

Pub Consultation

Consumer + Competition Policy

Dept. for Business, Innovation + Skills

3rd Floor Orchard 2

1 Victoria St

Westminster

SW1H 0ET

28 May 2013.

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing to you as an employee within the Pub Co sector with over 25 years experience and wish to express my strongly felt concerns regarding the Consultation process that has been embarked upon looking into the relationship between Pub Companies + their tenants.

Having been involved in the industry for an extended period I have seen the good + indeed bad aspects that have occurred. Since the implementation of the IFC the change in the relationship has been significant and in many ways this is rightly so. My concern however is that the IFC and self regulation have simply not been given sufficient time for the full and positive benefits to be recognised. It seems that the positive aspects of self regulation are being ignored by a vociferous + ill informed minority - it is always easy to grab headlines with negative news!!

I currently work for Admiral Taverns Ltd which recently won the Pubman Morning Advertiser's Leased + Tenanted Pub Company of the year award. We have approx 1050 pubs within the estate and can point to the fact that we have not had one referral to either PICAS or PIRRS. The award was given after an independent survey of our tenants recommended us as a Company

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to do business with. This is in stark contrast to some of the assertions made in the consultation document which in my view contains many inaccuracies and is prejudiced towards the views of the previously mentioned small but loud minority.

Beyond the recommendation of a Statutory Code some of the other ideas would pose a real threat to the viability of some of our pubs, and would change the relationship from one of mutually beneficial growth for both parties to that of a commercial landlord & tenant. This would not be in the best interests of our licensees or the wider pub sector which has struggled for years with ill advised interference by Government creating over regulation and onerous taxation.

Yours faithfully