

27<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Sir / Madam,

## **Opening of Sandown Seafront Premier Inn and Cookhouse & Pub restaurant**

I'm writing to update you on progress with the construction of the new Premier Inn hotel and Cookhouse & Pub restaurant on Sandown Esplanade.

I'm pleased to say the construction and fit-out of the new 100-bedroom hotel and restaurant is now complete. Our principal contractor Carter Lauren has done an excellent job of constructing an attractive new hotel and restaurant building that will bring vibrancy and footfall to Sandown Esplanade year-round.

With the building work now finished, I intend to hand over the new Sandown Premier Inn and Cookhouse & Pub restaurant to colleagues in Whitbread's new openings team. Once I do so in the next few weeks, my colleagues will lead the staffing, training and opening of the new hotel and restaurant.

The task of opening a new Premier Inn hotel and Cookhouse & Pub restaurant is considerable in normal times. Working in a different way under COVID-19 restrictions means the task takes longer as the team work to open the hotel in a socially distanced and safe way. We will also be opening the hotel with Premier Inn's enhanced hygiene promise, Premier Inn CleanProtect, in place to help guests stay with confidence<sup>1</sup>.

Considering these new ways of working, we plan to hold off opening the new Sandown Premier Inn and Cookhouse & Pub until the end of November. The new hotel and restaurant building will be made secure and managed by an on-site security team until then.

Over the past few weeks, many people have written to me enquiring about the new jobs on offer at the new Sandown Premier Inn and Cookhouse & Pub restaurant. We expect to employ approximately 60 people at the new hotel and restaurant at the busiest times of the year and are especially keen on attracting Sandown residents, and those out of education, employment or training, to join us.

As a business, we recruit new site teams through local branches of the Job Centre Plus and via the [www.whitbreadcareers.com](http://www.whitbreadcareers.com) website. I expect job vacancies for the Sandown hotel and restaurant will start to be advertised through those channels in October.

I trust you can appreciate our reasons for postponing the opening by a few weeks. We're excited to become part of the community and helping to attract visitors to Sandown year-round. Taking a few extra weeks to open the hotel and restaurant carefully and safely is the sensible thing to do.

Yours,



Geoff Cook  
Senior Project and Programme Manager  
Whitbread Property

<sup>1</sup> For more information on Premier Inn Clean Protect please see: <https://www.premierinn.com/gb/en/why/cleanliness.html>

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