

### Free Press Poll

Prepared on behalf of the Free Speech Network



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### Free Press Poll

# On behalf of the Free Speech Network 16/11/12 - 1,002 respondents

Fieldwork Dates: 12<sup>th</sup> November - 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012

**Data Collection Method:** The survey was conducted via online panel. Invitations to complete surveys were sent out to members of the panel. Differential response rates from different demographic groups were taken into account.

Population Sampled: All adults aged 18+ England, Scotland and Wales.

Sample Size: 1,002

**Data Weighting:** Data were weighted to the profile of all adults aged 18+. Data were weighted by gender, age and region. Targets for the weighted data were derived from Office of National Statistics data

**Margin of Error:** Because only a sample of the full population was interviewed, all results are subject to margin of error, meaning that not all differences are statistically significant. For example, in a question where 50% (the worst case scenario as far as margin of error is concerned) gave a particular answer, with a sample of 1,002 we can be 95% certain that the 'true' value will fall within the range of 3.1% from the sample result. Sub-samples from the cross-breaks will be subject to higher margin of error, conclusions drawn from cross-breaks with very small sub-samples should be treated with caution.

Data were analysed and weighted by Survation and presented by Patrick Briône, Damian Lyons Lowe and Vanessa O'Donnell of Survation.

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On behalf of the Free Speech Network 16/11/12 - 1,002 respondents

Q5

When asked to list in order their top ten priorities for MPs' attention, "regulation of the press & journalism" was the number one priority for less than one percent of respondents. Only 12% of respondents selected press regulation anywhere in their top 10 issues, suggesting that for almost nine out of ten people this is not an issue of pressing concern.

1% 1% 1% 1% 1% 1% 1% 1% 20% 2% \_\_\_\_\_\_ 2% \_\_\_\_\_ 17% 12% 17% 12%

- ☐ Unemployment
  ☐ Immigration/overpopulation
  ☐ Our relationship with the EU
  ☐ Crime/law and order
  ☐ Illegal drugs
  ☐ Housing and homelessness
  ☐ Morality/individual behaviour
  ☐ Regulation of the press & journalism
- ☑ Economic growth/recession
   ☑ Inflation/cost of living
   ☑ The environment/pollution/global warming
   ☑ Education/schools
   ☑ Care for the elderly
   ☑ Pensions/Benefits/Social Security
- ■Transport & Infrastructure

Healthcare/NHS

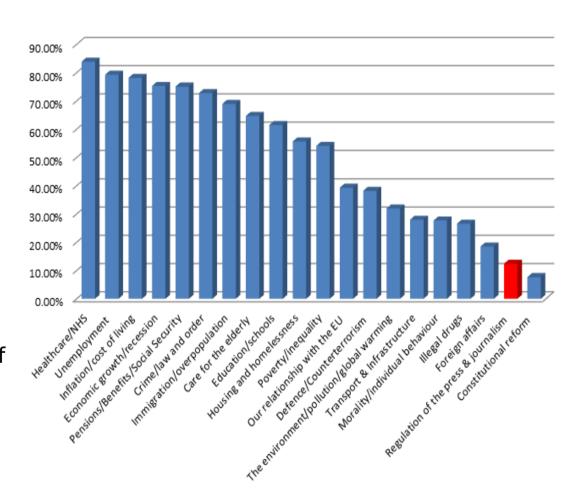


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Q5

Overall, after all rankings were taken into account, "regulation of the press & journalism" came 19th out of a list of 20 issues, with only "Constitutional reform" scoring lower in terms of importance.

The top five issues, "Economic growth /
Recession", "Unemployment", "Inflation /
Cost of living", "Immigration /
Overpopulation" and "Healthcare / NHS",
all scored over 10 times higher on level of
importance than "regulation of the press
& journalism".



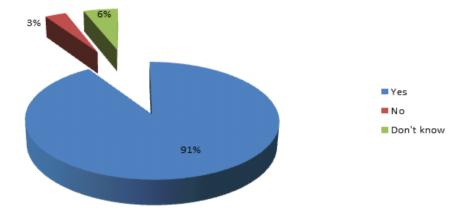


On behalf of the Free Speech Network 16/11/12 - 1,002 respondents

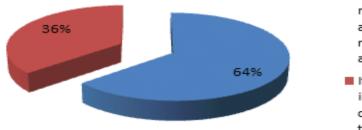
Freedom of speech, on the other hand, seems to be an issue that people care considerably about – 91% of people expressed support for a statement that "people in Britain should have the right to say or write whatever they think on matters of public debate", subject to libel laws.

And 64% said that they were "proud that the United Kingdom is regarded by some around the world as a model of press freedoms and freedom of speech" compared with 36% who did not feel it was relevant or important to them.

Of Do you believe people in Britain should have the right to say or write whatever they think on matters of public debate, as long as they do not make false statement that damage other people's reputations (libel/slander)? - a definition of Free Speech.



Q8 Which of the following statements is closest to your opinion?



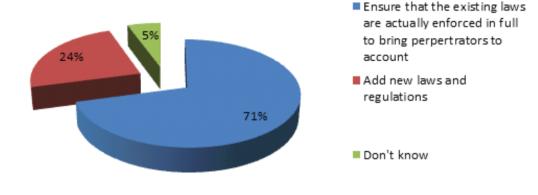
- I am proud that the UK is regarded by some around the world as a model of press freedom and freedom of speech
- It is not relevant or important to me what other countries think of the UK's press freedoms or freedom of speech



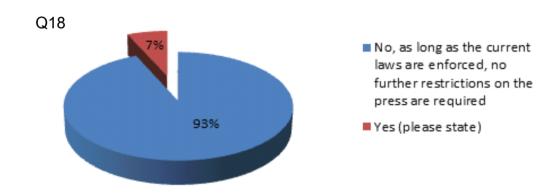
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When asked what they thought the government should focus on to stop bad practices by the UK press, a strong majority, 71%, thought the focus should be on ensuring that existing laws are properly enforced, compared with 24% who thought the government should focus on introducing new laws and regulations.

Q9 What should the government focus on to stop bad practices and misbehaviour by the media?



When further pressed on whether there were any specific journalistic practices that they would like to see outlawed or regulated, other than those that were already illegal, support for additional regulation dropped still further, with only 7% of people able to think of anything else they would like to see outlawed or regulated.

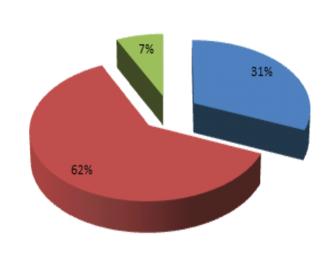




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People were also broadly supportive of journalists exercising their judgements as to when the publishing of confidential information was in the public interest, as opposed to having automatic prosecutions, with 62% in favour of this arrangement, compared with 31% who wanted all such disclosures to result in prosecutions and 7% who wanted no law against publishing confidential information at all.

## Q10 Which of the following statements is closest to your opinion?



- Journalists obtaining confidential information should always be prosecuted in the courts with automatic prison sentences for serious offences.
- Journalists should make a judgement as to whether they be lieve obtaining and publishing confidential information is in the public interest, and this should be taken into account before any prosecution is launched
- There should be no law preventing journalists from obtaining confidential information

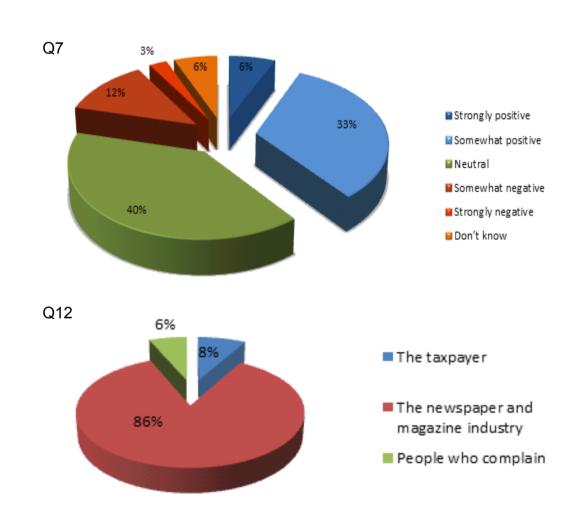


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Overall respondents were reasonably well disposed towards their local newspapers, with 39% saying they were a positive force in their local community, more than double the 15% who thought they were a negative force.

