# CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

## Results

Total turnover decreased by 4.8% to £15,150,339. Operating profit for the full year increased 10% to £2,192,541 (2007: £1,993,833) and increased 8.6% in the second half of the year from £749,140 to £813,693.

On 3 September 2007 the Company sold the Avon Gorge Hotel together with the associated staff house at 10, Caledonia Place for an aggregate consideration of  $\pounds$ 15,500,000 in cash paid on 3 September 2007. On 14 December 2007 the Company sold the freehold of its Salem Street site in Bradford with planning permission for 99 apartments, office space and associated car parking for a consideration of  $\pounds$ 2,000,000. These two disposals have resulted in an exceptional profit on disposal of  $\pounds$ 8,142,521 in the year and have left the Company with minimal net debt having also taken into account the purchase of the head lease and two small freeholds of the Bull Hotel in Peterborough for  $\pounds$ 2,350,000 on 4 September 2007.

After taking into account this significant profit on asset disposals of £8,142,521, the pre-tax result was £9,589,533 (2007: £1,563,120). Excluding exceptional profits the comparative pre-tax profits were £1,447,012 (2007: £713,120). After a full tax provision, earnings per share were 63.4p basic and 62.8p on a diluted basis (2007: 9.8p basic and 9.3p diluted).

At 10 February 2008, net debt stood at £40,417 representing loans totalling £3,970,783 and an overdraft of £177,757 less £4,108,123 cash at bank. Gearing on Shareholders' funds was 0.2% with interest covered 13.9 times. Net debt decreased by £15,228,766 compared with the previous year.

Like for like Hotel revenues, excluding the Avon Gorge Hotel, increased 3.7% and Hotel profits after depreciation and before Company administration costs increased 19.2%. REVPAR(accommodation revenue per available bedroom), calculated without the Avon Gorge Hotel, increased 4.4% in the year with occupancy up by 1.5% and average room rate up by 3%.

Individual Hotel results were in the main encouraging with stellar performances from the George Hotel in Wallingford and the Bull Hotel in Peterborough. The Strathdon Hotel in Nottingham continued to lose money, although its Revpar increased by 1.9% which is an encouraging sign in our attempt to turn this particular business around. On 5 September 2007 a fire started in the kitchens of the Golden Lion in Leeds causing damage to kitchen, restaurant and 11 bedrooms. Remedial work is still ongoing and, whilst the costs of the work are fully covered by insurance, it is pleasing to report that, notwithstanding the losses of profit caused by the fire (which are fully insured), the Hotel still managed to increase its profits after depreciation by 12% in the year.

## Finance

The disposals in the year effectively left the Company with no net debt. On 10 February 2008 net debt was £40,417. We repaid the £400,000 loan taken out for the refurbishment of the Ballroom of the Midland Hotel, and £7,000,000 of the loan that was due for repayment in 2014, leaving a balance of £4,009,240 to be repaid in instalments from 2009 to 2014. At the year end the Company had £1,500,000 and £2,500,000 on deposit carrying interest rates of 6.30% and 6.31% respectively.

#### CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The disposals in 2007 give rise to a capital gains liability of  $\pounds 2,400,000$  to be paid in November 2008. However should we decide to expand in the current year the liability would be largely mitigated and in any event would in all probability be clawed back through capital expenditure over the next three years.

The Board has considered the financial position of the Company in the light of the disposals and have decided to distribute a one off bonus dividend of 15p per share amounting to  $\pounds$ 2,101,818. This will be paid out on 28 April 2008 to all Shareholders on the register on 18 April 2008.

In addition to the one off bonus dividend and as promised at the half year, the Board has recommended paying a final dividend of 3.5p amounting to £490,424, which, if approved by Shareholders, will be paid on 22 May 2008 to Shareholders on the register at 25 April 2008 making a total of 5.5p for the year (2007: 5p)

## **Capital Expenditure**

During the period capital expenditure amounted to  $\pounds 3,956,499$  of which  $\pounds 2,462,108$  was to purchase the head lease and two small freeholds of the Bull Hotel in Peterborough. The balance of  $\pounds 1,494,391$  was spent on upgrading the Company's Hotels of which  $\pounds 272,324$  was spent on the Avon Gorge Hotel prior to its disposal.

16 of the 68 bedrooms at the Strathdon Hotel in Nottingham were refurbished. Improvements were made to the bedrooms at the Crown and Mitre Hotel in Carlisle and the Golden Lion Hotel in Leeds. Ballrooms were completely renovated at the King Malcolm Hotel in Dunfermline and the George Hotel in Wallingford. Disabled bedrooms were built at the Caledonian Hotel in Newcastle and the Golden Lion Hotel in Leeds. The outside elevations of the Midland Hotel in Bradford continue to be restored and we have invested heavily in two luxury bedroom suites that complement our growing conference and banqueting business. We expect to accelerate our capital expenditure in the current year with a view to further improving our product and thereby the ability to increase average room rates.



The refurbished ballroom at the George Hotel, Wallingford.

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

## **Non-Core Assets**

As mentioned above, we successfully completed the sale of the Salem Street site in Bradford for  $\pounds 2,000,000$  on 14 December 2007.

We are reviewing the merits of a sale or conversion to five flats of 31 Grosvenor Place in Newcastle, currently used as staff accommodation.

## Shareholders

Shareholders are actively encouraged to visit the Company's Hotels and experience the progress that is continually being made in terms of product and services whilst enjoying a beneficial discount. All Shareholders are entitled to a 30% discount, using the special reservations number 0207 266 1100 or e-mail info@peelhotel.com. Shareholders can identify the Hotels using the directory at the back of the annual report. Shareholders can keep in touch with progress in the Company and various promotional initiatives by visiting our website www.peelhotels.co.uk

## Staff

The Board would like to thank the management and staff for their contribution to the business of Peel Hotels and for the safety and welfare of its guests. In the final analysis it is their friendliness and care for the guests that will build the Company's reputation and grow the business.

Last year I mentioned that our Finance Director, John Perkins retired due to ill health on the 16 April 2007. I am sad to report that John died on the 24 January 2008 and our thoughts and sympathy are with his family.

## The Future

We are in an excellent position, with effectively no net debt, to take advantage of any weakness in the property market should that occur and we continually review Hotels that are on the market. There is still plenty to do in regard to adding value to our existing portfolio and growing profits organically which in turn will self fund capital improvements and deliver to Shareholders a progressive dividend policy.

Robert Peel Chairman 15 April 2008

# DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS

#### Directors

Robert Edmund Guy Peel	Executive Chairman
Clement John Govett	Non-executive Director
Keith Peter Benham	Non-executive Director
Norbert Paul Gottfried Petersen	Chief Operating Officer

## Secretary

Sabretooth Law Ltd 1 Berkeley Street, Mayfair, London W1J 8DJ

## **Registered Office**

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 111 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1PH

## Company registration number 3473990

## Auditors

Grant Thornton UK LLP No. 1 Whitehall Riverside, Leeds, LS1 4BN

## Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland Plc 280 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4RB

## Registrars

Computershare Services Plc PO Box No 82, The Pavilions, Bridgewater Road, Bristol BS99 7NH

## **Solicitors**

Sabretooth Law Ltd 1 Berkeley Street, Mayfair, London W1J 8DJ

Davidson Webber LLP Royal House, 110 Station Parade, Harrogate HG1 1EP

## Nominated Adviser and Stockbroker KBC Peel Hunt Ltd

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 111 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1PH

The Directors present their report and the accounts of the Company for the year ended 10 February 2008.

## **Principal activity**

The principal activity of the Company is the operation of hotels in the United Kingdom.

## Review of the business and future prospects

A review of the Company's performance in the year and of its position at the year end is given in the Chairman's statement, together with an indication of likely future developments.

