

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**JD WETHERSPOON PLC**

**4 NOVEMBER 2009**

**FIRST QUARTER TRADING UPDATE**

**"An encouraging start"**

JD Wetherspoon plc ('JD Wetherspoon' or the 'Company'), which is holding its Annual General Meeting later today, announces its Interim Management Statement, as required by the FSA's Disclosure and Transparency Rules, relating to the first quarter covering the 13 weeks ending 25 October 2009.

**Current Trading**

For the 13 weeks of the first quarter (to 25 October 2009), like-for-like sales increased by 0.3%. Total sales in the period increased by 4.5%. The same period last year involved a higher level of marketing expenditure, including the distribution of money-off vouchers to most households in the UK.

Operating margins for the same period were in line with those reported in the year ended 26 July 2009.

**Financing**

The Company repaid its US\$140m (£87m) private placement on 30 September 2009 from cash flow and remaining facilities. As previously indicated, the Company intends to commence formal discussions for the refinancing of its main £435m facility, which expires in December 2010, by the end of this calendar year.

**Property**

The Company opened 7 new pubs in the quarter under review. It remains our intention to open approximately 40 pubs in the current year.

**Outlook**

We remain confident of the Company's prospects for the financial year ending July 2010.

**Other**

There have been no significant changes in the Company's overall financial position or any material events or transactions effecting the Company since the publication (on 9 October 2009) of the annual report and accounts for the year ended 26 July 2009.

**Enquiries:**

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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: [www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk](http://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 on which they approved this statement. Forward-looking statements should be regarded with caution, because of the inherent uncertainties in economic trends and business risks.
4. The next trading update is expected to be the Company's statement on 20 January 2010.