulation area is in Northern Ireland but it is also available in all parts of the Republic of Ireland and online via irishnews.com. As editor of The Irish News, I supervise all our correspondence with IPSO. I took over as editor in February 2024, replacing Noel Doran, who stood down after 25 years in post.

Editorial standards.

We seek to maintain the highest possible editorial standards in all aspects of our coverage, and we believe that we have always demonstrated a strong track record in this regard. No complaint against The Irish News has ever been upheld by IPSO or indeed during the entire history of its predecessor, the Press Complaints Commission. All our staff journalists are qualified and experienced in their own particular fields. They are committed to verifying all stories to the highest possible professional standards. We are always ready to seek guidance from IPSO in connection with any matters arising.

Our complaints-handling process.

If a complaint is made to The Irish News either in person or by telephone, it will normally be handled by one of our assistant editors, Aeneas Bonner, a.bonner@irishnews.com, and Will Scholes, w.scholes@irishnews.com. If the complaint is straightforward, and can be resolved informally, we will be happy to regard the matter as closed. If a written complaint is made, we retain the correspondence. It is always our intention to resolve complaints as swiftly and amicably as possible. We carry the following message in a box on p2 every day.

* Complaints and Corrections The Irish News is a member of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) and is committed to upholding its Editors' Code of Practice. If you have a complaint about editorial content or wish to draw an inaccuracy to our attention, you should contact complaints@irishnews.com with your name, address, daytime telephone number and details of your complaint. You can also write to: The Editor, The Irish News, The Fountain Centre, College Street, Belfast BT1 6ET, or telephone 028 9032 2226. If you wish to make a complaint under the terms of the Editors' Code administered by IPSO, you can find full details at www.ipso.co.uk or you can email inquiries@ipso.uk or telephone 0300 123 2220. You can also write to: IPSO, Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, London EC4M 7LG.

Our training process

Copies of the Editors' Code of Practice are given to every member of our editorial staff on an annual basis. Due to the low number of complaints we have received, we have not so far felt it necessary to organise a specific training programme linked to the Code of Practice. However, we remain very much open to suggestions from IPSO in this regard.

Our record on compliance.

During the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024, no complaints against The Irish News were ruled on by IPSO's Complaints Committee.

Responsible Person

I, as editor-in-chief, am the person responsible within The Irish News.

Appendix

All our journalists are familiar with the latest Editors' Code of Practice and have been briefed on all recent updates. We do not use any other internal manuals, codes or guidance.

Chris Sherrard, Editor-in-chief, The Irish News.