

# Green Party files complaint over Daily Mail's 'Legs-it' headline



28 March 2017

Amelia Womack, Green Party deputy leader, has submitted a formal complaint to the Independent Press Standards Organisation (Ipso) over the Daily Mail's 'Legs-it' headline [1].

She accuses the newspaper of breaching the Editors' Code of Practice by discriminating against Nicola Sturgeon and Theresa May because of their gender [2].

Womack said:

"This attempt by the Daily Mail to ignore years of progress by women in politics is utterly pathetic. The paper is deliberately ignoring the struggle women have faced to break into politics even though we now have a female prime minister, first minister and party leaders.

"As a young woman politician I find it absolutely extraordinary that a national newspaper has sunk to this level. Female leaders deserve to be treated with respect, not contempt, and I call on the editor of the Daily Mail to apologise to the Prime Minister and First Minister, and to all of the young women aspiring to be politicians who want to be recognised for their knowledge and achievements, not the shimmer of their legs."

## **Notes:**

1. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-39416554>

2. The full complaint reads:

I wish to make a complaint under the Editors' Code of Practice relating to the Daily Mail's coverage on March 28 of a meeting between Nicola Sturgeon and Theresa May.

The coverage breaches clause 12 as the women are being discriminated against due to their gender.

To bring the politicians' appearance into this story is not only entirely irrelevant but incredibly disrespectful.

This headline and the further derogatory comments inside the paper would not have even been considered, let alone published, if the two politicians in question had been men.

Women in the public sphere deserve to be treated with respect and the headline contributes to a wider culture of sexism. It reinforces a fallacy

that politics isn't a place for women, potentially putting off the next generation of leaders and decision makers.

I despair that a national newspaper thinks it is acceptable to pit women against each other in a competition over who is the most attractive.

Please will you consider if this coverage has breached the code and if so, take action against the Daily Mail to ensure this does not happen again.

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## [Green Party calls for inquiry into death of schoolboy as 'Hillsborough Law' Bill reaches Parliament](#)



28 March 2017

The Green Party has joined calls for an independent panel inquiry into the death of seven-year-old Zane Gbangbola, who died in 2014 after his home in Surrey was flooded.

Zane's family believes he was killed by hydrogen cyanide carried by floodwater from a nearby landfill site, despite the coroner ruling his death was caused by carbon monoxide poisoning.

The family was denied legal aid and is now supporting the Public Authority (Accountability) Bill, dubbed the 'Hillsborough Law' [1], which will be presented to parliament tomorrow, on March 29.

Caroline Lucas MP, Green Party co-leader, is co-sponsoring the bill.

Zane's parents Kye Gbangbola and Nicole Lawler are requesting an independent panel of inquiry, as in the Hillsborough inquest, to review all documentation around Zane's death. More than 30,000 people have signed a petition [2] to support their call.

Jonathan Bartley, Green Party co-leader, met Kye and Nicole earlier this month.

Bartley said:

"I was struck by Kye and Nicole's determination and resilience in terrible circumstances. They've shown enormous courage to continue fighting for justice in the face of a huge bureaucratic machine and vested interests weighted against them.

"I fully support their call for an inquiry and tomorrow we'll take an important step forward with this bill reaching parliament. It's crucial there's a level playing field for families seeking answers about their loved ones' deaths.

"The implications of Zane's death are enormous, not just for his family, but potentially for everyone who lives near a landfill site, particularly as many of these sites are unrecorded. The authorities involved in the investigation must be accountable so we can make sure the truth emerges and that a tragedy like this never happens again."

#### Notes:

1. <https://www.theguardian.com/football/2016/sep/08/hillsborough-law-launch-ed-to-ensure-officials-act-with-candour>
2. [https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/call-for-a-public-debate-into-the-death-of-7-year-old-zane?bucket=+via+%4038\\_degrees](https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/call-for-a-public-debate-into-the-death-of-7-year-old-zane?bucket=+via+%4038_degrees)
3. More information about the campaigns are available at <http://www.truthaboutzane.com/> and <http://www.thehillsboroughlaw.com/>.

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## News story: Public sector pay awards for 2017-18

Pay awards for armed forces, NHS staff and doctors and dentists set out by government.

The government has today (28 March 2017) set out the pay awards for armed forces, NHS Agenda for Change staff and doctors and dentists in line with the policy of an average 1% pay rise in 2016-17.

The government asked the following Pay Review Bodies to examine how an increase to base pay could be applied in line with the government's policy of an average of 1% across the workforces:

- Armed Forces' Pay Review Body (AFPRB)
- NHS Pay Review Body (NHSPRB)
- Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration (DDRB)

The government has accepted the recommendations for the armed forces, NHS Agenda for Change staff and doctors and dentists to receive an average of a 1% pay increase.

Chief Secretary to the Treasury, David Gauke, said:

It is always important to recognise the amazing work undertaken every day by our armed forces, doctors and dentists and NHS staff. The settlement for these key workforces protects jobs and helps repair the public finances. The OBR has forecast that the current pay policy will protect approximately 200,000 jobs across the UK.

I am pleased that we are able to accept the recommendations of the independent pay review bodies, and I thank them for their work.

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## [News story: Cancer innovation challenge in Scotland: apply for funding](#)

Organisations can apply for a share of £325,000 to find new ways of recording and integrating data on patient outcomes and experiences.

Up to £325,000 is available to fund the development of innovative technologies that find new ways of integrating data into Scotland-wide healthcare processes. The aim is to improve patient care.

These technologies should record and integrate cancer patient reported outcome measures (PROMs) and patient reported experience measures (PREMs). This will:

- improve experiences of treatment, care, and personal outcomes
- explore the clinical and psychosocial impact of new and established cancer treatment
- make better use of NHS resources by reducing waste and inefficient practices
- speed up the adoption of new technologies into the NHS through efficient evaluation mechanisms
- create high value research infrastructure with global reach

This competition has 2 phases. Up to £125,000 (including VAT) is available for phase 1, and up to £200,000 (including VAT) for Phase 2:

- Phase 1: technical feasibility. Projects should last up to 3 months and range in size up to a total cost of £25,000
- Phase 2: development and evaluation. Projects should last up to 6 months and range in size up to a total cost of £100,000
- this competition opens on 31 March 2017
- you must register before 15 May 2017
- you must apply by 29 May 2017
- there will be an [information session for potential applicants](#) on 19 April 2017 in Edinburgh (register by 10 April)
- organisations can carry out the project on their own or work with others

This is a [Small Business Research Initiative](#) (SBRI) competition. The [Data Lab](#) – funded by the [Scottish Funding Council](#) – [DHI Scotland](#) and [Stratified Medicine Scotland](#) will fund this competition.

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## [News story: Do you want to help shape the future of energy?](#)

Our scientists and engineers are working with partners around the globe to develop fusion as a new source of clean energy for future power stations. In partnership with industry and academia we are also developing opportunities to work together to enable our expertise to be used in non-nuclear applications, with an increased technology focus.

We are seeking two Non-Executive Directors (NEDs) for the UKAEA Board; one a Financial expert (who will also chair the Audit Committee) and the other an academic or R&D leader.

The positions are public appointments. Further information and application details are available on:

### Finance NED

<https://publicappointments.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/appointment/united-kingdom-at-omic-energy-authority-non-executive-director-finance-expert>

### Academic NED

<https://publicappointments.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/appointment/united-kingdom-at-omic-energy-authority-ukaea>