Registration number 2999276

# **ESB Hotels Limited**

Directors' Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
1 Embankment Place
London
WC2N 6RH





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# ESB Hotels Limited Contents

Company Information	l
Directors' Report	2 to 3
Statement of Directors' Responsibilities	4
Independent Auditors' Report	5 to 6
Profit and Loss Account	
Balance Sheet	
Notes to the Financial Statements	9 to 18

# **Company Information**

Directors

M Rosenberg

E J Rieck W2001 Britannia LLC W2001 Two CV

Company secretary

S A Coughlan

Registered office

Queens Court 9-17 Eastern Road

Romford Essex RM1 3NG

Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

1 Embankment Place

London WC2N 6RH

#### Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2011

#### Directors of the company

The directors who held office during the year were as follows

M Rosenberg

E J Rieck

W2001 Britannia LLC

W2001 Two CV

#### Principal activity

The principal activity of the company is the ownership and management of hotels. There have been no significant changes to the company's activities

#### **Business review**

#### Fair review of the business

The company's retained loss for the year ended 31 December 2011 amounted to £114 million (2010 £25 million)

The year end balance sheet position is set out in the balance sheet on page 8. The company's net liabilities as at 31 December 2011 increased from £6.2 million to net liabilities of £17.6 million reflecting the retained loss for the year of £11.4 million.

The company's directors are of the opinion that analysis using KPI's assists with their understanding of the development, performance and position of the business. The key KPI's used are occupancy, average daily rate achieved, revenue per available room, operating margins, compared to budget and prior year.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The company is a subsidiary within the QMH Limited group and as such the principal risks and uncertainties are the same as those facing the group -

The management of the group's business and the execution of the group's strategy are subject to a number of risks. The key business risks and uncertainties affecting the group are considered to be as follows.

#### - Covenant compliance

Management actively monitors the group's debt facilities for compliance and prepares rolling quarterly profit and interest forecasts and sensitivity analyses, which enable them to identify concerns relating to covenant compliance early and to take remedial action where necessary

The European senior loan and the group mezzanine loan facilities each contain a financial covenant, which requires the calculation of a debt service cover ratio (DSCR) on a quarterly basis

Additionally, the mezzanine loan facility contains a financial covenant, which requires the calculation of a Debt-to-Ebitda ratio on a quarterly basis

The UK senior loan facility contains four financial covenant calculations required on a quarterly basis. These are a cashflow cover ratio, a loan to value ratio, a senior interest cover ratio and a senior leverage ratio.

#### Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

..... continued

#### Other risks

The company is subject to certain financial risks as a result of being guarantor to loans held by the company's direct and indirect parent companies. Details of how these companies manage specific risks are set out in the financial statements of those companies. Details of how to obtain copies of these financial statements are set out in note 21 to these accounts.

#### Going concern

Given that the company forms part of the QMH Limited group and relies on the performance of the group, the directors of the company have taken into account the going concern assessment made by the directors of QMH Limited In considering the going concern status of the group the directors of QMH Limited have reviewed the period up to the date that the Mezzanine Facility is due to be repaid on 22 March 2013, and considered a number of different financial scenarios. As noted in Note 1 to the accounts, based on these forecasts, the group faces material uncertainties that may east doubt on its ability to meet its Covenants, which if breached would mean debt becoming repayable on demand and therefore may effect the company&apos,s ability to continue as a going concern. It will therefore have to take steps to ensure continued compliance with existing financial covenants. These steps include any or all of selective asset disposals, careful cash flow management and negotiations on its terms of finance with its lenders and shareholders. These steps are already underway with certain asset disposal processes reasonably progressed and discussions with lenders being taken forward. In the light of the information currently available to them, the directors of QMH Limited believe that the group will be able to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. On this basis, the directors consider it appropriate to prepare the company accounts on a going concern basis.

