

From:
Sent: 05 May 2013 11:45
To: Pubs Consultation Responses
Subject: Pubco Abuse

447.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wish to register a protest against widespread Pubco abuse of the pub system in this country which is bleeding the industry dry in their greed for ever growing profits. Their behaviour is unsustainable and damaging to the British way of life which has grown up over centuries.

I am a pub-goer who likes a pint of real ale in the pubs in my area of West and North Yorkshire. I have never worked in the pub industry but I can recognise bad business when I see it. Pubs in my area are struggling or closing because of the exploitation of pubco licensees.

The Reforms.

- 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

I am grateful for this opportunity to register my disapproval of these pubcos who I believe have been disastrous for the industry and for local communities which have a pub at their heart. It is now high time for the government to take strong and decisive action to end this abuse.

Regards

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