More troubling for local newspapers, however, is the finding that an overwhelming 92% of people thought that any new system of press regulation should also apply to local journalism as well as major national newspapers.

Combined with the fact that 86% of respondents thought that any new regulatory body should be funded by the newspapers that it regulates and any resulting system may well involve a portion of the financial burden falling on local journalists.



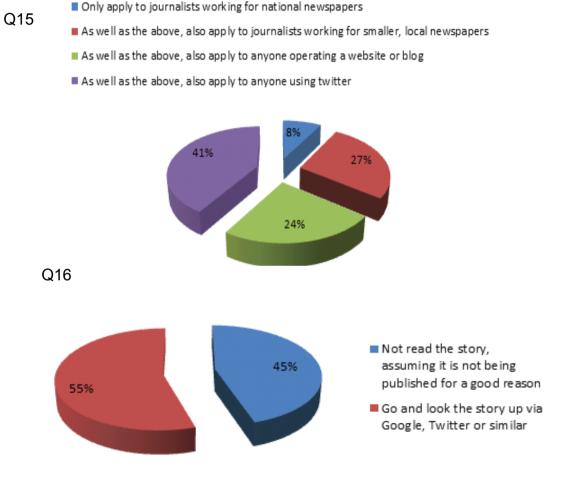


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As well as local newspapers, almost two thirds of people, 65%, thought that regulation should extend into the online world applying to websites and blogs, including 41% who thought it should also apply to those using twitter.

This increasing blurring of the distinction between traditional journalism and online media is further highlighted by the fact that over half of people surveyed, 55%, said that if a story was not allowed to be published in UK newspapers due to press laws, they would simply go online and look it up on Google or Twitter.

The same proportion, 55%, said they would access the websites of American newspapers to get hold of information not being revealed in the UK.

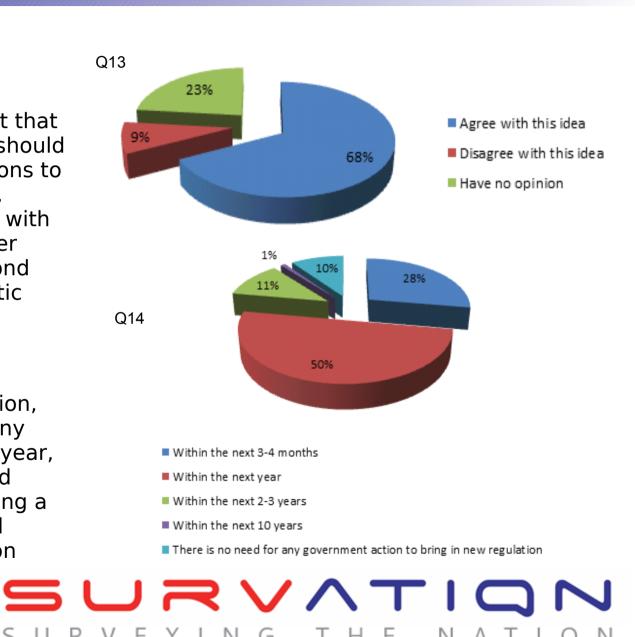




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Two thirds of respondents, 68%, thought that any new system of press regulation should include a provision to allow libel actions to be settled more cheaply and quickly, compared to only 9% who disagreed with the idea, indicating perhaps a broader interest in reforming media law beyond simply restricting unethical journalistic practices.

As for the timing of a reforming regulation, 78% of respondents wanted to see any new system in place within the next year, including 28% who want it introduced within the next 3-4 months, suggesting a general desire to see things resolved relatively quickly, a year and a half on from the phone hacking scandal.



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Finally, 55% of respondents said they were more concerned by allegations of a cover up at the BBC surrounding Jimmy Saville than were concerned by either phone hacking allegations or allegations of payments to police and public officials; a likely indication that people's concerns are significantly swayed by issues that are currently dominating the headlines, but tend to fade over time.

There has been a lot of debate about journalistic standards in the recent past. Which issue has concerned you most?

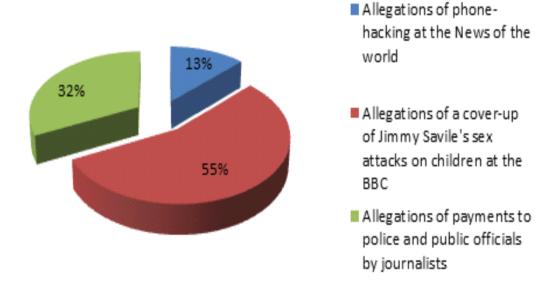




Table 1 Q5. Of the following list of political issues facing the UK today, please select the ten that you think MPs should most be concerning themselves with addressing, and then carefully rank them in the order of how much parliamentary time you think MPs should be devoting to each one, with the number 1 issue deserving the most time and the number 10 issue deserving the least time of the top 10 - Top (most important) Base: All Respondents

|  | Total      | Gen        | der        |            | Age       |           |           | SE        | G         |           |                     | Region3             |            |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
|  |            | Male       | Female     | 18-34      | 35-54     | 55+       | АВ        | C1        | C2        | DE        | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South      |
| Unweighted Total                                   | 1002       | 516        | 486        | 329        | 398       | 275       | 303       | 200       | 222       | 277       | 343                 | 240                 | 415        |
| Weighted Total                                     | 1002       | 490        | 512        | 274        | 358       | 371       | 290       | 196       | 221       | 295       | 337                 | 223                 | 438        |
| Unemployment                                       | 109        | 41         | 68         | 44         | 42        | 24        | 30        | 20        | 24        | 36        | 35                  | 21                  | 53         |
|  | 10.9%      | 8.3%       | 13.4%      | 16.1%      | 11.7%     | 6.4%      | 10.2%     | 10.1%     | 10.8%     | 12.3%     | 10.3%               | 9.5%                | 12.0%      |
| Economic growth / Recession                        | 201        | 111        | 91         | 32         | 82        | 87        | 84        | 34        | 37        | 46        | 79                  | 45                  | 75         |
|  | 20.1%      | 22.6%      | 17.7%      | 11.7%      | 23.1%     | 23.4%     | 29.1%     | 17.4%     | 16.7%     | 15.5%     | 23.5%               | 20.4%               | 17.2%      |
| Immigration /                                      | 166        | 76         | 90         | 24         | 55        | 87        | 30        | 29        | 42        | 65        | 56                  | 39                  | 69         |
| Overpopulation                                     | 16.5%      | 15.4%      | 17.6%      | 8.8%       | 15.4%     | 23.3%     | 10.3%     | 14.7%     | 18.8%     | 22.1%     | 16.6%               | 17.6%               | 15.8%      |
| Inflation / Cost of living                         | 121        | 56         | 65         | 40         | 52        | 29        | 32        | 27        | 29        | 33        | 49                  | 31                  | 41         |
|  | 12.1%      | 11.3%      | 12.8%      | 14.5%      | 14.5%     | 7.9%      | 11.0%     | 13.8%     | 13.3%     | 11.1%     | 14.5%               | 13.9%               | 9.4%       |
| Our relationship with the EU                       | 36         | 25         | 11         | 6          | 12        | 18        | 14        | 2         | 7         | 11        | 10                  | 8                   | 17         |
|  | 3.5%       | 5.0%       | 2.1%       | 2.1%       | 3.3%      | 4.9%      | 5.0%      | 1.1%      | 3.4%      | 3.9%      | 3.0%                | 3.6%                | 3.8%       |
| The Environment /<br>Pollution / Global<br>warming | 21<br>2.1% | 10<br>2.0% | 11<br>2.1% | 10<br>3.7% | 6<br>1.5% | 5<br>1.4% | 6<br>1.9% | 3<br>1.6% | 9<br>4.1% | 3<br>1.0% | 4<br>1.2%           | 6<br>2.6%           | 11<br>2.6% |
| Crime / Law & Order                                | 52         | 25         | 27         | 21         | 14        | 16        | 12        | 12        | 11        | 16        | 16                  | 11                  | 25         |
|  | 5.1%       | 5.1%       | 5.2%       | 7.7%       | 4.0%      | 4.4%      | 4.1%      | 6.3%      | 5.0%      | 5.6%      | 4.6%                | 5.1%                | 5.7%       |
| Education / Schools                                | 17<br>1.7% | 9<br>1.8%  | 8<br>1.6%  | 11<br>4.2% | 6<br>1.6% | -         | 8<br>2.6% | 3<br>1.4% | 5<br>2.4% | 2<br>0.5% | 4<br>1.3%           | 4<br>1.7%           | 9<br>2.1%  |
| Illegal drugs                                      | 15         | 10         | 5          | 9          | 6         | -         | 3         | 2         | 6         | 4         | 7                   | 2                   | 7          |
|  | 1.5%       | 2.1%       | 0.9%       | 3.2%       | 1.8%      | -         | 0.9%      | 1.3%      | 2.5%      | 1.5%      | 1.9%                | 0.7%                | 1.6%       |
| Care for the elderly                               | 28         | 13         | 15         | 7          | 3         | 19        | 5         | 4         | 11        | 8         | 6                   | 7                   | 15         |
|  | 2.8%       | 2.7%       | 3.0%       | 2.5%       | 0.8%      | 5.1%      | 1.7%      | 2.3%      | 4.8%      | 2.9%      | 1.9%                | 3.3%                | 3.3%       |
| Housing & homelessness                             | 23         | 11         | 12         | 9          | 7         | 7         | 6         | 5         | 5         | 7         | 5                   | 4                   | 13         |
|  | 2.3%       | 2.3%       | 2.2%       | 3.2%       | 2.0%      | 1.8%      | 2.0%      | 2.4%      | 2.4%      | 2.3%      | 1.6%                | 1.7%                | 3.0%       |



