



Dear Pub Tenant

GMB

GMB@WORK

If you are a tenant of Punch, Enterprise or another major pub operating company, this letter will be of interest to you. GMB is one of the largest trade unions in the UK with over 610,000 members in all sectors of the economy. **The union's role is to improve working conditions for members through campaigning and negotiation.**

Some GMB members are pub tenants with the major pub operating companies. They have sought the assistance of the union to secure a better deal from their landlords: lower rents and keener wholesale prices. GMB has concluded that the best way of helping is to highlight the anti-competitive actions of some pub companies to the government and establish a system of negotiations across the industry that will make sure each tenant can make a decent living. **Only pub tenants can achieve this, working together through a trade union.**

I am writing to you now to invite you to join GMB and get involved in our campaign to protect your job and improve your earnings.

Pub tenants joining GMB would not be breaking new ground. Many thousands of self employed people in the hospitality and entertainment industries are already active trade union members. For decades GMB has been involved in campaigning and negotiating pay and conditions for bar managers/tenants in members clubs under the CORCA agreement with the club owners.

OUR CAMPAIGN

I recently told government ministers that an unintended consequence of the Beer Order legislation in the 1990s to loosen the tie between breweries and pubs to free up the market for the benefit of consumers has been the growth in 'pubcos' who are operating in an anti-competitive manner.

It is the impact of the higher charges for drinks that is killing pubs and driving them out of business. 'Pubcos' are blaming everyone else for the problem and not looking at the damage they have caused through their own greed.

GMB are calling on the government and MPs to revisit this legislation.

OUR AIM – LOWER RENTS AND LOWER WHOLESALE PRICES

Our aim is to break up these companies to enable pub landlords to buy their beer from breweries and wholesalers at real and competitive prices. Pubs cannot survive being made to be cash cows to pay off the debts of the property companies and brewers. They do not have the interests of pubs and consumers at heart.

We can only achieve this goal together if enough pub tenants stand up to be counted, join the union and get involved. We will organise collective legal challenges to the pub companies, lobby Government ministers and represent individual members in disputes with their pub companies.

Yours sincerely

Paul Kenny, GMB General Secretary

YOUR JOB UNDER PRESSURE

Recent studies by GMB published on our website www.gmb.org.uk show :

Pub closures & changes

- 1,131 tied pubs have closed since December 2005, with freeholds owned by Admiral Taverns Ltd, Enterprise Inns, Fuller Smith & Turner, Greene King, Marston's, Punch Pub Company, and S & N Pub Enterprises.
- Of the Punch Taverns estate of 8400 pubs, a total of 2,682 pubs changed hands in the three years since 2006. This is 32% of the entire tenanted estate of this company. Half were then run on short term tenancies.
- These 2,682 pubs changed hands on 5,766 occasions over the same three year period. 58% changed hands when the tenants threw in the towel, and a further 27% when the pub failed.

Inflated drinks prices

- Wholesale beer prices have risen by 8% per year. This year Enterprise Inns have pushed up prices by a massive 6%.

Credit crunch

- The big seven pub companies, owning 25,000 pubs between them, have debts of £20 billion.
- Enterprise Inns and Punch Taverns owe £8 billion.
- They need to pay £700 million each year just in interest.
- That's £50,000 per pub per year just to pay the interest.
- That's 80p per pint extra just to keep the banks at bay.

National Office: 22–24 Worpole Road
London SW19 4DD
Telephone 020 8947 3131
Fax 020 8944 6552
www.gmb.org.uk

SAY YES TO SECURITY IN YOUR BUSINESS

As a GMB member you are much more **secure** at work because you are part of an **effective** union of 610,000 members. If you are a tied tenant – GMB can **help** you.



WHAT DO I PAY? HOW DO I JOIN?

I invite you to join GMB and help us secure a proper framework to enable pub tenants to make a decent living. It will cost you £2.50 per week (£10.84 a month). Fill in the form below or join online at www.gmb.org.uk

Join online at www.gmb.org.uk

or fill in parts 1, 2 and 3 of the form below and post it to GMB, FREEPOST (WC2268), London SW19 4YY (you do not need a stamp). If you have any questions call GMB on

020 8947 3131

or email info@gmb.org.uk or visit our website www.gmb.org.uk

FOR UNION USE ONLY	Section <input type="text"/>	Branch No <input type="text"/>	Membership No <input type="text"/>	Date of joining <input type="text"/>
---------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

GMB membership application form PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

1 TELL US ABOUT YOU

Surname <input type="text"/>	First name <input type="text"/>	Title <input type="text"/>	Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr	Date of birth <input type="text"/>
Home address <input type="text"/>	Home Tel <input type="text"/>	Email <input type="text"/>		
Postcode <input type="text"/>	Mobile <input type="text"/>	I agree to abide by GMB rules Signature <input type="text"/>		
Date <input type="text"/>	We ask for your ethnic origins as part of our equal opportunities policy of improving services to all members			
Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/> / Black African <input type="checkbox"/> / Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> / Black British <input type="checkbox"/> / Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> / Indian <input type="checkbox"/> / Irish <input type="checkbox"/> / Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/> / White <input type="checkbox"/> / Other: <input type="text"/>				

2 TELL US ABOUT YOUR JOB

Employer <input type="text"/>	Your job <input type="text"/>
Address where you work <input type="text"/>	How many hours a week do you work? <input type="text"/>
Postcode <input type="text"/>	Pay No <input type="text"/>
	Work Tel <input type="text"/>
	Pay Date <input type="text"/>

3 INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT



Please fill in the form and send to **GMB**, 22–24 Worples Road, London SW19 4DD

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society branch

To the Manager of	Bank/Building Society
Address	
Postcode	

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society Account Number

Bank/Building Society Sort Code

Reference number (Office use only)

Originator's Identification Number

9	7	4	3	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

For GMB official use only. This is not part of the instruction to your Bank/Building Society. If your A/C number is not available fill in your address below.

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society.
Please pay GMB Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with GMB and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)
Date

Banks or Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account