

Mr J V Cable MP
 Pubs Consultation
 Consumer and Competition Policy
 Department of Business, Innovation and Skills
 3rd Floor, Orchard 2
 1 Victoria Street
 Westminster
 LONDON
 SW1H 0ET

14th June 2013

Dear Mr Cable

Re: BIS/Leased and Tenanted Pub Consultation Process

I have been employed by Enterprise Inns plc for [redacted]. I have worked in both the property and compliance departments of that business. My primary role is to help Publicans grow their business by providing qualified advice & guidance. I am also the custodian of a dedicated property budget and spend annually up to four million pounds into my geographical division on both new and existing pub agreements.

During my [redacted] years we have seen a myriad of legalisation pressed onto the pub industry, some of which was absolutely the right thing to do (licensing reform 2004 for example). We have also been subject to legislative change over fears to people's health in regards to smoking and passive smoking which has had a massive impact (both positive and negative) on the industry. We have also been subject to the beer/duty escalator which has recently been abolished and have to daily contend with high street supermarkets and garages selling cut price alcohol as 'loss leaders'.

Enterprise Inns have for the past three years operated its own code of practice which has been approved by the BBPA. Having worked in this industry for a considerable period of time I can honestly say that our own internal processes and procedures are as stringent, fair and open as they have ever been. To those people who consistently snipe at our business and model I have but one simple question.

"Why would we want to see any of our Publicans fail"?

Pub closures cost the company & HMRC a tremendous amount every year. Enterprise Inns invest huge sums of money each year helping our Publicans through their difficulties in business support packages. This is something that they would not receive from a bank if they were a free house operation.

If this legalisation is passed my underlying fear is that Publicans will simply not invest in their properties to the level that we currently do leading to a decline in retail standards, health and safety issues and a general deterioration of the fabric of the property.

Careful consideration must be given on the effect to those support functions and those that they employ who help us invest our annual sixty million pound property budget into the estate.

My local MP is _____ whom I know through a mutual acquaintance. I would be more than willing to spend some time with _____ showing him the tremendous positive work that we do with both our Publicans and community in his constituency.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Enterprise Inns plc