

Annual Report – Stranraer and Wigtonshire Free Press/Our Wigtonshire

Introduction

Stranraer and Wigtonshire Free Press newspaper – weekly publication established in 1843. 40-page local newspaper covering the south west area of Scotland. Circulation area from Drummore in southern tip of Scotland up to Girvan in Ayrshire and east to Creetown. Circulation 6408. Editorial team – editor, two reporters.

Responsible person: Alan Hall, editor.

Our Wigtonshire – bi-monthly magazine covering south west Scotland. 60-page magazine created in January this year. Circulation not yet confirmed.

Responsible person: Alan Hall, editor.

Our editorial standards

The Stranraer and Wigtonshire Free Press remains editorially independent from any political party. It is our policy to deal with any major errors as quickly as possible and how to do this is published each week in the newspaper.

We would seek editorial guidance from IPSO if a complaint from a reader cannot be resolved between the two parties. We have not had any reason to do so as yet.

We hold firm to the belief that stories are not published until both sides have had a chance to comment. Our reporters are expected to follow the principle of fair and accurate reporting.

Our complaints-handling process

How to complain if it is believed an error has been made is published in the newspaper each week. This can be done by email, by telephone or by post. Complaints will be dealt with initially by the editor Alan Hall. All details of complaints are kept in printed form on file. This will remain on file until resolved and then for a further year. If at fault, the newspaper will keep a record for current and future reporters to consult.

Attempts will be made to resolve all complaints with initial contact between the complainer and the editor. If the newspaper is found to be at fault or an error made then a correction will be published at the earliest opportunity.

Our training process

Our training is on the job. The Editor's code of practice is given to each reporter and they are told to follow it religiously.

Our record on compliance

We have not had any complaints in the period under review.