Table 1

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|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
|  |            | Male       | Female     | 18-34      | 35-54      | 55+        | АВ         | C1          | C2         | DE         | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South      |
| Weighted Total                           | 1002       | 490        | 512        | 274        | 358        | 371        | 290        | 196         | 221        | 295        | 337                 | 223                 | 438        |
| Pensions / Benefits /<br>Social Security | 41<br>4.1% | 25<br>5.0% | 17<br>3.3% | 9<br>3.3%  | 15<br>4.1% | 18<br>4.8% | 12<br>4.2% | 13<br>6.5%  | 4<br>1.8%  | 12<br>4.2% | 10<br>2.9%          | 12<br>5.2%          | 20<br>4.6% |
| Morality / Individual behaviour          | 12<br>1.2% | 7<br>1.5%  | 5<br>1.0%  | 7<br>2.4%  | 2<br>0.5%  | 4<br>1.0%  | 9<br>3.0%  | 2<br>1.0%   | -          | 2<br>0.5%  | 5<br>1.5%           | 2<br>0.9%           | 5<br>1.2%  |
| Healthcare / NHS                         | 78<br>7.8% | 30<br>6.1% | 48<br>9.4% | 19<br>6.8% | 31<br>8.7% | 28<br>7.5% | 17<br>6.0% | 22<br>11.4% | 13<br>6.0% | 24<br>8.3% | 27<br>7.9%          | 11<br>4.8%          | 40<br>9.2% |
| Regulation of the press & journalism     | 5<br>0.5%  | 3<br>0.7%  | 2<br>0.3%  | 2<br>0.9%  | 1<br>0.2%  | 2<br>0.4%  | 2<br>0.6%  | -           | 2<br>0.7%  | 2<br>0.5%  | 2<br>0.7%           | -                   | 2<br>0.5%  |
| Transport & Infrastructure               | 7<br>0.7%  | 2<br>0.5%  | 5<br>0.9%  | 3<br>1.2%  | 4<br>1.0%  | -          | 2<br>0.6%  | 2<br>0.9%   | 3<br>1.2%  | 1<br>0.3%  | 2<br>0.7%           | 2<br>0.7%           | 3<br>0.7%  |
| Poverty / Inequality                     | 46<br>4.6% | 23<br>4.6% | 24<br>4.6% | 12<br>4.5% | 13<br>3.7% | 20<br>5.5% | 15<br>5.2% | 7<br>3.7%   | 10<br>4.7% | 13<br>4.5% | 16<br>4.7%          | 12<br>5.2%          | 19<br>4.3% |
| Constitutional reform                    | 6<br>0.6%  | 5<br>0.9%  | 1<br>0.2%  | 2<br>0.6%  | 3<br>0.7%  | 1<br>0.4%  | 1<br>0.3%  | 2<br>0.8%   | 2<br>1.0%  | 1<br>0.3%  | 1<br>0.2%           | 1<br>0.4%           | 4<br>0.9%  |
| Foreign Affairs                          | 5<br>0.5%  | 2<br>0.5%  | 3<br>0.6%  | 4<br>1.4%  | -<br>-     | 2<br>0.4%  | -<br>-     | 4<br>1.9%   |            | 2<br>0.6%  | -<br>-              | 3<br>1.4%           | 2<br>0.5%  |
| Defence /<br>Counterterrorism            | 13<br>1.3% | 8<br>1.6%  | 5<br>1.0%  | 4<br>1.3%  | 4<br>1.2%  | 5<br>1.4%  | 4<br>1.3%  | 3<br>1.3%   | 1<br>0.4%  | 6<br>2.1%  | 3<br>0.9%           | 3<br>1.2%           | 7<br>1.7%  |



Table 2 Q5. Of the following list of political issues facing the UK today, please select the ten that you think MPs should most be concerning themselves with addressing, and then carefully rank them in the order of how much parliamentary time you think MPs should be devoting to each one, with the number 1 issue deserving the most time and the number 10 issue deserving the least time of the top 10 - Top 10 Ranks Base: All Respondents