## **Results and dividends**

The profit for the year after tax amounted to £8,373,979 (2007 - £1,264,120). The Directors recommend that a final dividend of 3.5p per share be paid amounting to £490,424, the final dividend together with the interim dividend of 2p per share amounting to £278,242, making a total of 5.5p (2007: 5p) at a cost of £768,666 (2007- £642,856).

The Directors have considered the financial position of the Company in the light of an extremely successful year in terms of disposals and have decided to distribute a one off bonus dividend of 15p per share amounting to  $\pounds 2,101,818$ .

## **Executive directors**

Robert Peel, age 61, was appointed on 25 November 1997. Norbert Petersen, age 61, was appointed on 11 September 1998.

Both of the above individuals held executive positions in the hotel industry for more than 20 years before joining Peel Hotels.

John Perkins resigned on 16 April 2007.

## Non-executive directors

John Govett, age 64, appointed on 23 February 1998, was formerly chairman of Schroder Investment Management and is currently a non-executive director of Rio Tinto Pension Investments Ltd.

Keith Benham, age 65, appointed on 23 February 1998, was formerly a senior partner at Linklaters.

## **Directors' interests**

The Directors' interests are shown in note 24 to the accounts.

## Substantial shareholdings

Save for the interests of Robert Peel, which are set out in note 24, the Directors are aware of the following who were interested, directly or indirectly, in 3 percent or more of the Company's shares as at 10 February 2008.

	Number of shares	Percentage of share capital
Charles Peel	2,685,000	19.2%
JP Morgan Fleming Asset Management	1,366,117	9.8%
Framlington Asset Management	633,471	4.5%
David Urquhart	564,754	4.0%

The Directors are not aware of any persons, other than Robert Peel and his brother Charles Peel who, directly or indirectly, jointly or severally, exercise control over the Company.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Movements on fixed assets are set out in note 9 to the accounts.

## Charitable and political contributions

During the year there were no charitable or political contributions (2007 f.nil).

#### Employees

Every effort is made to keep staff informed of and involved in the operation and progress of the Company. The policy of the Company for the employment of disabled persons is to give them equal opportunities with other employees to train for and attain any position in the Company having regard to the maintenance of a safe working environment and the constraints of their disabilities. Close attention is given to employees' health and safety with particular regard to the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work legislation.

#### Policy on payment to creditors

Whilst there is no formal creditor payment policy, it is the policy of the Company to settle the terms of payment with all suppliers when agreeing the terms for the transaction as a whole and to abide by such terms.

The Company's outstanding creditor days at the end of the year were 28.5 days (2007 - 19 days).

#### Statement of directors' responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- 1. Select suitable accounting policies, and then apply them consistently.
- 2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- 3. State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- 4. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Directors are aware:

- 1. There is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware
- 2. The Directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### Directors' and officers' liability insurance

The Company has purchased Directors' and Officers' liability insurance.

#### Financial risk management

The Directors are confident that the banking facilities currently in place are more than adequate for the Company's working capital requirements. All the Company's sales and purchases are made in sterling; therefore the Company is not exposed to any significant currency risks.

The Directors are satisfied that the credit risk is adequately managed and the level of bad debt is consistent with the nature of the industry.

Interest rate risk is dealt with in note 14 to the financial statements.

#### **Annual General Meeting**

The notice convening the Annual General Meeting to be held at KBC Peel Hunt, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 111 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1PH on Wednesday 21 May 2008 at noon is enclosed with this report.

#### **Annual General Meeting resolutions**

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting to authorise the Directors generally and unconditionally to allot ordinary shares up to an aggregate nominal amount of  $\pounds$ 585,800 for the period from May 2008 to the conclusion of the Company's 2009 Annual General Meeting.

A resolution will be proposed, as a special resolution, authorising the Directors to allot ordinary shares for cash other than in accordance with section 89 of the Companies Act 1985. Section 89 provides pre-emption rights for shareholders when shares are issued for cash. The number of shares that may be so allotted will be restricted to 1,401,200 being 10% of the current issued share capital. The disapplication of Section 89 of the Companies Act 1985 will be limited in time and will expire at the same time as the authority to allot.

The usual ordinary business will be considered, including the Report and Accounts, declaring a dividend and re-appointing Grant Thornton UK LLP as auditors. Resolutions will be proposed to re-elect Norbert Petersen and Keith Benham who retire by rotation in accordance with the Company's Articles of Association and who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

#### Directors' recommendation

The Directors believe that all the resolutions being proposed are in the best interests of the Company, its Shareholders and employees. They recommend Shareholders to vote in favour of the resolutions, as they intend to do in respect of the shares beneficially owned by them. When considering what action to take, Shareholders are advised to consult a stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other financial adviser authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

## Auditors

The auditor, Grant Thornton UK LLP, has indicated a willingness to be re-appointed and a resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting to re-appoint Grant Thornton UK LLP and to authorise the directors to fix the auditor's remuneration.

15 April 2008 Registered Office 4<sup>th</sup> Floor 111 Old Broad Street London EC2N 1PH By order of the board Sabretooth Law Ltd Secretary

# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Peel Hotels Plc is listed on AIM and is not subject to the requirements of the 2003 Combined Code on corporate governance, nor is it required to disclose its specific policies in relation to corporate governance. However, the Directors are committed to delivering high standards of corporate governance to the Company's Shareholders and other stakeholders including employees.

## Directors

The Board currently comprises two executive and two Non-executive Directors and meets regularly throughout the year. It leads and controls the Company by taking responsibility for overall projects and consideration of significant financing matters. It reviews the strategic direction of operations and annual budgets, progress towards achievement of those budgets and the longer-term strategies.

The Board is chaired by Robert Peel who also acts as the Company's Chief Executive. Robert Peel was appointed at the incorporation of the Company. Due to the size of its business, the Company has not segregated the position of Chairman and Chief Executive. The Board believes that the presence of strong Non-executives make this position appropriate for the business at this time. All other Board members were appointed during the first fully reported financial period to 21 February 1999. Although the board presently has only two Non-executive Directors, they have between them considerable and varied experience in the business world and the City. Non-executive Directors are appointed for successive 12-month terms, renewable at the invitation of the Board, and are subject to reelection by Shareholders in accordance with the Company's Articles of Association. Their objective views and sound advice carry considerable weight in relation to all matters considered at Board meetings. Between formal meetings the Chief Executive remains in touch with the Non-executives, consulting them on appropriate issues and updating them on the Company's progress. The responsibility has been shared and neither of the Nonexecutive Directors has assumed the role of senior independent Director.

The Board meets regularly (meeting on 9 occasions in the financial period to 10 February 2008). Prior to each Board meeting and at the end of each of the Company's four weekly accounting periods, every member of the Board is supplied with a full set of management accounts together with a summary of the key features of the Company's performance overall. This includes an analysis of the performance against the original budget for the year and the previous year's performance. The Board papers also include other documents which relate to matters included in the agenda, as appropriate, in order to ensure that members of the Board are given the fullest opportunity for consideration of matters to be discussed at meetings.

The Board has determined that it is appropriate for matters which would normally be delegated to a nomination committee to be referred to the full Board. The Board, acting as a nomination committee, meets at least once a year to carry out the selection process for new Board members and to propose any new appointments to the Board, whether Executive or Non-executive.

The Articles of Association of the Company require that all Directors submit themselves for re-election and that in any given year the number to retire is not less than one third of the Directors, being those who have been in office for the longest period of time.

There are agreed procedures by which Directors are able to take independent professional advice on matters relating to their duties, if necessary, at the expense of the Company. The

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

Board has also resolved that any question of removal from office of the Company Secretary is a matter to be considered by the Board as a whole.

