Quarterly analysis of standards themes arising

Themes between October and December 2022

| **Theme** | **Issues arising** | **Actions by IPSO in response** |
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| Privacy | Breach of a man’s privacy through publication of medical information.Complaint about publication of a “prank video” showing alleged drug taking was not upheld. | Complaints about a potential breach of privacy are actively monitored.IPSO’s training newsletter for its member publications for May was on the subject of privacy. |
| Inaccurate headlines | Two publications misrepresented a woman’s comments about the cost of living in article headlines.Inaccurate description of a man as a stalker in the headline of a court report.Inaccurate report that a man had advocated armed violence.Inaccurate claim in a headline that two thirds of asylum seekers who claimed to be children were over 18. | These issues will be monitored to ensure that there are not consistent failures in such processes.IPSO’s publisher newsletter for its member publications in July was on the subject of headlines.  |
| Social media | Complaint not upheld where a publication could prove that a complainant’s social media platforms were publicly viewable.Complaint about photographs of a car accident not upheld as information was voluntarily put into the public domain on social media and did not show anything private. | IPSO published revised guidance for journalists on the use of social media in 2022. <https://www.ipso.co.uk/resources-and-guidance/social-media-guidance/> Information for the public on how journalists use social media is available. <https://www.ipso.co.uk/media/1517/social-media-public_v4.pdf> |
| Accuracy | A complaint about a reader’s letter which denied man-made climate change, was not upheld as this was clearly distinguished as a personal opinion.Complaint about a woman’s account of being sexually harassed by a named individual not upheld. | These complaints are closely monitored. |
| Welfare of children | Failure to remove a comment which named someone under 18 who had been charged with an offence. | IPSO has information for the public on reporting on children. <https://www.ipso.co.uk/media/1967/children-pub-info-v4.pdf> Training sessions for journalists and editors include reporting on children. |