|  | Total        | Gender       |              |              | Age         |             |              | SEC         | 3           |             |                     | Region3             |              |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|  |              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54       | 55+         | АВ           | C1          | C2          | DE          | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |
| Unweighted Total                                   | 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398         | 275         | 303          | 200         | 222         | 277         | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |
| Weighted Total                                     | 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358         | 371         | 290          | 196         | 221         | 295         | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |
| Unemployment                                       | 794          | 367          | 428          | 220          | 295         | 279         | 230          | 155         | 171         | 238         | 273                 | 175                 | 343          |
|  | 79.3%        | 74.9%        | 83.5%        | 80.4%        | 82.6%       | 75.3%       | 79.3%        | 78.9%       | 77.5%       | 80.8%       | 80.9%               | 78.8%               | 78.3%        |
| Economic growth / Recession                        | 754          | 384          | 370          | 196          | 278         | 280         | 237          | 157         | 157         | 204         | 264                 | 166                 | 322          |
|  | 75.3%        | 78.5%        | 72.2%        | 71.6%        | 77.7%       | 75.6%       | 81.6%        | 79.8%       | 71.0%       | 69.2%       | 78.3%               | 74.7%               | 73.4%        |
| Immigration /                                      | 692          | 342          | 350          | 165          | 238         | 289         | 162          | 129         | 159         | 242         | 231                 | 163                 | 294          |
| Overpopulation                                     | 69.0%        | 69.7%        | 68.4%        | 60.2%        | 66.6%       | 77.8%       | 55.8%        | 65.7%       | 72.2%       | 81.9%       | 68.5%               | 73.1%               | 67.2%        |
| Inflation / Cost of living                         | 784          | 368          | 415          | 202          | 289         | 292         | 219          | 154         | 177         | 235         | 269                 | 179                 | 334          |
|  | 78.2%        | 75.2%        | 81.1%        | 74.0%        | 80.8%       | 78.8%       | 75.4%        | 78.2%       | 80.0%       | 79.6%       | 79.8%               | 80.3%               | 76.2%        |
| Our relationship with the EU                       | 394          | 229          | 165          | 89           | 124         | 182         | 123          | 75          | 84          | 113         | 136                 | 92                  | 162          |
|  | 39.3%        | 46.7%        | 32.3%        | 32.5%        | 34.6%       | 49.1%       | 42.4%        | 38.1%       | 37.8%       | 38.3%       | 40.3%               | 41.5%               | 37.0%        |
| The Environment /<br>Pollution / Global<br>warming | 320<br>32.0% | 175<br>35.7% | 145<br>28.4% | 126<br>45.9% | 99<br>27.6% | 96<br>26.0% | 113<br>39.0% | 61<br>31.2% | 71<br>32.2% | 75<br>25.5% | 103<br>30.6%        | 69<br>31.0%         | 147<br>33.5% |
| Crime / Law & Order                                | 729          | 357          | 373          | 193          | 265         | 271         | 198          | 147         | 161         | 223         | 239                 | 164                 | 323          |
|  | 72.8%        | 72.8%        | 72.8%        | 70.6%        | 74.1%       | 73.2%       | 68.3%        | 74.6%       | 73.0%       | 75.8%       | 70.8%               | 73.6%               | 73.8%        |
| Education / Schools                                | 616          | 271          | 345          | 194          | 226         | 196         | 208          | 119         | 136         | 153         | 215                 | 137                 | 261          |
|  | 61.5%        | 55.2%        | 67.4%        | 71.0%        | 63.1%       | 52.9%       | 71.6%        | 60.8%       | 61.8%       | 51.7%       | 63.7%               | 61.6%               | 59.6%        |
| Illegal drugs                                      | 267          | 133          | 134          | 89           | 85          | 93          | 56           | 47          | 60          | 104         | 89                  | 56                  | 122          |
|  | 26.6%        | 27.1%        | 26.2%        | 32.5%        | 23.7%       | 25.1%       | 19.3%        | 24.2%       | 27.1%       | 35.1%       | 26.3%               | 25.1%               | 27.9%        |
| Care for the elderly                               | 648          | 282          | 366          | 134          | 236         | 278         | 155          | 124         | 151         | 218         | 223                 | 144                 | 280          |
|  | 64.7%        | 57.5%        | 71.6%        | 49.1%        | 66.1%       | 74.9%       | 53.5%        | 63.2%       | 68.5%       | 73.9%       | 66.0%               | 64.9%               | 63.8%        |
| Housing & homelessness                             | 558          | 240          | 318          | 157          | 211         | 190         | 141          | 111         | 123         | 182         | 195                 | 111                 | 248          |
|  | 55.7%        | 48.9%        | 62.1%        | 57.3%        | 58.9%       | 51.3%       | 48.7%        | 56.7%       | 55.7%       | 61.8%       | 57.9%               | 49.9%               | 56.7%        |



Table 2 Q5. Of the following list of political issues facing the UK today, please select the ten that you think MPs should most be concerning themselves with addressing, and then carefully rank them in the order of how much parliamentary time you think MPs should be devoting to each one, with the number 1 issue deserving the most time and the number 10 issue deserving the least time of the top 10 - Top 10 Ranks Base: All Respondents

|                                      | Total | Gender |        |       | Age   |       |       | SEC   | 3     |       | Region3             |                     |       |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|--|
|                                      |       | Male   | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+   | AB    | C1    | C2    | DE    | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South |  |
| Weighted Total                       | 1002  | 490    | 512    | 274   | 358   | 371   | 290   | 196   | 221   | 295   | 337                 | 223                 | 438   |  |
| Pensions / Benefits /                | 752   | 364    | 388    | 188   | 269   | 296   | 214   | 144   | 166   | 228   | 250                 | 162                 | 336   |  |
| Social Security                      | 75.1% | 74.3%  | 75.8%  | 68.8% | 75.1% | 79.7% | 73.8% | 73.2% | 75.3% | 77.4% | 74.2%               | 72.9%               | 76.6% |  |
| Morality / Individual                | 277   | 156    | 121    | 80    | 101   | 97    | 81    | 58    | 61    | 78    | 72                  | 61                  | 143   |  |
| behaviour                            | 27.7% | 31.9%  | 23.6%  | 29.3% | 28.2% | 26.1% | 27.8% | 29.4% | 27.4% | 26.6% | 21.5%               | 27.4%               | 32.6% |  |
| Healthcare / NHS                     | 841   | 387    | 454    | 224   | 301   | 316   | 251   | 164   | 188   | 238   | 291                 | 186                 | 361   |  |
|                                      | 83.9% | 78.9%  | 88.7%  | 81.9% | 84.1% | 85.3% | 86.7% | 83.3% | 85.0% | 80.9% | 86.3%               | 83.5%               | 82.5% |  |
| Regulation of the press & journalism | 124   | 70     | 54     | 54    | 30    | 41    | 40    | 22    | 25    | 37    | 39                  | 28                  | 58    |  |
|                                      | 12.4% | 14.2%  | 10.6%  | 19.7% | 8.3%  | 10.9% | 13.8% | 11.0% | 11.5% | 12.5% | 11.5%               | 12.4%               | 13.2% |  |
| Transport &                          | 280   | 159    | 121    | 92    | 101   | 88    | 115   | 47    | 64    | 55    | 82                  | 66                  | 131   |  |
| Infrastructure                       | 28.0% | 32.5%  | 23.6%  | 33.5% | 28.2% | 23.7% | 39.6% | 23.7% | 29.1% | 18.6% | 24.3%               | 29.7%               | 29.9% |  |
| Poverty / Inequality                 | 542   | 245    | 297    | 165   | 205   | 172   | 146   | 118   | 124   | 155   | 194                 | 120                 | 226   |  |
|                                      | 54.1% | 50.1%  | 58.0%  | 60.3% | 57.4% | 46.4% | 50.3% | 60.0% | 56.0% | 52.5% | 57.4%               | 54.0%               | 51.7% |  |
| Constitutional reform                | 78    | 52     | 25     | 31    | 30    | 17    | 31    | 17    | 21    | 9     | 18                  | 17                  | 42    |  |
|                                      | 7.7%  | 10.7%  | 4.9%   | 11.3% | 8.3%  | 4.6%  | 10.6% | 8.8%  | 9.4%  | 3.0%  | 5.4%                | 7.8%                | 9.6%  |  |
| Foreign Affairs                      | 185   | 118    | 67     | 65    | 60    | 60    | 77    | 35    | 34    | 40    | 60                  | 44                  | 82    |  |
|                                      | 18.5% | 24.1%  | 13.1%  | 23.9% | 16.8% | 16.2% | 26.6% | 17.6% | 15.3% | 13.5% | 17.6%               | 19.6%               | 18.8% |  |
| Defence /                            | 383   | 201    | 182    | 72    | 137   | 175   | 104   | 82    | 75    | 122   | 131                 | 85                  | 166   |  |
| Counterterrorism                     | 38.2% | 41.0%  | 35.6%  | 26.3% | 38.2% | 47.1% | 35.9% | 41.6% | 34.2% | 41.4% | 38.8%               | 38.3%               | 37.8% |  |