The Company uses external services provided by Sabretooth Law Ltd, the Company's solicitors, for company secretarial matters. All Directors have access to the Company Secretary.

## Directors' remuneration

The Company believes and seeks to ensure that the remuneration packages it offers its Executive Directors are fair. Other elements of the remuneration package offered to Directors include benefits in kind and share options. Further details of the Company's remuneration policy are contained in the Directors' Remuneration Report.

#### **Relations with shareholders**

The Chief Executive is always available to meet with key institutional Shareholders. In addition, the Company uses the Annual General Meeting to provide private investors with an update on the Company's progress and strategy. Shareholders are encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting when members of the Board would be delighted to answer questions.

#### Accountability and audit

The Board seeks to ensure that its Annual Report and Accounts and other public financial statements provide a balanced and understandable assessment of the Company's position.

The Audit Committee consists of both Non-executive Directors under the Chairmanship of John Govett. The Audit Committee meets at least twice a year. The Committee provides a forum for reporting by the Company's external and internal auditors. Meetings are also attended, by invitation, by Robert Peel.

The Company has an established internal audit function whose primary responsibility is to formalise internal audit procedures and to provide continuous independent review of the Company's internal controls and business practices. The internal audit function reports to the Audit Committee on a regular basis.

#### Internal controls

The Board is responsible for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. The Board has delegated to executive management the implementation of the systems of internal control.

Such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The following processes take place on an ongoing basis.

- Review of reports prepared throughout the year by the internal auditor.
- Weekly and monthly reporting of financial information including profit and loss accounts, balance sheets, cash flow statements and other key performance indicators.
- Regular reporting to the Board on certain specific matters including treasury management, insurances, legal and health and safety issues.
- The Chairman of the Audit Committee reports the outcome of audit meetings to the full Board of Directors.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Senior management from all key disciplines have been involved in the process of risk assessment in order to identify and assess objectives, key issues and controls. Further review has been performed to identify those risks relevant to the Company and to manage operational, compliance, financial and business risk.

The key procedures that have been established and are designed to provide effective internal control are:

#### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Detailed annual budgets are prepared in advance of each financial year. These are reviewed and agreed by the Board with subsequent actual monthly performance reported against these budgets, updated forecasts and prior year comparatives. In addition, separate regular reviews of the overall profitability of the individual hotels are performed and monitored by the Chief Executive.

## QUALITY AND INTEGRITY OF PERSONNEL

All members of management responsible for staff recruitment are made aware of the levels of experience and expertise required.

#### OPERATING UNIT FINANCIAL CONTROLS

Key controls over major financial risks include reviews against performance indicators and exception reporting. The operating units make regular assessments of their exposure to major financial risks and the extent to which these risks are controlled, which are considered during internal audit visits.

#### COMPUTER SYSTEMS

The Company has established controls and procedures over the security of data held on computer systems. The arrangements are tested regularly and reviewed by the Company's management.

## CONTROLS OVER CENTRAL FUNCTIONS

A number of the Company's key functions, including treasury and taxation, are dealt with centrally. Each of these functions is required to report to the Board on a regular basis.

The Board has conducted a review of the system of internal control for the year ended 10 February 2008 and up to the date of this report.

#### Going concern

After making enquiries, the Directors have formed a judgement at the time of approving the financial statements that there is a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

## DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION REPORT

#### Composition of the remuneration committee

The remuneration committee ('the committee') is comprised solely of the Non-executive Directors, John Govett and Keith Benham. The committee makes its decisions following consultation with the Executive Chairman and has access to professional advice from outside the Company. The remuneration of the Executive Chairman is set by the Nonexecutives.

#### **Remuneration policy for Executive Directors**

The Company wishes to attract and retain senior management of the highest quality. Accordingly, its policy, in a competitive market, is to design remuneration packages which, through an appropriate combination of basic salary and share options, reward senior managers fairly and responsibly for their individual contributions.

#### **Basic salary**

An individual's basic salary is reviewed and determined by the committee annually, taking into account his or her performance and responsibilities within the Company. In deciding the appropriate level, the committee has access to external research and information on a range of peer companies.

#### Share options

The committee believes that share ownership by Executive Directors and senior management also helps to strengthen the link between their personal interests and the longer term interests of the Company's Shareholders. Grants of options are based on performance and are reviewed annually. Exceptionally, grants may be awarded on appointment.

Movements in share options are detailed in note 25.

#### **Pension arrangements**

The Company operates an approved money purchase pension scheme for Executive Directors and certain other members of staff. Members of the scheme contribute 5% of their salary, and the Company contributes 9%.

The Company has complied with statutory requirements regarding stakeholder pensions.

#### Non-executive directors' remuneration

Fees payable to Non-executive Directors are determined by the Board of Directors, other than the Non-executive Directors, within the limits set by the Articles of Association.

#### Service contracts and re-election to the board

At the Annual General Meeting, one third of the Directors will retire by rotation and, if eligible, may offer themselves for re-election. All Executive and Non-executive Directors have notice periods or unexpired terms not greater than twelve months.

## Executive directors' other appointments

Executive Directors are not permitted to hold any other Executive positions but, subject to Board approval, may hold Non-executive Directorships.

## DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION REPORT

## **Directors' remuneration**

Executive	Current annual salary/fees £	Salary/fees £	Compensation for loss of office £	Other benefits £	52 weeks 10 Feb 2008 £	52 weeks 11 Feb 2007 £
R E G Peel	50,000	35,385	_	1,096	36,481	32,102
N P G Petersen	85,000	76,827	_	1,496	78,323	84,214
J Perkins	_	14,077	40,000	324	54,401	62,188
Non-executive						
C J Govett	20,000	16,154	_	_	16,154	15,000
K P Benham	20,000	16,154	_	-	16,154	15,000
Total	175,000	158,597	40,000	2,916	201,513	208,504

Other benefits consist of private health and life insurance.

#### Directors' pension arrangements

A contributory money purchase pension scheme is in operation and the amounts paid by the Company were:

Executive	52 weeks 10 Feb 2008 £	52 weeks 11 Feb 2007 £
N P G Petersen J Perkins	9,000 1,938	9,000 6,300
Total	10,938	15,300

## Share options granted to Directors - not exercised at the year end

Executive	Date of grant	Number of options granted	Exercise price per share (pence)	Earliest exercise date	Expiry date
N P G Petersen	16.05.02	50,000	87.5	16.05.05	15.05.12
Total		50,000			

### Share options exercised by Directors

Executive	Date of grant	Number of options granted	Exercise price per share (pence)	Earliest exercise date	Expiry date
R E G Peel	27.2.98	250,000	25	27.02.01	25.10.07
R E G Peel	27.2.98	250,000	50	27.02.01	25.10.07
R E G Peel	27.2.98	250,000	75	27.02.01	25.10.07
R E G Peel	27.2.98	250,000	100	27.02.01	25.10.07
N P G Petersen	14.10.98	100,000	116.5	14.10.01	06.11.07
Total		1,100,000			

During the year 65,000 share options granted to John Perkins lapsed. The market price of the shares at 10 February 2008 was 162.5 pence and the range during the year was 151 pence to 192.5 pence.

The options exercised by Robert Peel resulted in a notional gain of  $\pm 875,000$ .

The options exercised by Norbert Petersen resulted in an actual gain of £32,899

The tax payable on these transactions was paid under PAYE by the Company and reimbursed by the Directors.

15 April 2008

By order of the board Keith Benham & John Govett Non-executive directors

# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS OF PEEL HOTELS PLC

We have audited the financial statements of Peel Hotels plc for the year ended 10 February 2008 which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet, the cash flow statement and notes 1 to 25. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

## Respective responsibilities of Directors and auditors

The Directors' responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom law and Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and whether the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you whether, in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements. The information given in the Directors' Report includes that specific information presented in the Chairman's Statement that is cross referred from the Business Review section of the Director's Report.

