

LGF 05
Bil Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru)
Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill
Ymateb gan: Robinson's Brewery
Response from: Robinson's Brewery



Frederic Robinson Limited
Unicorn Brewery, Lower Hillgate, Stockport, SK1 1JJ
0161 480 6571

12 January 2024

Local Government and Housing Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Sent by email: SeneddHousing@senedd.wales

Re: Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill Consultation Response

Dear sirs,

We are writing as Joint Managing Directors of Robinson's Brewery in Stockport a 185-year-old 6th generation family brewer, with over 250 managed and tenanted pubs across the Northwest of England 34 of which are in North Wales.

Rather than re-state in detail what has already set out comprehensively, we confirm our support for the industry submission which you will have already received from the Welsh Beer and Pub Association.

We welcome the proposed reforms and the opportunity and flexibility these can afford in ensuring that more accurate non-domestic ratings bills for businesses are provided. We also recognise and welcome that these changes would permit the Welsh Government to provide targeted support through sector-specific relief if they so choose.

In that context, it is worth highlighting that in 2019 across the UK, pubs and hospitality contributed over 11% of all businesses rates payments despite contributing only 3% of eligible income. By this measure even allowing for the recent re-valuation, pubs will be over-paying more than £400 million. This coupled with the wider taxation pubs and brewers pay is un-sustainable while other sectors, such as on-line gambling and on-line retailing contribute significantly less towards overall taxation, which supports our core services.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. Robinson', with a large, stylized initial 'W'.

William Robinson
Managing Director - Pub Division

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'O. Robinson', with a large, stylized initial 'O'.

Oliver Robinson
Managing Director - Beer Division