

Evans David (CCP)

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**From:** i  
**Sent:** 03 May 2013 12:17  
**To:** Pubs Consultation Responses  
**Subject:** Pubco Reform

Dear Department of Business, Innovation and Skills,

I am a pub-goer, and a pensioner. A number of pubs in my area are struggling or closing because of exploitation of pubco licensees. I am not asking Government to abolish the tie, I just want it to work fairly. Pubcos have had almost 10 years to get their house in order but self regulation has failed so it's time for a **statutory (legally binding) Code of Practice for pubcos**.

Large pub companies take more than is fair or sustainable from pub profits so licensees are struggling to make a fair living. To stop this overcharging, all pubco licensees should be offered a **Market Rent Only option, and a Guest Beer Option**. This fair deal will result in the average tied pub being £4000 better off annually

It's vital that there's a system in place to ensure pubcos stick to these new rules – so the Code should be underpinned with a **powerful new independent adjudicator** that should have the power to arbitrate disputes, investigate breaches and impose financial penalties on pubcos that break the rules.

The Code should not apply to Britain's family brewers who operate a different model of the tie – so **companies with under 500 pubs should be exempt** but must abide by a separate voluntary code.

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

Yours sincerely

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