



JD WETHERSPOON PLC

6 November 2007

INTERIM MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

JD Wetherspoon plc ("JD Wetherspoon" or the "Company"), which holds its AGM on 7 November 2007, announces its first Interim Management Statement as required by the FSA's Disclosure and Transparency Rules.

Current Trading

For the thirteen weeks of the first quarter (to 28 October 2007), like-for-like sales decreased by 1%. We achieved strong like-for-like food sales growth, allied to a decline in like-for-like bar sales. Total sales in the period increased by 1.4%.

Operating margins declined by 0.6% compared to the same period a year ago, principally as a result of the expected increase in lower gross margin food sales. Operating costs in the year so far are in line with expectations, although interest charges are slightly higher.

Following a strong increase in like-for-like sales in the first month after the ban, encouraging growth in food sales has continued in the period. As anticipated by most commentators, bar sales have come under some pressure although we are seeing encouraging growth in products, for instance wine and real ale, often associated with the purchase of food.

The trading pattern to date has been similar to that of Scotland following the smoking ban and sales in that country subsequently resumed growth after an initial period of decline.

Property

In line with expectations, we have opened 4 new pubs since the last update and it is anticipated that around 30 new pubs will open in the current year.

Outlook

In our pre year-end trading update of July 2007 and in our results announcement of September 2007, we indicated that there was more uncertainty than usual regarding the outcome of this financial year as a result of the effect of the smoking ban. We remain confident that the smoking ban will be for the long-term benefit of the pub trade, including Wetherspoon, but the short-term effect of a decline in bar sales means that we continue to remain cautious regarding the outlook for this financial year.



Other

There have been no significant changes in Wetherspoon's overall financial position or any material events or transactions effecting Wetherspoon since the publication of the annual report and accounts for the year ended 29 July 2007 on 7 September 2007.

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Visit our web site at www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk

Notes to editors

1. JD Wetherspoon owns and operates pubs throughout the UK. The Company aims to provide customers with good-quality food and drink, served by well-trained and friendly staff, at reasonable prices. The pubs are individually designed and the Company aims to maintain them in excellent condition.
2. Visit our website at www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk.
3. This announcement has been prepared solely to provide additional information to the shareholders of JD Wetherspoon, in order to meet the requirements of the UK Listing Authority's Disclosure and Transparency Rules. It should not be relied on by any other party, for other purposes. Forward-looking statements have been made by the directors in good faith using information available up until the date that they approved this statement. Forward-looking statements should be regarded with caution because of the inherent uncertainties in economic trends and business risks.