Table 3

Q5. Of the following list of political issues facing the UK today, please select the ten that you think MPs should most be concerning themselves with addressing, and then carefully rank them in the order of how much parliamentary time you think MPs should be devoting to each one, with the number 1 issue deserving the most time and the number 10 issue deserving the least time of the top 10 - Rank scores Base: All Respondents

|  | Total | Gender |        |       | Age   |      |      | SE   | G    |      |                     | Region3             |       |
|--|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|
|  |       | Male   | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+  | AB   | C1   | C2   | DE   | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South |
| Unweighted Total                         | 1002  | 516    | 486    | 329   | 398   | 275  | 303  | 200  | 222  | 277  | 343                 | 240                 | 415   |
| Weighted Total                           | 1002  | 490    | 512    | 274   | 358   | 371  | 290  | 196  | 221  | 295  | 337                 | 223                 | 438   |
| Economic growth / Recession              | 5180  | 2744   | 2436   | 1280  | 1907  | 1994 | 1747 | 998  | 1055 | 1380 | 1845                | 1136                | 2181  |
| Unemployment                             | 5130  | 2326   | 2804   | 1551  | 1921  | 1658 | 1516 | 1002 | 1109 | 1503 | 1818                | 1170                | 2120  |
| Inflation / Cost of living               | 5084  | 2358   | 2726   | 1312  | 1926  | 1846 | 1426 | 984  | 1162 | 1512 | 1832                | 1166                | 2078  |
| Healthcare / NHS                         | 5008  | 2208   | 2800   | 1338  | 1862  | 1808 | 1461 | 1025 | 1100 | 1422 | 1692                | 1065                | 2234  |
| Immigration / Overpopulation             | 4591  | 2247   | 2344   | 1014  | 1565  | 2011 | 988  | 874  | 1077 | 1652 | 1564                | 1086                | 1912  |
| Pensions / Benefits /<br>Social Security | 4078  | 2022   | 2055   | 943   | 1456  | 1678 | 1114 | 761  | 899  | 1303 | 1327                | 900                 | 1832  |
| Crime / Law & Order                      | 3879  | 1889   | 1991   | 1077  | 1352  | 1451 | 1001 | 804  | 882  | 1193 | 1251                | 890                 | 1717  |
| Care for the elderly                     | 3245  | 1426   | 1819   | 639   | 1106  | 1499 | 729  | 660  | 748  | 1108 | 1041                | 737                 | 1463  |
| Education / Schools                      | 2968  | 1379   | 1589   | 1052  | 1084  | 832  | 1087 | 551  | 641  | 689  | 993                 | 631                 | 1334  |
| Poverty / Inequality                     | 2928  | 1310   | 1618   | 928   | 1090  | 910  | 847  | 576  | 674  | 830  | 1047                | 648                 | 1219  |
| Housing & homelessness                   | 2676  | 1163   | 1513   | 823   | 998   | 855  | 678  | 527  | 592  | 880  | 902                 | 527                 | 1230  |
| Our relationship with the EU             | 2170  | 1330   | 840    | 411   | 679   | 1081 | 680  | 404  | 497  | 589  | 768                 | 489                 | 890   |
| Defence /<br>Counterterrorism            | 1702  | 890    | 812    | 307   | 582   | 812  | 490  | 353  | 310  | 549  | 541                 | 375                 | 779   |



### Table 3

Q5. Of the following list of political issues facing the UK today, please select the ten that you think MPs should most be concerning themselves with addressing, and then carefully rank them in the order of how much parliamentary time you think MPs should be devoting to each one, with the number 1 issue deserving the most time and the number 10 issue deserving the least time of the top 10 - Rank scores Base: All Respondents

|  | Total | Gender Age |        |       |       |     | SE  | G   |     | Region3 |                     |                     |       |
|--|-------|------------|--------|-------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|
|  |       | Male       | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | АВ  | C1  | C2  | DE      | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South |
| Weighted Total                                     | 1002  | 490        | 512    | 274   | 358   | 371 | 290 | 196 | 221 | 295     | 337                 | 223                 | 438   |
| The Environment /<br>Pollution / Global<br>warming | 1493  | 784        | 709    | 571   | 459   | 462 | 521 | 293 | 341 | 338     | 450                 | 333                 | 702   |
| Illegal drugs                                      | 1218  | 602        | 615    | 442   | 407   | 369 | 249 | 253 | 270 | 445     | 435                 | 244                 | 539   |
| Morality / Individual behaviour                    | 1213  | 690        | 524    | 346   | 443   | 425 | 401 | 277 | 232 | 303     | 306                 | 264                 | 643   |
| Transport & Infrastructure                         | 1089  | 634        | 455    | 390   | 393   | 306 | 442 | 187 | 243 | 218     | 340                 | 248                 | 500   |
| Foreign Affairs                                    | 703   | 453        | 250    | 283   | 215   | 204 | 287 | 127 | 128 | 160     | 210                 | 171                 | 322   |
| Regulation of the press & journalism               | 419   | 263        | 156    | 208   | 92    | 118 | 145 | 77  | 90  | 106     | 131                 | 101                 | 187   |
| Constitutional reform                              | 336   | 232        | 104    | 129   | 136   | 71  | 136 | 74  | 89  | 37      | 62                  | 58                  | 216   |



Table 4

Q6. Do you believe people in Britain should have the right to say or write whatever they think on matters of public debate, as long as they do not make false statements that damage other people's reputations (libel/slander)? - a definition of Free Speech. Base: All Respondents

Unweighted Total Weighted Total Yes No

Don't know

| Total        | Gen          | der          |              | Age SEG      |              |              |              |              |              |                     | Region3             |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | АВ           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |
| 914<br>91.2% | 452<br>92.3% | 462<br>90.2% | 240<br>87.8% | 326<br>91.1% | 347<br>93.7% | 265<br>91.2% | 181<br>92.4% | 201<br>91.3% | 266<br>90.3% | 321<br>95.0%        | 196<br>88.2%        | 393<br>89.7% |
| 34<br>3.4%   | 18<br>3.6%   | 16<br>3.1%   | 12<br>4.3%   | 10<br>2.7%   | 12<br>3.2%   | 9<br>3.3%    | 7<br>3.5%    | 10<br>4.5%   | 7<br>2.4%    | 3<br>1.0%           | 11<br>4.9%          | 19<br>4.4%   |
| 55<br>5.5%   | 20<br>4.1%   | 35<br>6.8%   | 22<br>7.9%   | 22<br>6.1%   | 11<br>3.1%   | 16<br>5.5%   | 8<br>4.1%    | 9<br>4.2%    | 21<br>7.3%   | 13<br>3.9%          | 15<br>6.9%          | 26<br>5.9%   |



Table 5 Q7. Thinking about any local newspapers published in your home town or county, do you think they are on balance a positive or a negative force in your local community? Base: All Respondents