In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, the Company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding Directors' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

We read other information contained in the Annual Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. The other information comprises only the Chairman's Statement, the Directors' Report, the Corporate Governance Statement and the Directors' Remuneration Report. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

## Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the Directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS OF PEEL HOTELS PLC

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

## Opinion

In our opinion :

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the Company's affairs as at 10 February 2008 and of the profit for the year then ended;
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985; and
- the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

## Grant Thornton UK LLP

Registered Auditors Chartered Accountants Leeds 15 April 2008

# **PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT**

## For the 52 weeks ended 10 February 2008

Ν	ote £	10 February 2008 £	£	11 February 2007 £
Turnover	1	15,150,339		15,919,976
Cost of sales		(11,010,153)		(12,049,329)
Gross profit		4,140,186		3,870,647
Administrative expenses				
Depreciation Other	(1,092,642) (855,003)		(1,133,957) (742,857)	
		(1,947,645)		(1,876,814)
<b>Operating profit</b> Profit on disposal of property Interest payable and similar charges	2	2,192,541 8,142,521 (745,529)		1,993,833 850,000 (1,280,713)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation Tax on profit on ordinary activities	3 4	9,589,533 (1,215,554)		1,563,120 (299,000)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation		8,373,979		1,264,120
<b>Earnings Per Share</b> Basic Diluted	8	63.4p 62.8p		9.8p 9.3p

Movements on reserves are shown in note 17 to the accounts.

There are no recognised gains and losses for the current financial year and preceding financial year other than the profit shown above.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

All operations are classified as continuing.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

# As at 10 February 2008

	Note	10 February 2008 £	11 February 2007 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	9	28,724,660	34,747,844
Current assets			
Stocks	10	86,786	116,581
Debtors	11	1,342,973	1,052,859
Cash at bank and in hand		4,108,123	158,530
		5,537,882	1,327,970
Creditors (due within one year)	12	(4,784,341)	(3,206,767)
Net current assets		753,541	(1,878,797)
Total assets less current liabilities		29,478,201	32,869,047
Creditors (due after one year)	13 a	(3,970,783)	(14,670,677)
Provision for liabilities	15	(707,000)	(1,664,102)
Total assets		24,800,418	16,534,268
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	16	1,401,213	1,285,713
Share premium account	17	9,743,495	9,068,950
Profit and loss account	17	13,655,710	6,179,605
Equity shareholders' funds	17	24,800,418	16,534,268

