

L L Byrne  
5 July 2012  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
Exhibit "LLB 2"

IN THE MATTER OF THE LEVESON INQUIRY

---

**SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF LISA LORRAINE BYRNE**

---

I, **LISA LORRAINE BYRNE**, Editor of OK! Magazine, of The Northern and Shell Building, Number 10 Lower Thames Street, London, EC3R 6EN, **WILL SAY AS FOLLOWS:**

- A. I am the Editor of OK! Magazine ("the Magazine"). I make this, my second statement, in response to a request of the Leveson Inquiry (the "Inquiry") pursuant to a letter to me dated 2 July 2012. A copy of this letter can be found at pages 1- 3 of Exhibit "LLB2" attached to this statement.
- B. I confirm that all matters in this statement are true and, unless I specify to the contrary, are based upon my own knowledge and a review of the relevant documents. Where matters are not within my own knowledge, I state the source and believe the same to be true.
- C. For convenience, I have reproduced as subheadings the questions asked of me in the 2 July letter.

**Question 1: Who you are and your current job title;**

1. I am the Editor of OK! Magazine.

**Question 2: To what extent were you personally involved in drawing up this proposal for a new system of self-regulation based on contractual obligations, as now set out by Lord Black?**

2. While I am aware of the content of Lord Black's proposals for a new regulatory system ("the Proposals"), I have not been personally involved in drawing them up.

**Question 3: How far would you personally, in your capacity as editor, expect to be involved in the final decision as to whether your publication signed up to the contractual obligations envisaged by this system? Please explain in full how that decision would be taken.**

3. I would expect to be consulted and my opinion sought by Paul Ashford, the Group Editorial Director of Northern & Shell as to any potential impact on OK! Magazine of signing up to the Proposal. That said, the final decision will be taken at board level.

**Question 4: In so far as you are able to do so, please indicate whether your publication is at present fully ready and committed to enter into these contractual obligations. If it is not at present fully ready and committed, please explain why, and detail any changes that would need to be made to the proposal, any further development to proposal required, or any preparatory steps that would need to be taken at your publication, in order to put it in the position of being fully ready and committed to enter into these obligations. If there are no circumstances in which it would be prepared to enter into obligations of this nature, please explain why not.**

4. As I explained in my first statement, OK! Magazine is different to other magazines and tabloid newspapers in that the stories published in the magazine are largely given with the consent of the subject matter of the story.

5. As a result of OK! Magazine working in cooperation with those about whom we write, we receive very few complaints in respect of our copy and therefore I would consider that the Proposals would have more relevance to other publications and as I mention above, I have not been involved with drawing them up.
6. I broadly agree with the principles behind the Proposals, in that it is important to ensure the press adhere to a code of conduct which fosters trust by the public in the industry, but I could not recommend to the Board that the Magazine sign up to the Proposals in their current form.
7. I would require significantly more detail in respect of how the system would run in practice. Further detail would allow me to identify the potential impact on OK! Magazine of entering into the contractual obligations contained in the Proposals.
8. In any event, a decision to commit OK! Magazine to these contractual obligations, particularly those which include the potential for the imposition of significant financial sanction, would be taken at board level.

**Question 5: What specific differences would membership of a system of the kind set out by Lord Black, underpinned by contractual obligations, make to the culture, practices and ethics of your publication?**

9. Notwithstanding the reservations I have in respect of the Proposals as they currently stand, I do not think that there would be any particular differences in the way OK! Magazine is run if such a system were to be introduced.

**Question 6: Is there any other comment you wish to make on the proposal put forward by Lord Black, or on the proposals put forward by others, that are now published on the inquiry website?**

10. I do not have any further comment to make on the Proposal in addition to those comments that I make above.

**STATEMENT OF TRUTH**

I believe that the facts stated in this Witness Statement are true.

**LISA LORRAINE BYRNE**  
**Dated: 5 July 2012**

L L Byrne  
5 July 2012  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
Exhibit "LLB 2"

IN THE MATTER OF THE LEVESON INQUIRY

---

SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF  
LISA LORRAINE BYRNE

---

rosenblattsolicitors

9-13 St Andrew Street  
London EC4A 3AF  
DX: LDE 493  
Tel: (020) 7955 0880  
Fax: (020) 7955 0888  
Ref: AF/EXP9-95

MOD400001851

L L Byrne  
5 July 2012  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
Exhibit "LLB 2"

IN THE MATTER OF THE LEVESON INQUIRY

---

EXHIBIT LLB 2 TO THE  
SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF  
LISA LORRAINE BYRNE

---