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From: MORRICE, Graeme [MORRICEG@parliament.uk]
Sent: 06 June 2013 16:07
To: Pubs Consultation Responses
Cc:
Subject: PubCo regulation

Dear Sir/Madam

Regarding your consultation on Pub Companies and Tenants, I would like to add my voice to those calling for a statutory code.

I have been contacted by a number of constituents regarding this issue.

I believe that the code should be binding for all companies owning more than 500 pubs. For too long, these large companies have been taking more than is fair or sustainable from pub profits resulting in the closure of 26 pubs every week.

To stop large companies charging excessive rents and high beer prices, all pubco licensees should be offered a choice between a tied option and a Market Rent Only option. For those who choose to remain tied, a Guest Beer Option should be offered.

To ensure the code is adhered to, it should be underpinned with an independent adjudicator that should have the power to arbitrate disputes, investigate breaches and impose financial penalties on companies that break the rules.

I do not believe the statutory code should apply to Britain's family brewers who operate a different model of the tie.

Fairness and ensuring tied licensees are no worse off than free of tie licensees should be at the heart of the Code.

Your sincerely

Graeme Morrice MP
Livingston Constituency

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