



JD WETHERSPOON PLC

Press Release

2 November 2006

FIRST QUARTER TRADING UPDATE

Current Trading

Like-for-like sales in the thirteen weeks ended 29 October 2006 increased by 9.2% compared to a decline of 0.9% in the equivalent period a year ago. Total sales increased by 9.7% to £220.4 million.

Non-Smoking Pubs

The company currently has 56 non-smoking pubs in England and Wales, comprising 19 new openings and 37 conversions. The majority (35) of the converted pubs have now reached their first anniversary as non-smoking outlets which affects the like-for-like sales trends. The England and Wales non-smoking pubs had like-for-like sales increases during the first quarter of 11.8%. On a two year basis, which compares the pubs to a period prior to conversion to non-smoking, the like-for-like sales increases for the 13 weeks were 2.2%.

The 39 non-smoking pubs in Scotland have had an encouraging start to the new financial year with like-for-like sales increases of 5.2%. As we have previously stated, it may be too early to judge the longer term impact of non-smoking in Scotland, and conditions may be more testing in the winter months.

Outlook

The company has traded well in Q1. As previously highlighted, October saw an increase in underlying costs, primarily relating to labour and power, and the full impact of these cost increases will be felt in the course of the remainder of the financial year.

We expect to announce our interim pre-close statement towards the end of January 2007 and our interim results in the early part of March 2007.

Enquiries:

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