



# Culture, Media and Sport Committee

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA  
Tel 020 7219 6188 website [www.parliament.uk/cms](http://www.parliament.uk/cms)

Victoria Newton  
Editor-in-Chief of The Sun

By email

24 July 2023

Dear Victoria,

The Committee has been following the public discussion regarding the media coverage of the allegations concerning BBC News presenter Huw Edwards. We have also written to the BBC to enable them to set out their prior actions and next steps.

Our role is not to challenge individual stories or editorial decisions, but we would be grateful if you could set out the processes by which The Sun verifies any story it chooses to report, especially those where issues of privacy may be at stake. The Committee has previously considered this issue as part of its Trusted Voices inquiry, including with the Daily Mirror, and would welcome an insight into The Sun's verification and decision-making processes.

Given the concerns that have been reported about inaccuracies, changing narratives and lack of engagement with some of the parties involved in the case of Mr Edwards, we would also be interested to understand what was done to verify this specific story and what, if any, reviews or discussions are ongoing about The Sun's procedures and reporting in this case and any wider lessons to be learned.

Since this story was reported, allegations have been made about a former employee of The Sun, Dan Wootton, who has been reported as being involved in payments for sexual material. We would be grateful if you could set out what investigations are taking place into this matter.

I'm sure you will recognise how important it is for the public to have confidence in a newspaper's editorial standards, not only on this particular case but across all its reporting. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

**Dame Caroline Dinenage DBE MP**  
**Chair, Culture, Media and Sport Committee**