|                       | Total Gender |       |        | Age   |       |       | SE    | G     |       |       | Region3             |                     |       |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|
|                       |              | Male  | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+   | АВ    | C1    | C2    | DE    | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South |
| Unweighted Total      | 1002         | 516   | 486    | 329   | 398   | 275   | 303   | 200   | 222   | 277   | 343                 | 240                 | 415   |
| Weighted Total        | 1002         | 490   | 512    | 274   | 358   | 371   | 290   | 196   | 221   | 295   | 337                 | 223                 | 438   |
| (5) Strongly positive | 65           | 29    | 35     | 14    | 24    | 27    | 16    | 16    | 12    | 20    | 20                  | 16                  | 29    |
|                       | 6.5%         | 6.0%  | 6.9%   | 5.1%  | 6.6%  | 7.3%  | 5.6%  | 8.3%  | 5.4%  | 6.8%  | 5.9%                | 7.3%                | 6.5%  |
| (4) Somewhat positive | 330          | 170   | 160    | 75    | 120   | 135   | 119   | 69    | 63    | 79    | 117                 | 62                  | 152   |
|                       | 33.0%        | 34.7% | 31.3%  | 27.4% | 33.6% | 36.5% | 40.9% | 35.2% | 28.7% | 26.8% | 34.6%               | 27.7%               | 34.7% |
| (3) Neutral           | 397          | 188   | 209    | 109   | 149   | 139   | 95    | 76    | 90    | 136   | 127                 | 99                  | 169   |
|                       | 39.6%        | 38.3% | 40.9%  | 39.8% | 41.7% | 37.5% | 32.8% | 38.8% | 40.9% | 46.0% | 37.7%               | 44.4%               | 38.5% |
| (2) Somewhat negative | 124          | 63    | 61     | 46    | 36    | 43    | 35    | 22    | 33    | 35    | 45                  | 27                  | 52    |
|                       | 12.4%        | 12.9% | 12.0%  | 16.7% | 10.0% | 11.6% | 12.0% | 11.1% | 14.8% | 11.8% | 13.2%               | 11.9%               | 11.8% |
| (1) Strongly negative | 25           | 15    | 10     | 12    | 7     | 5     | 6     | 3     | 7     | 8     | 10                  | 5                   | 10    |
|                       | 2.5%         | 3.1%  | 1.9%   | 4.6%  | 1.9%  | 1.4%  | 2.1%  | 1.7%  | 3.3%  | 2.7%  | 3.0%                | 2.3%                | 2.2%  |
| Don't Know            | 61           | 25    | 36     | 18    | 22    | 21    | 19    | 10    | 15    | 17    | 19                  | 14                  | 27    |
|                       | 6.1%         | 5.0%  | 7.0%   | 6.4%  | 6.2%  | 5.7%  | 6.4%  | 4.9%  | 6.9%  | 5.9%  | 5.7%                | 6.4%                | 6.2%  |
| Net: Positive         | 395          | 199   | 196    | 89    | 144   | 162   | 135   | 86    | 75    | 99    | 136                 | 78                  | 181   |
|                       | 39.4%        | 40.7% | 38.2%  | 32.5% | 40.1% | 43.8% | 46.6% | 43.5% | 34.1% | 33.6% | 40.4%               | 35.0%               | 41.2% |
| Net: Negative         | 149          | 78    | 71     | 58    | 43    | 48    | 41    | 25    | 40    | 43    | 55                  | 32                  | 61    |
|                       | 14.9%        | 15.9% | 13.8%  | 21.3% | 11.9% | 13.0% | 14.2% | 12.8% | 18.1% | 14.5% | 16.2%               | 14.2%               | 14.0% |
| Mean                  | 3.30         | 3.29  | 3.32   | 3.13  | 3.35  | 3.39  | 3.38  | 3.39  | 3.20  | 3.25  | 3.29                | 3.28                | 3.34  |
| Standard deviation    | 0.88         | 0.89  | 0.86   | 0.93  | 0.84  | 0.85  | 0.87  | 0.87  | 0.90  | 0.87  | 0.90                | 0.87                | 0.87  |
| Standard error        | 0.03         | 0.04  | 0.04   | 0.05  | 0.04  | 0.05  | 0.05  | 0.06  | 0.06  | 0.05  | 0.05                | 0.06                | 0.04  |



### **Free Press Poll**

### Prepared on behalf of the Free Speech Network

Table 6
Q8. Which of the following statements is closest to your opinion?
Base: All Respondents

Unweighted Total
Weighted Total
I am proud that the
United Kingdom is
regarded by some around
the world as a model of
press freedoms and
freedom of speech
It is not relevant or
important to me what
other countries think of
the UK's press freedoms
or freedom of speech

| Total        | Gen          | der          |              | Age          |              |              | SE           | G            |              |                     | Region3             |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | АВ           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |
| 637<br>63.6% | 321<br>65.6% | 316<br>61.6% | 160<br>58.6% | 216<br>60.5% | 260<br>70.2% | 193<br>66.7% | 119<br>60.6% | 136<br>61.6% | 188<br>63.9% | 209<br>62.1%        | 128<br>57.6%        | 296<br>67.6% |
| 365<br>36.4% | 169<br>34.4% | 196<br>38.4% | 113<br>41.4% | 141<br>39.5% | 111<br>29.8% | 97<br>33.3%  | 77<br>39.4%  | 85<br>38.4%  | 106<br>36.1% | 128<br>37.9%        | 94<br>42.4%         | 142<br>32.4% |



### Table 7

Recently there has been much criticism of press practices such as phone hacking, making payments to public officials, hacking of computers and contempt of court. These practices are all illegal, and some people believe that the solution to press misbehaviour is make sure the existing law is fully enforced and

that journalists that commit such offences are prosecuted for doing so. Other people believe that the law needs to be changed to add further regulations to the behaviour of journalists. Q9. What should the government focus on to stop bad practices and misbehaviour by the media?

Base: All Respondents

Unweighted Total Weighted Total Ensure that the existing laws are actually enforced in full to bring perpetrators to account Add new laws and regulations Don't Know

| Total        | Gend         | der          |              | Age          |              |              | SE           | G            |              |                     | Region3             |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | АВ           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |
| 709<br>70.7% | 338<br>69.1% | 371<br>72.4% | 175<br>63.8% | 238<br>66.6% | 296<br>79.9% | 211<br>72.8% | 148<br>75.2% | 149<br>67.3% | 201<br>68.3% | 255<br>75.5%        | 163<br>73.3%        | 288<br>65.7% |
| 238<br>23.7% | 124<br>25.2% | 114<br>22.2% | 74<br>27.0%  | 100<br>27.9% | 64<br>17.2%  | 65<br>22.3%  | 41<br>20.7%  | 57<br>25.9%  | 75<br>25.4%  | 64<br>18.9%         | 49<br>21.8%         | 125<br>28.4% |
| 56<br>5.5%   | 28<br>5.7%   | 28<br>5.4%   | 25<br>9.1%   | 20<br>5.5%   | 11<br>2.9%   | 14<br>4.8%   | 8<br>4.1%    | 15<br>6.8%   | 19<br>6.3%   | 19<br>5.6%          | 11<br>4.9%          | 26<br>5.9%   |



Table 8 Q10. What is the biggest failing that the phone hacking scandal has uncovered? Base: All Respondents

| Unweighted Total  |
|---|
| Weighted Total  |
| Failings of journalists<br>to adequately adhere to<br>their own codes of<br>practice                  |
| Failings of the police to<br>adequately investigate<br>and pursue criminal<br>wrongdoing in the press |
| Failings of politicians to adequately regulate the press  |

| Total        | Gen          | der          | Age          |              |              |              | SE           | G            |              | Region3             |                     |              |  |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | АВ           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |  |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |  |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |  |
| 547<br>54.6% | 266<br>54.4% | 281<br>54.9% | 120<br>43.8% | 199<br>55.6% | 228<br>61.6% | 168<br>58.0% | 108<br>55.2% | 119<br>53.9% | 152<br>51.4% | 181<br>53.6%        | 122<br>54.8%        | 243<br>55.4% |  |
| 313<br>31.2% | 149<br>30.3% | 164<br>32.1% | 101<br>36.7% | 112<br>31.3% | 101<br>27.1% | 84<br>29.0%  | 59<br>29.8%  | 69<br>31.2%  | 102<br>34.5% | 112<br>33.3%        | 72<br>32.4%         | 127<br>29.1% |  |
| 142<br>14.1% | 75<br>15.3%  | 67<br>13.0%  | 53<br>19.5%  | 47<br>13.1%  | 42<br>11.2%  | 38<br>13.0%  | 30<br>15.0%  | 33<br>14.9%  | 42<br>14.1%  | 44<br>13.1%         | 28<br>12.8%         | 68<br>15.5%  |  |



