

PRESS RELEASE

5 February 2021

SANDOWN SEAFRONT PREMIER INN TO OPEN AT END OF FEBRUARY

- **100-bedroom seafront hotel set to open to guests staying for work, education, or other legally permitted reasons on Friday 26 February**
- **The opening date of the Cookhouse & Pub restaurant will be confirmed ahead of the popular summer months**
- **20 new jobs have been created at the hotel initially with further opportunities to follow once government regulations allow restaurants to open**

The team behind the new 100-bedroom Premier Inn hotel on Sandown Esplanade has announced that the hotel will open on Friday 26 February.

In line with Government regulations and public health advice, the new hotel will open initially to guests staying for work, education, or other legally permitted reasons. The Cookhouse & Pub restaurant will also not be serving any food or drinks on opening in line with government guidelines.

Commenting on the opening, **Niall Hyslop, New Openings Manager for Premier Inn Sandown Esplanade**, said:

“While we’re opening our Sandown hotel in unusual circumstances due to coronavirus restrictions, we’re excited to be welcoming guests travelling for work, for education and for other legally permitted reasons at the end of the month.

“We are extremely grateful for the warm welcome we have received in Sandown since announcing our plans to open a new hotel and restaurant on the Esplanade. We are investing here for the long-term and are very much looking forward to becoming part of the community.

“Though we are opening our doors with a limited service in line with government restrictions, we expect the hotel and restaurant will be fully operational later this year. Premier Inn hotels in leisure locations like Sandown were very busy last summer and once we’re allowed to welcome leisure guests and open our restaurant fully in Sandown, we’re expecting strong demand from guests and local diners.”

When it opens its doors, the Sandown Premier Inn will be the third Premier Inn hotel on the Isle of Wight and the first hotel on the island to feature the family friendly Cookhouse & Pub restaurant format.

The hotel will be opening with Premier Inn’s enhanced hygiene promise, [Premier Inn CleanProtect](#), in place to help guests stay with confidence. An opening date for the Cookhouse & Pub restaurant will be confirmed in due course.

Whitbread has been working with the local Job Centre Plus to recruit an initial 20 new jobs for the Sandown hotel. Further roles, including for the new restaurant, will be recruited once travel restrictions are lifted and the hotel fully opens – with applications being accepted via the Job Centre Plus and online via the Whitbread Careers website (www.whitbreadcareers.com).

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Notes to editors:

- Site preparation and demolition work started on the new hotel and restaurant in 2017 with construction commencing in early 2019. Construction and fit-out of the new hotel and restaurant was completed in late 2020.
- Whitbread is the freeholder owner of the new hotel and restaurant on Sandown Esplanade and is committed to Sandown for the long-term.

About Whitbread

Whitbread PLC is the owner of the UK's favourite hotel chain, Premier Inn with over 800 hotels comprising over 78,000 rooms and restaurant brands including Beefeater, Brewers Fayre, Table Table, Bar + Block, Whitbread Inns and Cookhouse + Pub.

Outside of the UK, Whitbread's expansion plans are focused on Germany and Ireland. Whitbread has an open and committed pipeline of 12,000 hotel rooms across 68 hotels in Germany, with a line of sight to around 60,000 rooms, as it works to grow Premier Inn into the number one budget hotel operator in the country.

Whitbread's sustainability strategy, 'Force for Good', is focused on helping the company's customers, team members and suppliers to live and work well. The strategy is grouped into three key pillars of Opportunity, Community and Responsibility with long-term strategic commitments set for each. Click [here](#) for more information on the Force for Good strategy and how we measure and report against our objectives.