

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 June 2013 21:21
To: Pubs Consultation Responses
Subject: Pub companies and tenants - A government consultation
Department of Business, Innovation and Skills

Dear Sir / Madam

Pub companies and tenants - A government consultation

I am a regular pub-goer, aged 62 and have followed the fortunes of the pub trade and brewing industry since I did a project on these topics as part of my economics 'A' level.

I have seen many changes in legislation none of which have been effective - usually because the industry manages to run rings around the legislators (e.g. the Beer Orders Act).

Recently however, in the last 5 years or so I have witnessed many pubs closing through inability to make a living in tied house where the rents are disproportionate and the landlords are forced to buy their beer (and sometimes other products) through the pub owning company at grossly inflated prices. This is resulting in the loss of a uniquely British national treasure - the local pub and frequently with knock-on impact on local communities.

I don't believe there should be a 'tie' at all. I am not aware of any other industry (with the exception of franchised 'brand' outlets e.g. Macdonald's) where the operator of that business is restricted to buying the products they sell through the freeholder. Consequently I believe that all managed and tied pubs should be forced to operate within a fair market rent system with recourse to arbitration.

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