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Board on 15 April 2008

Robert Peel, Director

Norbert Petersen, Director

# CASH FLOW STATEMENT

# For the 52 weeks ended 10 February 2008

Net cash inflow from operating activities193,272,3053,239,5Returns on investments & servicing of finance Interest paid(1,000,074)(1,319,704)Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance(1,000,074)(1,319,704)Interest paid(1,000,074)(1,319,704)Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance(1,100,074)(1,319,704)Taxation UK corporation tax paid(30,656)(107,482)Tax paid(30,656)(107,482)Tax paid(30,656)(107,482)Tax paid(30,656)(107,482)Tax paid(30,656)(107,482)Net cash inflow from capital expenditure13,170,161580,3Equity dividends paid(921,099)(608,3)Net cash inflow before financing14,490,6371,784,3Financing Issue of ordinary share capital790,04540,305New long term loan Less loan arrangement fees (11,122,945)(2,107,945)Net cash outflow from financing(10,332,900)(1,671,4Increase in cash Increase in cash204,157,737113,3Reconciliation of net debt Increase in cash11,122,9451,707,57Increase in debt11,122,9451,707,57		Note	ſ	52 weeks to 10 February 2008	ſ	52 weeks to 11 February 2007
Returns on investments & servicing of finance Interest paid(1,000,074)(1,319,704)Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance(1,100,074)(1,319,7Taxation UK corporation tax paid(30,656)(107,482)Tax paid(30,656)(107,482)Tax paid(30,656)(107,482)Tax paid(30,656)(107,482)Capital expenditure Purchase of tangible fixed assets(3,978,456)(1,469,168)Sale of tangible fixed assets(3,978,456)(1,469,168)Sale of tangible fixed assets(3,978,456)(1,469,168)Sale of tangible fixed assets(1,17148,6172,050,000Net cash inflow from capital expenditure13,170,161580,380,380,380,380,380,380,380,380,380,3			£	£	£	£
& servicing of finance Interest paid       (1,000,074)       (1,319,704)         Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance       (1,100,074)       (1,319,704)         Net cash outflow from returns on investments       (1,100,074)       (1,319,704)         Tax and servicing of finance       (1,100,074)       (1,319,704)         Tax tom       UK corporation tax paid       (30,656)       (107,482)         Tax paid       (30,656)       (107,482)       (107,482)         Capital expenditure       10,30,656)       (1,469,168)       (107,482)         Sale of tangible fixed assets       (3,978,456)       (1,469,168)       (107,482)         Net cash inflow from capital expenditure       13,170,161       580,4         Equity dividends paid       (921,099)       (608,4)         Net cash inflow before financing       14,490,637       1,784,4         Financing Issue of ordinary share capital       790,045       40,305         New long term loan       –       40,000       1,671,4         Loan repayments       (11,122,945)       (2,107,945)       Net cash outflow         ftom financing       (10,332,900)       (1,671,4       1,671,4         Increase in cash       20       4,157,737       113,5         Recon	. 0	19		3,272,305		3,239,888
Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance $(1,100,074)$ $(1,319,7)$ Taxation UK corporation tax paid $(30,656)$ $(107,482)$ Tax paid $(30,656)$ $(107,482)$ Tax paid $(30,656)$ $(107,482)$ Tax paid $(30,656)$ $(107,482)$ Capital expenditure Purchase of tangible fixed assets $(3,978,456)$ $(1,469,168)$ Sale of tangible fixed assetsSale of tangible fixed assets $17,148,617$ $2,050,000$ Net cash inflow from capital expenditure $13,170,161$ $580,3$ Equity dividends paid $(921,099)$ $(608,3)$ Net cash inflow before financing $14,490,637$ $1,784,9$ Financing Issue of ordinary share capital Loan repayments $790,045$ $40,305$ New long term loan Less loan arrangement fees Loan repayments $-$ $(4,000)$ $(10,332,900)$ $(1,671,4)$ Increase in cash Increase in cash $20$ $4,157,737$ $113,70,70,70,70,70,70,70,70,70,70,70,70,70,$						
returns on investments and servicing of finance $(1,100,074)$ $(1,319,7)$ Taxation $UK$ corporation tax paid $(30,656)$ $(107,482)$ Tax paid $(30,656)$ $(107,482)$ Capital expenditure $(30,656)$ $(1107,482)$ Purchase of tangible fixed assets $(3,978,456)$ $(1,469,168)$ Sale of tangible fixed assets $17,148,617$ $2,050,000$ Net cash inflow from $agaital expenditure$ $13,170,161$ $580,3$ Equity dividends paid $(921,099)$ $(608,3)$ Net cash inflow before financing $14,490,637$ $1,784,3$ Financing $40,305$ $40,305$ New long term loan $ 400,000$ $40,305$ Less loan arrangement fees $ (4,000)$ $40,794,5$ Net cash outflow $from financing$ $(10,332,900)$ $(1,671,4,69,132,5,133,5)$ Net cash outflow $from financing$ $20$ $4,157,737$ $113,3,5,737$ Reconciliation of net debt $11,122,945$ $1,707,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,$	Interest paid		(1,000,074)		(1,319,704)	
UK corporation tax paid       (30,656) $(107,482)$ Tax paid       (30,656) $(107,482)$ Tax paid       (30,656) $(107,482)$ Capital expenditure       Purchase of tangible fixed assets $(3,978,456)$ $(1,469,168)$ Sale of tangible fixed assets       17,148,617       2,050,000 $(107,482)$ Net cash inflow from       capital expenditure       13,170,161       580,4         Equity dividends paid       (921,099)       (608,4)         Net cash inflow       pefore financing       14,490,637       1,784,9         Financing       Issue of ordinary share capital       790,045       40,305         New long term loan       -       400,000       40,000         Less loan arrangement fees       -       (4,000)       10,000         Loan repayments       (11,122,945)       (2,107,945)       11,671,4         Increase in cash       20       4,157,737       113,5         Reconciliation of net debt       Increase in cash       4,157,737       113,5         Increase in debt       11,122,945       1,707,5	returns on investments			(1,100,074)		(1,319,704)
Tax paid(30,656)(107,4)Capital expenditure(3,978,456)(1,469,168)Purchase of tangible fixed assets(3,978,456)(1,469,168)Sale of tangible fixed assets17,148,6172,050,000Net cash inflow from(921,099)(608,1)Capital expenditure13,170,161580,1Equity dividends paid(921,099)(608,1)Net cash inflow before financing14,490,6371,784,9Financing Issue of ordinary share capital790,04540,305New long term loan–(400,000Less loan arrangement fees–(4,000)Loan repayments(11,122,945)(2,107,945)Net cash outflow from financing(10,332,900)(1,671,4)Increase in cash204,157,737113,5)Decrease in debt11,122,9451,707,5)	Taxation					
Capital expenditurePurchase of tangible fixed assets $(3,978,456)$ $(1,469,168)$ Sale of tangible fixed assets $17,148,617$ $2,050,000$ Net cash inflow fromcapital expenditure $13,170,161$ $580,9$ Equity dividends paid $(921,099)$ $(608,9)$ Net cash inflowbefore financing $14,490,637$ $1,784,9$ FinancingIssue of ordinary share capital $790,045$ $40,305$ New long term loan- $400,000$ Less loan arrangement fees-Loan repayments $(11,122,945)$ $(2,107,945)$ Net cash outflowfrom financing $20$ $4,157,737$ $113,7$ Reconciliation of net debtIncrease in cash $4,157,737$ $113,7$ Decrease in debt $11,122,945$ $1,707,9$	UK corporation tax paid		(30,656)		(107,482)	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets       (3,978,456) $(1,469,168)$ Sale of tangible fixed assets       17,148,617       2,050,000         Net cash inflow from       capital expenditure       13,170,161       580,6         Equity dividends paid       (921,099)       (608,5)         Net cash inflow       14,490,637       1,784,9         before financing       14,490,637       1,784,9         Financing       14,490,637       1,784,9         Issue of ordinary share capital       790,045       40,305         New long term loan       –       400,000         Less loan arrangement fees       –       (4,000)         Loan repayments       (11,122,945)       (2,107,945)         Net cash outflow       from financing       (10,332,900)       (1,671,4,69,617,1,61)         Increase in cash       20       4,157,737       113,5,737         Reconciliation of net debt       11,122,945       1,707,9,75,75,75,75,75,75,75,75,75,75,75,75,75,	Tax paid			( 30,656)		(107,482)
Sale of tangible fixed assets       17,148,617       2,050,000         Net cash inflow from $assets$ 13,170,161       580,9         Equity dividends paid       (921,099)       (608,9)         Net cash inflow $before financing$ 14,490,637       1,784,9         Financing       14,490,637       1,784,9 $asset = 1, 790,045$ 40,305 $asset = 1, 790,045$ $asset = 1, 790,045$ $asset = 1, 784,9$ Financing       Issue of ordinary share capital       790,045       40,305 $asset = 1, 784,9$ Issue of ordinary share capital       790,045 $40,305$ $asset = 1, 784,9$ Less loan arrangement fees $ (4,000)$ $(2,107,945)$ $(2,107,945)$ Net cash outflow $(11,122,945)$ $(2,107,945)$ $(2,107,945)$ $(1,671,4,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1$	Capital expenditure					
capital expenditure       13,170,161       580,8         Equity dividends paid       (921,099)       (608,4)         Net cash inflow before financing       14,490,637       1,784,9         Financing       14,490,637       1,784,9         Issue of ordinary share capital       790,045       40,305         New long term loan       -       400,000         Less loan arrangement fees       -       (4,000)         Loan repayments       (11,122,945)       (2,107,945)         Net cash outflow       (10,332,900)       (1,671,4)         Increase in cash       20       4,157,737       113,5)         Reconciliation of net debt       11,122,945       1,707,5)	ě		,			
Equity dividends paid       (921,099)       (608,1)         Net cash inflow before financing       14,490,637       1,784,9         Financing       14,490,637       1,784,9         Issue of ordinary share capital       790,045       40,305         New long term loan       -       400,000         Less loan arrangement fees       -       (4,000)         Loan repayments       (11,122,945)       (2,107,945)         Net cash outflow       (10,332,900)       (1,671,0)         Increase in cash       20       4,157,737       113,7         Reconciliation of net debt       11,122,945       1,707,5         Increase in cash       4,157,737       113,7         Decrease in debt       11,122,945       1,707,5	Net cash inflow from					
Net cash inflow before financing         14,490,637         1,784,9           Financing Issue of ordinary share capital         790,045         40,305           New long term loan         -         400,000           Less loan arrangement fees         -         (4,000)           Loan repayments         (11,122,945)         (2,107,945)           Net cash outflow from financing         (10,332,900)         (1,671,0)           Increase in cash         20         4,157,737         113,7           Reconciliation of net debt         11,122,945         1,707,5	capital expenditure			13,170,161		580,832
before financing       14,490,637       1,784,9         Financing       15sue of ordinary share capital       790,045       40,305         New long term loan       -       400,000       400,000         Less loan arrangement fees       -       (4,000)       400,000         Loan repayments       (11,122,945)       (2,107,945)       10,000         Net cash outflow       (10,332,900)       (1,671,000)       10,000         Increase in cash       20       4,157,737       113,7         Reconciliation of net debt       11,122,945       1,707,9         Increase in cash       4,157,737       113,7         Decrease in debt       11,122,945       1,707,9	Equity dividends paid			(921,099)		(608,576)
Issue of ordinary share capital       790,045       40,305         New long term loan       -       400,000         Less loan arrangement fees       -       (4,000)         Loan repayments       (11,122,945)       (2,107,945)         Net cash outflow       (10,332,900)       (1,671,000)         Increase in cash       20       4,157,737       113,75         Reconciliation of net debt       11,122,945       1,707,95				14,490,637		1,784,958
Net cash outflow         (10,332,900)         (1,671,0)           Increase in cash         20         4,157,737         113,7           Reconciliation of net debt         4,157,737         113,7           Decrease in debt         11,122,945         1,707,9	Issue of ordinary share capital New long term loan Less loan arrangement fees		-		400,000 (4,000)	
from financing       (10,332,900)       (1,671,0)         Increase in cash       20       4,157,737       113,7         Reconciliation of net debt       4,157,737       113,7         Increase in cash       4,157,737       113,7         Decrease in debt       11,122,945       1,707,9	Loan repayments	(	11,122,945)		(2,107,945)	
Reconciliation of net debt           Increase in cash         4,157,737         113,5           Decrease in debt         11,122,945         1,707,5				(10,332,900)		(1,671,640)
Increase in cash       4,157,737       113,7         Decrease in debt       11,122,945       1,707,9	Increase in cash	20		4,157,737		113,318
Decrease in debt 11,122,945 1,707,9	Reconciliation of net debt					
						113,318
Padvation in pat dobt resulting from each flows 15 280 682 1 821	Decrease in debt			11,122,945		1,707,945
	Reduction in net debt resulting from Non cash changes	om cas	sh flows	15,280,682 (51,916)		1,821,263 (25,659)
Decrease in net debt in the year <b>15,228,766</b> 1,795,0	Decrease in net debt in the year			15,228,766		1,795,604
Net debt at beginning of year         (15,269,183)         (17,064,7)	Net debt at beginning of year			(15,269,183)		(17,064,787)
Net debt at end of year         20         (40,417)         (15,269,7)	Net debt at end of year	20		(40,417)		(15,269,183)

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## 1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. The principal accounting policies of the Company are set out below and have remained unchanged.

