

28 February 2007

Whitbread PLC Trading Statement

Today, Whitbread PLC announces that total sales for Continuing Whitbread\* for the first 50 weeks of its financial year to 15 February 2007 have grown by 10.3 % and like-for-like sales have grown by 4.3%.

Sales for 50 weeks to 15 February 2007

	% change vs prior year	
	Total	Like-for-Like
Premier Travel Inn	16.5	8.1
Pub Restaurants	2.6	0.7
David Lloyd Leisure	6.0	2.7
Costa	22.1	6.7
Continuing Whitbread* at week 50	10.3	4.3
Continuing Whitbread* at week 39	10.1	3.9

Alan Parker, Chief Executive, Whitbread PLC comments:

"Trading for the Group has strengthened throughout the year, with further increases in total and like-for-like sales growth in all our businesses. We expect the full year outcome to be at the top end of the range of market expectations.

Premier Travel Inn's growth rate has continued to increase, with total sales up 16.5% and like-for-like sales up 8.1%. The London market remains particularly strong. By the financial year-end we will achieve our target for the year of adding 2500 Premier Travel Inn rooms to the estate, which includes 19 new hotels delivering 1700 rooms with the balance being achieved through extensions.

Pub Restaurants have improved further with a total sales increase of 2.6 % and like-for-like sales growth turning positive at 0.7 %. We have introduced broader menus, with a wider range of price points and reduced discounts. 19 Brewers Fayres have now been remodelled and we expect to complete the remodelling of the entire Beefeater estate by the end of April. We continue to see sustained average sales uplifts of around 25% at our remodelled houses.

David Lloyd Leisure has delivered a 6.0 % increase in total sales and a 2.7 % increase in like-for-like sales. The quality of the clubs continues to improve, and membership numbers in like for like clubs remain stable. We have made gains in profitability through improved productivity and tight cost control.

Costa has seen total sales up 22.1% and like-for-like sales growth increase to 6.7%. The food offer has been improved, and 185 new stores have been opened, including 78 equity and 107 franchise stores, 64 of which were overseas.

We continue to drive rapid expansion in our Premier Travel Inn and Costa businesses, while Pub Restaurants and David Lloyd Leisure are making good progress. Our clear focus is to drive operating performance across the Group, and this strong finish to the year demonstrates that our actions are delivering results."

Whitbread will announce its preliminary results for the 52 weeks to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007 on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

-ends-

\* Sales of Continuing Whitbread comprise Premier Travel Inn, the retained Pub Restaurant estate, David Lloyd Leisure and Costa, but exclude the 239 disposed Pub Restaurant sites, the Pizza Hut joint Venture, TGI Fridays, Supply Chain sales to third parties, and other sales related to Marriott.

**Conference call for analysts and investors**

Alan Parker and Christopher Rogers will be available for a conference call at 8.30am today (UK time). To participate, dial +44 (0)20 73651836

A recording of the conference call will be available for seven days. To listen, dial +44 (0)20 7806 1970 and enter the passcode 3734439#

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