

The Stage Media Company Ltd

IPSO Annual Report

Period covered: January 2021 - December 2021

1.0 Factual Information about the Regulated Entity

The Stage Media Company Ltd publishes a total of 4 regulated publications.

1.1 Titles Published

Title	Editions	Frequency
The Stage	Print, Digital	Weekly
thestage.co.uk	Web	Continuously
The Bookseller	Print, Digital	Weekly
thebookseller.com	Web	Continuously

1.2 Responsible Person

The Regulated Entity's responsible person is Hugh Comerford

1.3 Overview

The Regulated Entity was founded in 1880 and is a magazine media publisher, publishing print and digital editions of the weekly newspaper The Stage as well as a website optimised for desktop and mobile and staging events.

In July 2020 the company acquired Bookseller Media Ltd and is now also responsible for the book publishers' and retailers' weekly The Bookseller (established in 1858) and its website, digital edition and events. The activities of Bookseller Media Ltd have been hived up to The Stage Media Co. Ltd

2.0 Internal Guides

The regulated entity has the following internal manuals used by journalists, copies of which are available on request by the Regulator:

- The Editors Code
- Company Style Guide

3.0 Compliance Procedures

How the Regulated Entity deals with:

3.1 Pre-publications guidance

Where required editors and journalists seek advice from IPSO in advance of publishing articles to consider matters of compliance with the Editors Code. This advice is then considered alongside editorial guidance and the public interest when refining and publishing any articles.

3.2 Verification of stories

Journalists and Editors take all appropriate steps to confirm stories and seek a response from all relevant people.

3.3 Compliance with the Editor's Code

Copies of the Editor's Code are supplied to all journalists, as well as copies listed on the shared drives. The updated 2021 version was distributed to all journalists with a reminder it is company policy to adhere to it.

Where the Regulator finds against a publication in the course of assessing a complaint, the publication complies with the findings and any remedial action required.

3.4 Editorial Complaints

The Stage Media Company Ltd has a standard complaints procedure. Members of the public can register an editorial complaint by contacting the editor by email, or by submitting a complaint in writing to the company address.

The Stage

Editor Alistair Smith alistair@thestage.co.uk

Address: 47 Bermondsey St, London SE1 3XT

The Bookseller

Editor Philip Jones philip.jones@thebookseller.com

Address: 47 Bermondsey St, London SE1 3XT

Complaints received in line with the published procedure, or referred from IPSO, are logged and assessed in the first instance by the editor and if necessary the responsible person, who will seek to resolve the matter with the complainant. Complaints that fall outside the procedure, i.e. are not editorial complaints, are referred to the relevant department/person.

Where the Regulator finds against a publication when determining a complaint, the publication complies with the findings and any remedial action required by the Regulator.

3.5 Training of Staff

The Stage Media Company Ltd undertakes to keep staff up to date on regulatory changes. New joiners are supplied with a staff handbook and a copy of the Editors Code.

4.0 Adverse Adjudications

There have been no adverse adjudications against The Stage Media Company Ltd.

Covid 19

In the past two years there have been challenges but editorial content from The Stage and The Bookseller have won plaudits for working closely with their respective industries in very tough circumstances.

SIGNED:



On behalf of The Stage Media Company Ltd

Submitted to IPSO: 21/2/2022