## 2 Basis of preparation

The financial year consists of the 52 weeks ended 10 February 2008.

## **3** Acquisitions

On the acquisition of a business, fair values are attributable to the Company's share of net separable assets. Where the cost of acquisition exceeds the fair values attributable to such net assets, the difference is treated as purchased goodwill and, following the implementation of FRS 10, is capitalised in the Company balance sheet in the year of acquisition.

The results and cash flows relating to a business are included in the profit and loss account and the cash flow statement from the date of acquisition.

## 4 Turnover

Turnover represents amounts receivable from the provision of hotel services including room hire, bar and restaurant takings and is stated after deduction of value added tax.

Room and inclusive breakfast revenue is recognised at the end of the financial day. All other revenue such as bar and restaurant takings are recognised at the point of sale.

Any deposits received are utilised at check-in.

## 5 Stocks

Stocks are valued at current cost price at date of stock take.

## 6 Leases

Operating lease rentals are charged to profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

## 7 Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are originally recorded at cost. It is the Company's policy to maintain its properties to a high standard in order to protect its trade.

Depreciation is charged on freehold and long leasehold properties, excluding freehold land, at a rate calculated to write off the cost, less residual value, on a straight line basis, over 50 years.

Short leasehold properties are written off over the remaining period of the lease.

On other assets depreciation is charged to write off their costs by equal annual instalments over their estimated useful lives, which are considered to be:

Plant, fixtures and fittings, and equipment	10 years
Soft furnishings	8 years
Office equipment	5 years
Computer equipment	3 years

## 8 Share-based payments

The Company's policy is that all share-based payment arrangements granted after 7 November 2002 are recognised in the financial statements.

All goods and services received in exchange for the grant of any share-based payment are measured at their fair values. Where employees are rewarded using share-based payments,

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

the fair values of employees' services are determined indirectly by reference to the fair value of the instrument granted to the employee. This fair value is appraised at the grant date using the Black-Scholes pricing model. The expected life used in the model has been adjusted, based on management's best estimate, for the effects of non-transferability, exercise restrictions and behavioural considerations.

All equity-settled share-based payments are ultimately recognised as an expense in the profit and loss account with a corresponding credit to the profit and loss account reserve.

If vesting periods or other non-market vesting conditions apply, the expense is allocated over the vesting period, based on the best available estimate of the number of share options expected to vest. Estimates are revised subsequently if there is any indication that the number of share options expected to vest differs from previous estimates. Any cumulative adjustment prior to vesting is recognised in the current period. No adjustment is made to any expense recognised in prior periods if share options that have vested are not exercised.

Upon exercise of share options, the proceeds received net of attributable transaction costs are credited to share capital, and where appropriate share premium.

## 9 Deferred Taxation

Deferred tax is provided in full on timing differences, which result in an obligation at the balance sheet date to pay more tax, or a right to pay less tax, at a future date, at rates expected to apply when they crystallise based on current tax rates and law. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in financial statements. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is regarded as more likely than not that they will be recovered. Deferred tax is measured on a discounted basis to reflect the time value of money over the period between the balance sheet date and the dates on which it is estimated that the underlying timing differences will reverse.

#### **10 Capital Instruments**

Capital instruments are recorded at the fair value of the consideration received less issue costs in accordance with FRS4. The difference between the net proceeds of the issue and the total amounts of payments that the issuer may be required to make is recorded as a finance cost of the instrument and written off over the life of the instrument.

## **11 Pensions**

The Company operates a money purchase pension scheme on behalf of individual employees. Contributions to the scheme are charged against profits in the period in which they arise.

## 12 Derivative financial instruments

The Company uses derivative financial instruments to reduce exposure to interest rate movements. The Company does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

For an interest rate swap to be treated as a hedge the instrument must be related to actual assets or liabilities or a probable commitment and must change the nature of the interest rate by converting a fixed rate to a variable rate or vice versa. Interest differentials under these swaps are recognised by adjusting net interest payable over the period of the contracts.

## Financial year ended 10 February 2008

## 1 Turnover and profit

Turnover represents amounts derived from the provision of goods and services which fall within the Company's ordinary activities after deduction of value added tax. All of the turnover and profit on ordinary activities before taxation arises in the United Kingdom.

All net assets are based in the United Kingdom.

2 Net Interest	2008 £	2007 £
Interest on long term bank loans	440,588	645,790
Interest on bank overdraft	-	37,036
Bank charges, fees and instrument costs	411,670	597,887
	852,258	1,280,713
Interest receivable	(106,729)	_
Net interest	745,529	1,280,713
<b>3 Profit on ordinary activities before taxation</b> This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	1,092,642	1,133,957
Repairs and renewals – hotels	542,982	548,758
Repairs and renewals – other	11,677	11,278
Auditors' remuneration for audit services	29,625	35,750
Auditors' remuneration for tax compliance services	28,075	5,500
Auditors' remuneration for audit service to		
company pension scheme	500	500
<ul><li>4 Tax on profit on ordinary activities</li><li>a) Analysis of charge in year</li></ul>		
Current Tax		
Corporation tax charge for year	2,400,000	258,000
Under/(over) provision in respect of prior years	(227,344)	7,390
Total current tax	2,172,656	265,390
Deferred Tax		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	(1,544,003)	178,701
Decrease/(increase) in discount	587,404	(167,385)
Prior year adjustment	(503)	22,294
Total deferred tax	(957,102)	33,610
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	1,215,554	299,000

Origination and reversal of timing differences primarily relates to the removal of Industrial Building Allowances and the disposal of properties.

## Financial year ended 10 February 2008

## b) Factors affecting tax charge for year

The current tax charge is less than 30% of profit on ordinary activities for the reasons set out in the following reconciliation:

Profit on ordinary activities before tax	2008 لي 9,589,533	2007 ل 1,563,120
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2007 - 30%)	2,876,860	468,936
Effects of: Movements in other timing differences Deduction for charges on exercise of share options Disallowable expenditure and IBA's claimed Capital allowances for the period in excess	(132) (285,710) (64,477)	45,156
of depreciation and short term timing differences Difference between chargeable gains and profit on disposal Rate differences on current tax Adjustment in respect of prior year	(7,553) (118,988) _ (227,344)	(178,701) (78,363) 972 7,390
Corporation tax charge for the year	2,172,656	265,390

### c) Factors that may affect future tax charges

Based on current capital investment plans, the Company expects to continue to be able to claim capital allowances in excess of depreciation in future years.