Table 9

Q11. One important function of newspapers is investigative journalism. This sometimes involves obtaining and publishing confidential information. Examples of this include the Daily Telegraph exposing the scandal over MPs' expenses, but also the News of the World hacking the phones of people in the news. Do you believe:\* Base: All Respondents

| Unweighted Total   |
|--|
| Weighted Total   |
| Journalist obtaining confidential information should always be prosecuted in the courts, with automatic prison sentences for serious offences  |
| Journalists should make a judgement as to whether they believe obtaining and publishing confidential information is in the public interest, and this should be taken into account before any prosecution is launched |
| There should be no law preventing journalists from obtaining   |

confidential information

| Total        | Gend         | der          |              | Age          |              | •            | SE           | G            |              |                     | Region3             |             |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | АВ           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South       |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415         |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438         |
| 314<br>31.4% | 162<br>33.1% | 152<br>29.7% | 89<br>32.4%  | 106<br>29.6% | 120<br>32.3% | 67<br>23.0%  | 67<br>33.9%  | 67<br>30.3%  | 114<br>38.7% | 107<br>31.9%        | 80<br>36.0%         | 126<br>28.7 |
| 617<br>61.6% | 291<br>59.3% | 326<br>63.7% | 157<br>57.5% | 226<br>63.2% | 234<br>63.0% | 202<br>69.7% | 117<br>59.4% | 140<br>63.2% | 158<br>53.7% | 206<br>61.1%        | 128<br>57.7%        | 279<br>63.6 |
| 71<br>7.1%   | 37<br>7.6%   | 34<br>6.6%   | 28<br>10.1%  | 26<br>7.2%   | 17<br>4.7%   | 21<br>7.2%   | 13<br>6.7%   | 14<br>6.5%   | 23<br>7.7%   | 24<br>7.0%          | 14<br>6.3%          | 33<br>7.6   |



Table 10 Q12. Who should pay for any organisation regulating newspapers and magazines, and dealing with complaints against them? Base: All Respondents

Unweighted Total Weighted Total The taxpayer The newspaper and magazine industry People who complain

| Total        | Gen          | der          |              | Age          |              |              | SE           | EG .         |              | Region3             |                     |              |  |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | АВ           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |  |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |  |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |  |
| 82<br>8.1%   | 46<br>9.4%   | 35<br>6.9%   | 31<br>11.5%  | 27<br>7.5%   | 23<br>6.2%   | 31<br>10.7%  | 15<br>7.6%   | 16<br>7.5%   | 19<br>6.5%   | 26<br>7.8%          | 12<br>5.5%          | 43<br>9.8%   |  |
| 856<br>85.5% | 410<br>83.6% | 447<br>87.3% | 211<br>77.2% | 313<br>87.5% | 332<br>89.6% | 237<br>81.8% | 170<br>86.7% | 190<br>86.0% | 259<br>87.9% | 287<br>85.1%        | 194<br>87.0%        | 372<br>84.9% |  |
| 64<br>6.4%   | 34<br>7.0%   | 30<br>5.8%   | 31<br>11.3%  | 18<br>4.9%   | 15<br>4.2%   | 22<br>7.5%   | 11<br>5.7%   | 14<br>6.5%   | 17<br>5.6%   | 24<br>7.1%          | 17<br>7.5%          | 23<br>5.3%   |  |



### Table 11

Q13. Recently there has been much criticism of the British legal system for encouraging 'libel tourism' under which very rich foreigners use British courts to sue publications abroad. At the same time, the very high cost of libel actions means ordinary members of the British public cannot afford to bring cases themselves,

and British newspapers sometimes cannot afford to defend actions against very rich people.

It has been proposed that a new system of press regulation should include a provision to allow libel actions to be settled more cheaply and more quickly. Do you...\*

Base: All Respondents

| Unweighted Total        |
|-------------------------|
| Weighted Total          |
| Agree with this idea    |
| Disagree with this idea |
| Have no opinion         |

| Total        | Gen          | der          |              | Age          |              |              | SE           | G            |              | Region3             |                     |              |  |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | AB           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |  |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |  |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |  |
| 678<br>67.7% | 347<br>70.7% | 331<br>64.7% | 153<br>55.9% | 244<br>68.3% | 281<br>75.8% | 212<br>73.1% | 133<br>67.5% | 153<br>69.2% | 181<br>61.2% | 239<br>70.8%        | 150<br>67.3%        | 287<br>65.6% |  |
| 90<br>9.0%   | 55<br>11.3%  | 35<br>6.9%   | 38<br>14.0%  | 25<br>7.0%   | 27<br>7.2%   | 20<br>6.8%   | 19<br>9.8%   | 21<br>9.3%   | 31<br>10.5%  | 28<br>8.3%          | 17<br>7.7%          | 45<br>10.3%  |  |
| 234<br>23.3% | 88<br>18.0%  | 145<br>28.4% | 82<br>30.1%  | 88<br>24.7%  | 63<br>17.0%  | 58<br>20.1%  | 44<br>22.6%  | 47<br>21.5%  | 83<br>28.3%  | 70<br>20.9%         | 56<br>24.9%         | 106<br>24.2% |  |



Table 12 Q14. How soon should the government be aiming to introduce any new system of press regulation? **Base: All Respondents** 

|   | Total | Gen   | der    |       | Age   |       |       | SE    | G     |       |                     | Region3             |       |
|---|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|
|   |       | Male  | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+   | АВ    | C1    | C2    | DE    | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South |
| Unweighted Total  | 1002  | 516   | 486    | 329   | 398   | 275   | 303   | 200   | 222   | 277   | 343                 | 240                 | 415   |
| Weighted Total  | 1002  | 490   | 512    | 274   | 358   | 371   | 290   | 196   | 221   | 295   | 337                 | 223                 | 438   |
| Within the next 3-4 months  | 276   | 134   | 143    | 60    | 107   | 109   | 70    | 51    | 67    | 87    | 90                  | 62                  | 123   |
|   | 27.6% | 27.3% | 27.8%  | 22.0% | 29.9% | 29.5% | 24.3% | 26.1% | 30.5% | 29.6% | 26.7%               | 27.9%               | 28.2% |
| Within the next year  | 502   | 231   | 272    | 140   | 185   | 178   | 139   | 105   | 106   | 153   | 178                 | 106                 | 216   |
|   | 50.1% | 47.1% | 53.1%  | 51.1% | 51.7% | 48.0% | 47.8% | 53.2% | 48.2% | 51.9% | 52.7%               | 47.8%               | 49.4% |
| Within the next 2-3 years   | 115   | 61    | 54     | 49    | 34    | 32    | 40    | 22    | 27    | 25    | 33                  | 29                  | 52    |
|   | 11.5% | 12.5% | 10.5%  | 17.9% | 9.5%  | 8.6%  | 13.8% | 11.1% | 12.4% | 8.6%  | 9.9%                | 13.1%               | 11.9% |
| Within the next 10 years  | 9     | 7     | 2      | 2     | 5     | 1     | 3     | -     | 4     | 3     | 2                   | 3                   | 4     |
|   | 0.9%  | 1.4%  | 0.4%   | 0.9%  | 1.5%  | 0.3%  | 0.9%  | -     | 1.6%  | 0.9%  | 0.7%                | 1.3%                | 0.8%  |
| There is no need for any government action to bring in new regulation | 100   | 58    | 42     | 22    | 27    | 50    | 38    | 19    | 16    | 26    | 34                  | 22                  | 42    |
|   | 9.9%  | 11.7% | 8.2%   | 8.2%  | 7.5%  | 13.6% | 13.2% | 9.6%  | 7.3%  | 8.9%  | 10.0%               | 9.9%                | 9.7%  |



