

## Covid-19: Statement from Chief Executive Officer

During this incredibly difficult period, our thoughts are with everyone affected by the dreadful Covid-19 pandemic and in this context, the health and wellbeing of our colleagues, their families and all stakeholders remains our number one priority.

To protect all stakeholders, C&C is operating in line with all government guidelines and regulations. We are carrying out stringent daily audits of our operations to ensure adherence to safe social distancing as well as all other relevant health and safety requirements. Given these rigorous measures, all our offices, depots and production facilities have been accredited as being Covid-19 secure and therefore remain fully operational. I want to thank all colleagues for their dedicated adherence to all safety standards.

In line with Government policy, only essential staff are attending their normal place of work. All other colleagues are working from home and we have significant support measures in place to facilitate this. In addition, many colleagues have been placed on furlough, some for many, many months on end. This, I recognise is difficult, and I want to take the opportunity to thank those colleagues affected by furlough, for their perseverance and patience; we hope to have you back to work soon. In the meantime, colleague wellbeing is being supported by the provision of impartial advice and information on physical and mental health, financial concerns as well as access to specific counselling services. We are also offering free flu vaccines to all employees. I would encourage all colleagues to, without hesitation, avail of these support services in order to fully protect their wellbeing.

During the prolonged closure of the hospitality sector, we are working with customers to identify how we can support them, in areas ranging from managing credit terms to arranging the safe uplift of product from cellars. In addition, we are preparing plans for the eventual reopening of pubs, ensuring that our quality products can be enjoyed safely by consumers when they return to their favourite local pub.

As is the case with many other businesses in the hospitality sector, the ongoing closure of the on-trade has had a detrimental impact on C&C. In order to ensure the sustainability of our business, we have had to review and restructure the company for the post Covid 19 world. Unfortunately, this review sees several colleagues, many who have worked at C&C for many years, leave the business. It is with deep regret that we make these difficult decisions. We thank all colleagues who are leaving C&C and wish them all the very best for the future.

Finally, I want to wish all colleagues, customers, suppliers and wider stakeholders of C&C continued safe passage through this pandemic. The arrival of the vaccine offers hope of an end to this dreadful ordeal, however, in the meantime our collective vigilance is required in order to beat the virus. Stay safe!

David Forde,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
C&C Group plc