5 Staff costs		
Wages and salaries	4,826,115	5,053,993
Employer's social security costs	366,718	376,368
Pension costs	56,842	56,753
	5,249,675	5,487,114
Average number of people employed		
under contracts of service:	Number	Number
Directors	4	5
Other employees	421	464
	425	469

## Financial year ended 10 February 2008

6 Directors' remuneration	2008 £	2007 £
Aggregate emoluments:		
Fees	32,308	30,000
Salaries and benefits	129,205	178,504
Compensation for loss of office	40,000	_
	201,513	208,504
Company contributions to money		
purchase pension schemes	10,938	15,300
	Number	Number
Number of directors who are members of a		
money purchase pension scheme	1	2
Further details of Directors' remuneration are contained Report on pages 12 and 13.	d in the Directors' Rem	uneration

	2008	2007
7 Dividends	£	£
Equity dividends on ordinary shares		
Paid during the year	921,099	608,576
Proposed after the year end (not recognised as a liability)	490,424	642,856
Bonus dividend proposed after the year end		
(not recognised as a liability)	2,101,819	_
8 Earnings per share Basic Calculated on the average number of shares in issue during the year and on profit after taxation	13,214,179 £8,373,979	12,831,222 £1,264,120
Diluted Calculated on average of number of shares available during year and on the profit after taxation	13,344,490 £,8,373,979	13,512,236 £1,264,120

In calculating the diluted earnings per share, the weighted average number of shares is adjusted for the dilutive effect of the share options by 130,311 (2007 - 681,014) shares, giving an adjusted number of shares of 13,344,490 (2007 - 13,512,236).

# Financial year ended 10 February 2008

9 Tangible fixed assets	Land & buildings £	Plant & machinery £	Furniture, furnishings & equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At beginning of year	29,821,708	3,803,328	6,528,600	40,153,636
Additions	2,970,981	335,155	650,363	3,956,499
Disposals	(7,850,574)	(469,884)	(1,508,715)	(9,829,173)
At end of year	24,942,115	3,668,599	5,670,248	34,280,962
Depreciation				
At beginning of year	330,377	1,752,256	3,323,159	5,405,792
Provision for the year	85,421	358,755	648,466	1,092,642
Disposals	(38,119)	(167,040)	(736,973)	(942,132)
At end of year	377,679	1,943,971	3,234,652	5,556,302
Net book value				
At beginning of year	29,491,331	2,051,072	3,205,441	34,747,844
At end of year	24,564,436	1,724,628	2,435,596	28,724,660
Analysis of the net book value			2008	2007
of land & buildings			£	£
Freehold		15,5	524,623	22,904,006
Long leasehold			511,997	4,112,182
Short leasehold		2,4	427,816	2,475,143
		24,5	564,436	29,491,331

## 10 Stocks

Stocks comprise food and liquor.

11 Debtors	2008 £	2007 £
Trade debtors	641,973	548,731
Prepayments	701,000	504,128
	1,342,973	1,052,859

## Financial year ended 10 February 2008

12 Creditors due within one year	2008 £	2007 £
Bank loans and overdraft (secured)	177,757	757,036
Trade creditors	535,131	395,184
Tax and social security	789,433	914,092
Corporation tax	2,400,000	258,000
Other creditors	192,834	201,793
Accruals and deferred income	689,186	680,662
	4,784,341	3,206,767

Bank loans and overdraft includes an amount for bank overdraft of  $\pounds$  177,757 (2007 -  $\pounds$  385,901). The overdraft facility of  $\pounds$  1,000,000 is due for review on 6 February 2009.

## 13a Creditors due after one year

Bank loan (secured)	4,009,240	14,761,050	
Less loan arrangement fees prepaid	(38,457)	(90,373)	
	3,970,783	14,670,677	

The original bank loan is repayable by 8 semi-annual instalments plus a final payment on 11 April 2014. Interest is charged at 1.0% over LIBOR. The Company has entered into a collar agreement on  $\pounds$ 7 million which caps the Company interest cost at 6.99% plus margin of 1.0%. The minimum interest cost is 4.99% plus margin of 1.0%, up to 12 October 2009, except when LIBOR is below 4.99% between 24 June 2003 and 12 October 2009; in which case an additional 2% of interest is payable. The Company repaid the  $\pounds$ 7 million loan on 7 October 2007 but the collar agreement remains in place.

The Company has entered into a GBP roller coaster callable interest rate swap agreement which commenced on 11 April 2003 and ends on 11 April 2014 with an option for the Royal Bank of Scotland to terminate the agreement from 11 October 2009. Under the terms of this agreement the Company fixes its interest payments up to 11 April 2014 on outstanding loan balances which are not covered by the collar agreement. The fixed interest swap requires the Company to pay 5.83% on these amounts and therefore effectively fixes its borrowing costs on this portion of its debt portfolio at 6.83% (after inclusion of the 1.0% margin).

A loan of  $\pounds 2.5$  million was taken to part fund the acquisition of the 3 hotels in the year ended 12 February 2006. The outstanding balance of  $\pounds 2$  million was repaid on 5 September 2007.

The £400,000 loan taken out during the year ended 11 February 2007 was also repaid on 5 September 2007.

The loans and overdraft are secured by debentures dated 7 December 1998, 8 September 1999, 21 June 2002 and 17 May 2005 over all of the Company's freehold and long leasehold properties.

## Financial year ended 10 February 2008

Over 5 years	71,080	10,069,025
Less loan arrangement fees	4,009,240 (38,457)	14,761,050 (90,373)
	3,970,783	14,670,677
13b Total borrowings	2008 £	2007 £
Between 1 and 2 years	984,450	988,405
Between 2 and 5 years Over 5 years	2,953,620 71,080	3,703,620 10,069,025
Less loan arrangement fees	4,009,240 (38,457)	14,761,050 (90,373)
	3,970,783	14,670,677
On demand and less than one year	177,757	757,036
Total borrowings	4,148,540	15,427,713

Instalments due after more than one year are as follows:

#### **14 Financial Instruments**

The Company has defined financial assets and liabilities as those assets and liabilities of a financial nature, namely cash and borrowings. Short term debtors/creditors, taxation and prepayments and accruals have been excluded. Financial assets and liabilities are all in sterling and are linked to the London Interbank Offer Rate, before consideration of the effect of the collar arrangement as described in note 13. The interest rate swap agreement, which converts part of the floating rate borrowing to a fixed rate, became effective on 11 April 2003.

Total gross financial assets at 10 February 2008 were £4,108,123 (2007 - £158,530) and total gross financial liabilities were £4,148,540 (2007 - £15,427,713).

#### TREASURY POLICY

The Company finances its activities by a combination of long and short term bank facilities.

It is, and has been throughout the period under review, the Company's policy not to trade in financial instruments.

## LIQUIDITY RISK

The only financial asset held by the Company is that of cash at bank and in hand and is repayable on demand.

The maturity profile of the Company's overdraft and long term borrowings is included in note 13 b).

The Company produces cash flow forecasts in order to ensure that liabilities are met as they fall due.

## Financial year ended 10 February 2008

## FAIR VALUES OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The Directors believe that there is no material difference between the book value and the fair value of all financial assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date, except as noted below.

The Directors have reviewed the fair value of the collar agreement described in note 13. The estimated value of this financial instrument is a liability of £154,369 (2007 - £44,783). The Company entered into a GBP roller coaster callable interest rate swap which came into effect on 11 April 2003 (as set out in note 13). The estimated value of this financial instrument is a liability of £390,823 (2007 - £273,068). The fair value of all financial liabilities has been reached using the net present value of the expected cash flows from the transactions and based on the assumption of no unusual market conditions or forced liquidation.

## CURRENCY RISK

The Company has no material currency risk exposure due to the absence of any assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies.

	2008 £	2007 £
Accelerated capital allowances Short term timing differences	657,000 50,000	2,198,148 53,358
Undiscounted deferred tax Discount	707,000	2,251,506 (587,404)
Discounted provision for deferred tax	707,000	1,664,102
Provision at start of year Adjustment in respect of prior years Profit and loss account credit	1,664,102 (503) (956,599)	1,630,492 22,294 11,316
Provision at end of year	707,000	1,664,102

## **15 Provision for liabilities**

As at the end of the year there is no unprovided deferred tax (2007 - nil).