Table 13

Q15. Many people now get their news from websites or twitter rather than from newspapers or television. Apart from some websites operated by newspapers, there is at the moment no regulation of news on the internet or on twitter, even though some twitter users now have a number of followers similar to the readership of major daily newspapers. If there is a new tougher system of regulation for journalists, possibly involving punishment by fines, should it...\* Base: All Respondents

| Unweighted Total   |
|--|
| Weighted Total   |
| Only apply to journalists working for national newspapers                                      |
| As well as the above,<br>also apply to journalists<br>working for smaller,<br>local newspapers |
| As well as the above, also apply to anyone operating a website or blog                         |
| As well as the above,  |

also apply to anyone using twitter

| Total | Gen   | der    | Age   |       |       |       | SE    | G     |       | Region3             |                     |       |  |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|--|
|       | Male  | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+   | АВ    | C1    | C2    | DE    | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South |  |
| 1002  | 516   | 486    | 329   | 398   | 275   | 303   | 200   | 222   | 277   | 343                 | 240                 | 415   |  |
| 1002  | 490   | 512    | 274   | 358   | 371   | 290   | 196   | 221   | 295   | 337                 | 223                 | 438   |  |
| 83    | 48    | 35     | 43    | 25    | 15    | 22    | 20    | 22    | 18    | 28                  | 22                  | 32    |  |
| 8.2%  | 9.7%  | 6.8%   | 15.6% | 7.0%  | 4.0%  | 7.6%  | 10.4% | 10.0% | 6.1%  | 8.4%                | 9.7%                | 7.2%  |  |
| 270   | 124   | 147    | 122   | 99    | 50    | 88    | 64    | 54    | 64    | 91                  | 52                  | 128   |  |
| 27.0% | 25.2% | 28.7%  | 44.7% | 27.5% | 13.4% | 30.4% | 32.5% | 24.6% | 21.8% | 27.1%               | 23.2%               | 29.1% |  |
| 238   | 113   | 125    | 59    | 84    | 94    | 56    | 44    | 50    | 88    | 86                  | 49                  | 102   |  |
| 23.7% | 23.0% | 24.4%  | 21.5% | 23.6% | 25.5% | 19.3% | 22.3% | 22.6% | 29.8% | 25.6%               | 21.8%               | 23.3% |  |
| 411   | 206   | 205    | 50    | 150   | 212   | 124   | 68    | 95    | 124   | 131                 | 101                 | 177   |  |
| 41.0% | 42.0% | 40.1%  | 18.1% | 41.8% | 57.2% | 42.7% | 34.8% | 42.9% | 42.2% | 38.9%               | 45.3%               | 40.3% |  |



### Table 14

Q16. If you knew that a story about a topic or person in which you were interested was not being published by newspapers because its publication was against tough new laws regulating newspapers, but was being published on the internet by bloggers or twitter, would you... Base: All Respondents

Unweighted Total Weighted Total Not read the story, assuming it is not being published for a good Go and look the story up via Google, Twitter or

similar

| Total        | Gend         | der          | Age          |              |              |              | SE           | G            |              | Region3             |                     |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | АВ           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |
| 452<br>45.1% | 207<br>42.3% | 244<br>47.7% | 84<br>30.6%  | 143<br>39.9% | 225<br>60.6% | 106<br>36.7% | 93<br>47.3%  | 93<br>42.0%  | 160<br>54.1% | 152<br>45.1%        | 106<br>47.8%        | 190<br>43.4% |
| 550<br>54.9% | 283<br>57.7% | 268<br>52.3% | 190<br>69.4% | 215<br>60.1% | 146<br>39.4% | 184<br>63.3% | 104<br>52.7% | 128<br>58.0% | 135<br>45.9% | 185<br>54.9%        | 116<br>52.2%        | 248<br>56.6% |



### **Free Press Poll**

### Prepared on behalf of the Free Speech Network

### Table 15

Q17. Different countries have varying systems of press regulation. The United States of America, under it's constitution has no press regulation.

Sometimes this means U.S. citizens have access to information on British matters that is not available to the British public.

Under a more restrictive regulatory system in the UK, this is likely to happen more often.

If you were aware that a British news story was available on American websites but not British ones, do you think you would...\*

Base: All Respondents

Unweighted Total
Weighted Total
Be satisfied that the UK
authorities had made a
good decision about what
the public should or
should not know
Access an American
website to access
information you were
interested in, despite it
not being viewable on UK
websites

| Total        | Gend         | der          |              | Age          |              |              | SE           | :G           |              | Region3             |                     |              |  |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | АВ           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |  |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |  |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |  |
| 455<br>45.4% | 205<br>41.9% | 249<br>48.7% | 116<br>42.5% | 151<br>42.3% | 187<br>50.5% | 111<br>38.1% | 86<br>43.9%  | 92<br>41.5%  | 166<br>56.4% | 148<br>44.0%        | 111<br>49.7%        | 193<br>44.1% |  |
| 547<br>54.6% | 285<br>58.1% | 263<br>51.3% | 157<br>57.5% | 206<br>57.7% | 184<br>49.5% | 179<br>61.9% | 110<br>56.1% | 129<br>58.5% | 129<br>43.6% | 189<br>56.0%        | 112<br>50.3%        | 245<br>55.9% |  |



### Table 16

Q18. Apart from already illegal practices such as phone hacking, computer hacking, contempt of court and making payments to public officials, are there any additional recent practices of some of the British press that you think the government needs to outlaw or regulate? Base: All Respondents

Unweighted Total Weighted Total No, as long as the current laws are enforced, no further restrictions on the press are required Yes (Please State)

| Total        | Gender       |              | Age          |              |              |              | SE           | G            |              | Region3             |                     |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | AB           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |
| 937<br>93.5% | 457<br>93.3% | 480<br>93.7% | 258<br>94.3% | 334<br>93.5% | 345<br>93.0% | 266<br>91.8% | 182<br>92.8% | 208<br>94.2% | 281<br>95.1% | 318<br>94.4%        | 209<br>94.1%        | 405<br>92.5% |
| 65<br>6.5%   | 33<br>6.7%   | 32<br>6.3%   | 16<br>5.7%   | 23<br>6.5%   | 26<br>7.0%   | 24<br>8 2%   | 14<br>7 2%   | 13<br>5.8%   | 14<br>4 9%   | 19<br>5.6%          | 13<br>5 9%          | 33<br>7.5%   |



Table 17 Q19. There has been a lot of debate about journalistic standards in the recent past. Which issue has concerned you most? **Base: All Respondents** 

| Unweighted Total  |
|---|
| Weighted Total  |
| Allegations of phone-<br>hacking at the News of<br>the World                            |
| Allegations of a cover-up<br>of Jimmy Savile's sex<br>attacks on children at<br>the BBC |
| Allegations of payments<br>to police and public<br>officials by journalists             |

| Total        | Gender       |              | Age          |              |              | SEG          |              |              |              | Region3             |                     |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|              | Male         | Female       | 18-34        | 35-54        | 55+          | АВ           | C1           | C2           | DE           | North &<br>Scotland | Midlands &<br>Wales | South        |
| 1002         | 516          | 486          | 329          | 398          | 275          | 303          | 200          | 222          | 277          | 343                 | 240                 | 415          |
| 1002         | 490          | 512          | 274          | 358          | 371          | 290          | 196          | 221          | 295          | 337                 | 223                 | 438          |
| 126<br>12.6% | 68<br>13.9%  | 58<br>11.4%  | 44<br>16.2%  | 48<br>13.5%  | 33<br>9.0%   | 42<br>14.5%  | 24<br>12.3%  | 26<br>11.6%  | 34<br>11.7%  | 43<br>12.9%         | 22<br>10.1%         | 60<br>13.8%  |
| 554<br>55.2% | 240<br>48.9% | 314<br>61.3% | 142<br>51.8% | 200<br>56.0% | 211<br>57.0% | 129<br>44.6% | 110<br>55.8% | 133<br>60.3% | 181<br>61.5% | 197<br>58.3%        | 112<br>50.5%        | 243<br>55.4% |
| 322<br>32.2% | 183<br>37.3% | 140<br>27.3% | 87<br>32.0%  | 109<br>30.4% | 126<br>34.0% | 118<br>40.8% | 63<br>31.9%  | 62<br>28.1%  | 79<br>26.9%  | 97<br>28.8%         | 88<br>39.4%         | 135<br>30.9% |

