

## CHAPTER 4

### Other evidence

4.1 The Press Council told us that in their opinion the proposed change of ownership was one of form rather than of substance. Despite the number of newspapers involved, the proposed transfer would not, in their view, create any effective additional concentration of ownership of the press. The Council did not therefore believe that the transfer would operate against the public interest.

4.2 The Newspaper Society told us that in its view the proposed merger would have no adverse effect on competition, efficiency, further expansion, closures or labour redundancy, nor on presentation of views, editorial freedom or related matters. The transfer of control did not envisage further concentration of ownership since the overall control of both BPM Holdings and Coventry remained, on the Society's understanding, the same as it has been for the last 40 years, namely with the Iliffe family.

4.3 Neither the CBI nor the TUC made any comment.