16 Called up share capital	Number	Amount £	
Authorised			
Ordinary shares of 10p each			
At beginning and end of year	25,000,000	2,500,000	
Allotted and fully paid			
Ordinary shares of 10p each			
At beginning of year	12,857,123	1,285,713	
Issued during the year	1,155,000	115,500	
At end of year	14,012,123	1,401,213	

### Financial year ended 10 February 2008

During the year 1,155,000 share options were exercised:

250,000 share options were exercised at 25p

250,000 share options were exercised at 50p

250,000 share options were exercised at 75p

13,000 share options were exercised at 87.5p

42,000 share options were exercised at 88.5p

250,000 share options were exercised at 100p

100,000 share options were exercised at 116.5p

# 17 Combined statement of the movement in Shareholders' funds and statement of movement on reserves

	Called up share capital £	Share premium account £	Profit & loss account £	2008 Total £	2007 Total £
Opening balance	1,285,713	9,068,950	6,179,605	16,534,268	15,813,706
Profit attributed to members of	-				
the company	_	_	8,373,979	8,373,979	1,264,120
Dividends paid	_	_	(921,099)	(921,099)	(608,576)
Issue of share capital	115,500	674,545	_	790,045	40,305
Recognition of equity-settled sl	nare				
based payments in the year	_	_	23,225	23,225	24,713
Closing balance	1,401,213	9,743,495	13,655,710	24,800,418	16,534,268

	2008 £	2007 £
18 Capital commitments		
Contracted for but not provided in the accounts	60,000	125,000

# 19 Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities

Operating profit	2,192,541	1,993,833
Depreciation	1,092,642	1,133,957
Recognition of equity-settled share-based payments	23,225	24,713
Decrease in stocks	29,795	416)
Increase in debtors	(257,867)	(86,795)
Increase in creditors	191,969	173,764
Net cash inflow from operating activities	3,272,305	3,239,888

## Financial year ended 10 February 2008

	At beginning of year Cash flow		Non cash changes	At end of year	
20 Analysis of net debt	£	£	£	£	
Cash at bank and in hand	158,530	3,949,593	_	4,108,123	
Bank overdrafts	(385,901)	208,144	_	(177,757)	
	(227,371)	4,157,737	_	3,930,366	
Debt due within one year	(371,135)	371,135	_	-	
Debt due after one year	(14,670,677)	10,751,810	(51,916)	(3,970,783)	
Total	(15,269,183)	15,280,682	(51,916)	(40,417)	
21 Leases			2008 £	2007 £	
Operating lease rentals cha	rged to profit & lo	oss account:			
Land & buildings			601,520	668,941	
Hire of plant & machinery			149,215	158,096	
			750,735	827,037	
Commitments under opera Land & buildings Expiring after 5 years	ting leases to pay :	rentals durin	g the next year: <b>550,789</b>	670,614	
Plant & Machinery					
Expiring in more than 2 ye	ars but less than 5	years	149,215	158,096	

#### 22 Related party transactions

During the year premiums of £174,397 (2007 - £162,974) were paid to T L Dallas & Co Limited in which Robert Peel is a Shareholder. There was no outstanding amount at the balance sheet date (2007 -£nil).

A PAYE liability of  $\pm 350$ k (arising from exercise of share options) was paid by the Company on behalf of Robert Peel, who in turn repaid the amount to the Company together with interest.

The Company has agreed to pay rent on the London property used as its Head Office, which is owned by Robert Peel. The passing rent is  $\pm 35k$  per annum.

### 23 Controlling interests

Robert Peel is the largest Shareholder. Together with his brother Charles Peel, by reason of their interest they are deemed to control the Company.

#### Financial year ended 10 February 2008

#### 24 Directors' interests

	10 February 2008 10p ordinary shares		11 February 2007 10p ordinary shares		
	Shares Number	Options Number	Shares Number	Options Number	
Robert Peel	5,496,900	_	4,496,900	1,000,000	
Norbert Petersen	41,830	50,000	41,830	150,000	
John Govett	350,000	_	350,000	_	
Keith Benham	168,801	-	168,801	_	
Total	6,057,531	50,000	5,057,531	1,150,000	

Keith Benham's interest includes 42,200 (2007 - 42,200) shares owned by his wife.

Details of options granted to the Directors can be found on page 13.

No Director was materially interested, either at the year end or during the year, in any contract of significance to the Company except for the related party transactions as disclosed in note 22.

## 25 Share options

The Company has granted share options to employees of the Company. Such options are exercisable at a price established at the date the option is granted. The vesting period is three years. If the options remain unexercised after a period of ten years from the date of grant, the options expire. Options are forfeited if the employee leaves the Company before the options vest.

Details of the share options outstanding during the year are as follows:

Exercise	Earliest exercise date	Latest exercise date	Options held at 11/02/07	Options granted during the year	Options exercised during the year with a market price of 164.5p	Options exercised during the year with a market price of 176.6p	Options exercised during the year with a market price of 150.0p	Options forfeited during the year	Options held at 10/02/08
25.0p*	27.02.01	26.02.08	250,000	-	-		(250,000)	-	
50.0p*	27.02.01	26.02.08	250,000	-	-	-	(250,000)	-	-
75.0p*	27.02.01	26.02.08	250,000	-	-	-	(250,000)	-	-
100.0p*	27.02.01	26.02.08	250,000	-	-	-	(250,000)	-	-
116.5p*	14.10.01	13.10.08	140,000	-	-	-	(100,000)	(40,000)	-
118.5p*	19.12.03	18.12.10	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	10,000
87.5p*	16.05.05	15.05.12	91,000	-	(10,000)	(3,000)	-	(25,000)	53,000
88.5p	14.04.07	13.04.14	104,000	-	(29,000)	(13,000)	-	(2,000)	60,000
102.0p	31.05.08	31.05.15	198,000	-	-	-	-	(9,000)	189,000
163.5p	23.05.10	22.05.17	-	47,000	-	-	-	-	47,000
			1,543,000	47,000	(39,000)	(16,000)	(1,100,00)	(76,000)	359,000

The emoluments of the Executive and the Non-executive Directors are set out in the Directors' Remuneration Report.

## Financial year ended 10 February 2008

The market price of the shares at 10 February 2008 was 162.5 pence and the range in the year was 151 pence to 192.5 pence.

The input into the Black Scholes option pricing model are as follows:

	2008	2007
Expected volatility	30%	30%
Expected life	3 years	3 years
Risk-free rate	4.50%	4.50%

Expected volatility was determined by calculating the historical volatility of the Company's share price over the previous three years. The expected life used in the model has been adjusted, based on management's best estimate, for the effects of non-transferability, exercise restrictions and behavioural contributions.

The Company recognised total expenses of £23,225 related to equity-settled share based payment transactions in the year ended 10 February 2008 (2007 £24,713).

\* FRS 20 does not apply to these options as they were issued prior to 7 November 2002.

# HOTEL DIRECTORY



TELEPHONE: 020 7266 1100 FAX: 020 7289 5746

Location	Hotel	Rating	Room	s Telephone	Facsimile
Bradford	Midland Hotel	****	90	01274 735735	01274 720003
Carlisle	Crown & Mitre Hotel	****	94	01228 525491	01228 514553
Dunfermline	King Malcolm Hotel	****	48	01383 722611	01383 730865
Leeds	Golden Lion Hotel	****	89	0113 2436454	0113 2434241
Newcastle upon Tyne	Caledonian Hotel	****	91	0191 2817881	0191 2816241
Nottingham	Strathdon Hotel	****	68	0115 9418501	0115 9483725
Peterborough	Bull Hotel	****	118	01733 561364	01733 557304
Wallingford	George Hotel	****	39	01491 836665	01491 825359
Total of 8 Hotels			637		

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