

## peter gunning + partners llp

11 June 2013

Dear Mr Cable

I note with interest this Consultation Paper and the potential impact its conclusion may have on our business activities and employees.

Our practice was formed in 1970 and has always carried out a variety of consultancy services to the Brewing, Pub and Leisure Industry both locally and throughout the UK, an area that we particularly specialize in as Quantity Surveyors, Project Managers and Interior Designers. The Practice has grown over the last 40 years from originally being a sole practitioner to currently 17 employees with offices in Dorchester and Bath.

During the last decade, we have been fortunate to work closely with Punch Taverns on numerous investment projects in the South West and have seen first-hand the positive impact that their commitment to investment into their properties and people can have. For instance their properties require significant maintenance and investment on a regular basis and Punch's actions, in our experience, have always shown a responsible and professional attitude towards their obligations and the particular type and style of property. The results of such investment, without fail, having a positive impact on both their Business Partners and the neighbouring area.

I share similar concerns to others what effect the draconian downsizing, that the consultation proposes, may have on Punch's investment programme. Furthermore, the knock on impact that will inevitably follow with the loss of business/income to our practice from an important client forcing us to reduce staffing levels.

Yours Sincerely



R G Stephens

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