



Joint Committee on Human Rights

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From Dr Hywel Francis MP, Chair

The Rt Hon David Cameron MP,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
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Wednesday 13 July 2011

Dear David,

I write to follow up my letter of last week in connection with the two inquiries you have launched following *The News Of The World* phone-hacking scandal. I listened with interest to your Statement today, and to further details of the consultation you have embarked upon in connection with their terms of reference and how they should proceed.

Clearly, Parliament needs to be substantially involved in these matters to ensure that it can maximise transparency, debate and close scrutiny of whatever proposals begin to emerge. Your second, broader, inquiry which will examine the culture, practices and ethics of the press, and its relationship with politicians and the public, is hopefully going to serve as the foundation for a new and better *modus vivendi* for years to come. It is important to ensure that the work of this second inquiry is tied as closely as possible to an understanding of those twin human rights, to privacy and to family life, which have been most flouted in the course of the events leading up to the breaking of this current scandal.

I look forward to hearing from you about how my Committee may be able to assist in this regard.

Yours

Hywel

Dr Hywel Francis
Chair