



McMullen & Sons, Limited

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Pubs Code Review Team
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy,
1st Floor, Orchard 3,
1 Victoria Street,
London. SW1H 0ET

10th July 2019

Dear Sir,

Statutory review of the Pubs Code and its Adjudicator

I am writing on behalf of McMullen & Sons Limited, a business that first started brewing in 1827 and owning pubs in 1836.

As you will be aware, brewers like ourselves that own fewer than 500 tenanted pubs (we own fewer than 40) are currently exempt from this legislation. Nonetheless, we have adopted and abided by the IFBB's Code of Practice since its formulation.

While it is principally long-term focused and traditional family business behaviours that enable us to have a sustainable and mutually beneficial relationship with our tenants we accept that this self-regulation provides them with additional comfort. This system seems to be working well - none of our tenants have felt the need to involve PICAS or PIRRS.

While we, in the main, manage our own pubs and supply our beer into these, it is important that our tenanted pubs also supply our beer pursuant to the tie as these businesses contribute significant demand. Our brewery is small, producing around six thousand brewers' barrels of beer a year, but employs 7 members of staff. We also maintain our own dray (distribution team) and cellar services support as a result of being a brewer. Together there are 31 individuals whose jobs are dependent on our continued brewing. We are the last remaining brewery in a town that once hosted eleven others and for a time toward the end of the last century we were the last remaining brewer in Hertfordshire. We brew a number of beers with proven heritage going back nearly 186 years and which represent a small, but long-standing, part of the rich tapestry of our industry and British culture. It would be a shame to risk all this when there appears to be no reason where our business is concerned. We therefore urge you to maintain the 500 exemption.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted]