

Professional Ethics Network

2013-2014 Events

Lord Guy Black - Leveson and Beyond: The future of press regulation and ethics

25th April 2013

[Lord Guy Black](#), Executive Director of the Telegraph Media Group, former Chairman of the Press Complaints Commission (1996-2003) and currently Chairman of the Press Standards Board of Finance.

Discussed the following topics:

- the implications of the Leveson Inquiry for regulation of the press in the UK
- balancing the principle of press freedom with the need for responsible journalism
- the relationship between ethics and regulation

Rob Baker and Paul Affleck - Best Interest and Ethics Codes of Conduct

13th November 2013

Rob Baker and Paul Affleck, academics from the University of Leeds discussed the topic Best Interest and Ethics Codes of Conduct - 'What ethical difference does an apostrophe make? Understanding professional codes of practice.' In the session they examined the regulation of one profession, dentistry, by a professional code of behaviours and assessed how good a guide to ethics in dentistry this is. The particular focus was on the requirement for dentists to act in their patient's (or patients') best interests.

John Cummings - Surveillance, Privacy and Ethics

20th February 2014

John Cummings, a former Operational Police Superintendent and graduate of the Inter Disciplinary Ethics Applied Centre, offered reflections based on his experience of authorising and rejecting Directed Surveillance and Communications Data applications linked with his learning via the Post Graduate programme.

Tony Bromell - It's all in the public interest: worthy aspiration or diversionary smokescreen?

1st May 2014

Tony Bromell, from The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales discussed the topic of Public Interest.

Governments, regulators and others who can affect the public at large use 'the public interest' as a justification for doing (or not doing) many things. But do we know what they mean? Do they know what they mean?

In the session participants analysed the factors that ought to be looked at when justifying something as being in the public interest, the difficulty in challenging general assertions, and the scope for diversion from the real purpose. The discussion was illustrated by examples of public interest issues facing the accountancy profession, such as tax avoidance.