Quarterly analysis of standards themes arising

Themes between July and September 2023

| **Theme** | **Issues arising** | **Actions by IPSO in response** |
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| Court reporting | Inaccurate reporting of an address in relation to a court report.  The reason for a local councillor appearing in court was inaccurately reported.  Inaccurate reporting of the charges faced by a defendant.  Family court proceedings relating to a sperm donor were reported inaccurately. | IPSO [guidance on court reporting](https://www.ipso.co.uk/media/2284/ipso-court-reporting-guidance.pdf) for journalists published in 2022. |
| Harassment / privacy | Breach of a woman’s privacy by photographing her after a private advisory notice had been issued. | Case studies about privacy are included in IPSO’s training for journalists. |
| Accuracy | Inaccurate reporting of financial results relating to share prices.  An article about an MP was found to be inaccurate.  An interview with an actor was written up inaccurately resulting in the actor being misquoted.  Inaccurate report that a schoolchild had been beaten by another pupil and taken to hospital. | These issues will be monitored to ensure that there are not consistent failures in such processes.  Guidance for journalists and editors on the reporting of children to be published in 2024. |
| Comment pieces | Two comment pieces relating to the coronavirus pandemic contained inaccurate statements which were presented as facts. A further complaint where claims were clearly distinguished as such, was not upheld. | These issues will be monitored to ensure that there are not consistent failures in such processes. |
| Intrusion into grief or shock | Article inaccurately described a deceased man as a father which was not the case.  Complaints not upheld regarding potentially excessive details in inquest reports about a man’s death. | Revised [guidance for journalists on deaths and inquests](https://www.ipso.co.uk/media/2296/deaths-and-inquests-guidance.pdf) was published in January 2023.  Revised [guidance for journalists](https://www.ipso.co.uk/media/2441/reporting-suicide-journalist-guidance-2023.pdf) and [information for the public](https://www.ipso.co.uk/media/2440/suicide-public-2023.pdf) on the reporting of suicide was published in October 2023. |