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From: .. --
Sent: 04 May 2013 09:16
To: Pubs Consultation Responses
Subject: Pubs Consultation

Dear Sir / Madam

I have already completed your online survey, but was disappointed that there was no facility to add further comments. There is one particular area which I would like to expand on.

This is the explanatory text from one of your questions:

"In order to place the most proportionate burden on business, the Government proposes that the new policy should apply to all pub companies with more than 500 pubs. This is because the evidence suggests that smaller companies are generally behaving well and because this way the regulation would not cause a burden for smaller companies which might find it difficult to afford it."

If you implement this, I believe that you are opening up a loophole which the unscrupulous could easily exploit. Any pub company which grew to near the threshold of 500 pubs which did not want to be covered by the new laws, could simply stop at say, 450 pubs and then form another company to build up their portfolio. This way it is easy for any 'group of companies' owned by the same people to actually hold thousands of pubs without having to follow your regulations.

Regards



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