



Tony Gallagher, Editor
The Daily Telegraph
111 Buckingham Palace Road
London
SW1W 0DT
United Kingdom

Sent by email and recorded delivery

18th December 2012

Dear Sir,

Re: YOUR PUBLICATION OF THE ARTICLE BY ALISTAIR OSBORNE, ENTITLED "*MPs in attack on campaign against betting shop machines*" DATED 18 NOVEMBER 2012

I write further to the above mentioned article being published in your newspaper. It contains numerous factual inaccuracies as follows:-

- the cross party group of MPs has NOT made a formal complaint that I am aware of nor have they taken issue with a publicity drive by me
- in particular the cross party group of MPs has NOT made a formal complaint or any other complaint to the ASA
- the complaint I have been notified about is a complaint by the Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Betting and Gaming, Mr Philip Davies, **acting in his personal capacity**
- the publicity drive by me has NOT been held to be "materially misleading"
- I am not leading an attack against bookmakers but against Fixed Odds Betting Terminals ("FOBTs) in bookmakers' premises
- Mr Osborne has quoted me in this article in such a manner that it appears as if I am responding to the complaint by Mr Davies to the ASA. This is not correct. I spoke to Mr Osborne on or about 26 September 2012 in relation to comments to him from bookmakers in relation to the Campaign.

In addition I am not aware of whether the Gaming Committee sees the Campaign as highly subjective. How does the Daily Telegraph know this? Which MPs are aghast at some of Mr Webb's claims? Which MPs did your journalist interview for this article?

I am also interested to know why your Business Editor considered his article of 18 November to be a business piece and not of general interest?



I have not seen any letter from the Gaming Committee, nor from Mr Philip Davies, so I cannot comment on the accuracy of the alleged quotes. **Please provide me with a copy of the letter your journalist has quoted from and which he refers to in this article.**

The ASA confirmed to my solicitors that it had not disclosed the letter from Philip Davies, which is the subject of your article, to any third party. I assume therefore that it was disclosed to your newspaper/Mr Osborne, by the author Mr Davies.

When your article was published on 18 November 2012 we had not received any communication from the ASA that they had received a complaint. Further to reading your article I contacted my solicitors who called the ASA on 30 November 2012. The ASA confirmed to my solicitors that they had received a letter of complaint from Mr Philip Davies, in his personal capacity but NOT in his capacity as Chair of the All Party Gaming Committee. They were not at liberty to disclose the letter and have not provided me with a copy of the letter of complaint.

The ASA also confirmed to my solicitors that as at 30 November 2012 they had not decided on whether to investigate Mr Davies' complaint further or not. Your Business Editor's article was therefore not just substantially and significantly inaccurate but also premature.

I therefore request that you publish an apology for such inaccuracies and publish a correction on the terms as set out above, such correction to be reviewed and approved by me before publication.

Yours faithfully,

Derek Webb
Founder, Campaign for Fairer Gambling
www.fairergambling.org