

# ANNA SOUBRY MP

Member of Parliament for Broxtowe

## NEWSLETTER



"she has a record of unusually free speech" *Simon Carr The Independent*

part of "the beating heart of the parliamentary Tory party" *Quentin Letts The Daily Mail*

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Friday July 8th 2011

Hello again,

I would like to give you an update on what I have been doing this week in relation to the revelations concerning the News of the World and phone hacking.

On Tuesday I supported the opposition in calling for a Parliamentary debate and on Wednesday I spoke in that debate.

Please visit my web site [www.annasoubry.org.uk](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk) for a fuller report including a link to my speech in Hansard. I called for a boycott of the now defunct News of the World; I said there should be a pause in the process which is considering whether Rupert Murdoch can acquire a majority share in BskyB and I backed the Prime Minister's decision to hold two public inquiries.

I took part in Newsnight on Wednesday evening which you can see on the BBC iplayer.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/bigscreen/tv/episode/b012f4zy/>

As you may know, before I returned to working as a Barrister, I trained and worked as a journalist. I was a member of the National Union of Journalists and mother of the chapel (shop steward) at Central TV in Nottingham. So, I have some knowledge of how the press should work.

I share the widely held view that the closure of the News of the World is by no means the solution nor should it be the end to this week's appalling allegations and revelations.

If those allegations are true (and I would urge you to read Tom Watson MP's speech in Wednesday's debate) then some extremely serious criminal offences have been committed and they must be thoroughly investigated by the police; those responsible must be prosecuted.

Next week the Government will give more details of the two public inquiries the Prime Minister announced on Wednesday. I welcome today's announcement that the inquiry into the original and flawed police investigation of phone tapping will be led by

a Judge, though it can only begin its work when the current criminal investigation has concluded.

I can see no reason why the other inquiry into the ethics and workings of the media cannot begin its work, as soon as possible. I believe that amongst other matters, it must look at the Press Complaints Commission, which by any standard does a pitiful job in “policing” the press. There must be a way to regulate print media without curtailing press freedom, especially from political influence and favour.

I think there is a good argument for a separate inquiry into the relationship between the media and the police . This week's disclosures about the workings of the metropolitan police are extremely serious and we need to rid all police forces of corruption and restore public confidence as a matter of priority.

Thank you to everyone who has contacted me in the last few days. I update my web site regularly so it is a good way to see what I am doing and saying on this very important matter.

As ever,  
Anna

Contact Anna either at the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA  
or at Barton House, 61 High Road, Chilwell NG9 4AJ  
0207 219 7211 or 0115 9436507

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