



Notification Number: 2011/149/UK

High Strength Beer Duty

Date received : 28/03/2011

End of Standstill : 29/03/2011

Fiscal Measures : Yes

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2011) D/5720

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pietiekums - Pranešimas - Bejelerentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlášenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2011/0149/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késéset - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - He ce предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201100720.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2011 0149 UK EN 28-03-2011 UK NOTIF

2. Member State

UK

3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Knowledge & Innovation Group
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

Email: 9834@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

3. Originating Department

Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
3rd Floor West
Ralli Quays



3 Stanley Street
Salford
M60 9LA

4. Notification Number

2011/0149/UK - C50A

5. Title

High Strength Beer Duty

6. Products Concerned

Beer made from malt.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

Legislation in Finance Bill 2011 will provide for a new duty on beer of a strength exceeding 7.5 per cent abv produced in or imported into the UK. This new duty will be known as High Strength Beer Duty (HSBD) and is to be levied in addition to the existing general beer duty from 1 October 2011.

The rate of duty for HSBD will be based on the number of hectolitre degrees of actual alcoholic strength by volume of the beer and will be charged at a rate equivalent to 25 per cent of general beer duty rate.

The current procedures for declaring and paying general beer duty will apply to the new duty.

The new duty will be introduced at the same time as a change to the taxation of lower strength beer. A reduced rate of general beer duty for lower strength beer (exceeding 1.2 per cent abv and not exceeding 2.8 per cent abv) will be established. The rate will be based on the number of hectolitre/degrees of actual alcoholic strength by volume of the beer and will be applied at 50 per cent of the standard general beer duty rate.

Small Brewery Beer relief will still be available on general beer duty payable on beer above 7.5 per cent abv. Small Brewery Beer relief will not apply to HSBD or beer subject to the reduced rate of general beer duty.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The introduction of these measures follows the UK Treasury's "Review of alcohol taxation" published in November 2010 and announcements in Budget 2011. The purpose of the measures is to tackle problem drinking by encouraging industry to produce, and drinkers to consume, lower strength beer.

HSBD is intended to reduce the availability and affordability of very strong ("super strength") lagers associated with problem drinking and ultimately reduce health harms.

The new reduced rate for lower strength beer will encourage the production and consumption of lower strength products, giving consumers further choice.

The measures will be introduced at the same time in a broadly revenue neutral way. As this is a fiscal measure,



no standstill period applies.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

No Basic Text exists

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

Yes

15. Impact assessment

Yes

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

SPS aspect

No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure

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European Commission

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