

Embargoed until midnight on Monday 11th March

Second edition of Press Distribution Charter online

The Press Distribution Forum (PDF) today launches the second edition of the Press Distribution Charter (PDC) online. This revised Charter is the result of a consultation process under an independent Chairman who listened to the views of retailers.

The PDC has been developed by wholesalers, distributors and publishers. It is the PDF's promise of good service to retailers and the Charter sets out the minimum service standards that publishers and wholesalers have committed to. It helps provide every retailer in the UK with the best possible service as well as helping retailers find solutions if things go wrong.

The updated version of the Charter is available online, and the PDF has produced a flyer which summarises the key points in the Charter and describes the simple three-step process for raising issues and getting them resolved. A copy of this flyer will be delivered to every retailer via their wholesaler this week.

Michel Woodman, Chairman of the panel who undertook the review of the Press Distribution Charter (PDC) said:

"I am delighted that the new version of the Press Distribution Charter has now been published by the PDF, and in particular that it reflects the document produced through my review of the first edition of the Charter."

"The second edition takes into account the input from all contributors involved in my review of this complex process. Each section of the Charter is introduced with a mission statement, setting out the aspiration of the section; detail of the standards and actions follow these statements. Following input from retailers, the Charter now includes many topics that were not included in the first edition of the document. Importantly, the Charter will continue to be underpinned by an independent appeals process, and the new commitment for wholesalers to publish their key performance data on a house by house basis."

Commenting on the review of the PDC, Chairman of the PDF Mike Newman added:

"I would like to say special thanks to Michel Woodman for independently chairing the review, and to the individuals across the industry who also contributed. It is our aim that newspapers and magazines should be readily available to consumers through an effective and efficient supply chain. Retailers should use the Press Distribution Charter to help them."

For more information about the Press Distribution Charter, call 0843 289 3967. To view the online Charter visit: www.pressdistributionforum.com.

END

NOTES TO EDITORS:

PRESS DISTRIBUTION FORUM (PDF). The purpose of the Press Distribution Forum (PDF) is to provide a self-regulated forum for associations and companies involved in the supply and distribution of newspapers and magazines, to ensure the continuation of a diverse and plural press with its widespread availability to retailers and consumers. More information on the PDF can be found at www.pressdistributionforum.com .

The Association Members are:

- Newspaper Publishers Association (NPA)

- Professional Publishers Association (PPA)

- Association of Newspaper and Magazine Wholesalers (ANMW)

The Press Distribution Board Members are:

Mike Newman - Chairman
Philip Busby - NPA
Lucy Ukoumunne - NPA
Mike Mirams - PPA
Nicola Rowe - PPA
David Cooke - MD
Simon Gage - SN