#### Disclosure of information to the auditors

Each director has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information. The directors confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and which they know the auditors are unaware of

#### Reappointment of auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are deemed to be reappointed in accordance with an elective resolution made under section 386 of the Companies Act 1985 which continued in force under the Companies Act 2006

Approved by the Board on 20 March 2012 and signed on its behalf by

S A Coughlan Company secreta

#### Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' 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 the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to

- · select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures
  disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and 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 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of ESB Hotels Limited

We have audited the financial statements of ESB Hotels Limited for the year ended 31 December 2011, set out on pages 7 to 18, which comprise the Profit and Loss account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

#### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities (set out on page 4), the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing

#### Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed, the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors, and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Directors' Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

#### Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2011 and of its loss for the year then ended,
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice,
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

#### **Emphasis of matter**

In forming our opinion on the statutory group financial statements, which is not qualified, we have considered the adequacy of the disclosures made in the Basis of Preparation note to the financial statements concerning the company and it's parent's ability to continue as a going concern. In the directors' view, QMH Limited is likely to have to take steps to ensure continued compliance with existing financial covenants. Such steps include any or all of selective asset disposals, careful cash flow management and negotiations on its terms of finance with its lenders and shareholders. If covenants are breached debt would become repayable on demand and indicates the existence of material uncertainties which may cast doubt about QMH Limited and all of its subsidiaries ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the company were unable to continue as a going concern.

#### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of ESB Hotels Limited

#### ..... continued

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- · the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, or
- · certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made, or
- · we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit



John Ellis (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
1 Embankment Place
London
WC2N 6RH

21 March 2012

ESB Hotels Limited
Profit and Loss Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

	Note	2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
Turnover		11,329	11,860
Cost of sales		(7,028)	(7,544)
Gross profit		4,301	4,316
Administrative expenses		(6,789)	(6,832)
Other operating income	4	(10,000)	-
Operating loss	2	(12,488)	(2,516)
Other interest receivable and similar income	7	1	-
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation		(12,487)	(2,516)
Tax on loss on ordinary activities	8	1,117	
Loss for the financial year	16	(11,370)	(2,516)

Turnover and operating loss derive wholly from continuing operations

The company has no recognised gains or losses for the year other than the results above and, therefore, no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been prepared. There is no difference between the loss on ordinary activities before taxation and the loss for the year stated above and their historical cost equivalents.

# (Registration number: 2999276)

# Balance Sheet at 31 December 2011

	Note	2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	2,480	2,412
Current assets			
Stocks	10	72	69
Debtors	11	4,407	4,546
Cash at bank and in hand		11	13
		4,490	4,628
Creditors Amounts falling due within one year	12	(14,530)	(13,230)
Net current liabilities		(10,040)	(8,602)
Total assets less current liabilities		(7,560)	(6,190)
Provisions for liabilities	14	(10,000)	
Net liabilities		(17,560)	(6,190)
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	15	<u> </u>	
Profit and loss account	16	(17,560)	(6,190)

Approved by the Board on 20 March 2012 and signed on its behalf by

M Rosenberg Director

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

#### 1 Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of freehold and long leasehold properties and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and applicable accounting standards in the United Kingdom. The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently throughout the year are set out below.

#### Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The company is exempt from preparing a cash flow statement as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of QMH Limited and the cashflows of the company are included in the consolidated cashflow statement of that company Consequently, the company is exempt under the provisions of Financial Reporting Standard 1 (revised 1996) "Cash Flow Statements" from publishing a cashflow statement

#### Going concern

The balance sheet set out on page 8 shows the company has net current liabilities of £10,040,000 and net liabilities of £17,560,000 at 31 December 2011 Included in these net current liabilities is £13,483,000 due to other group companies which have been treated as payable within one year. However, these group companies have indicated that they have no current intention of calling for repayment until the company has the necessary funds available.

In the last two years, the group has successfully refinanced its principal borrowings. As set out in the Directors Report, the group's debt is subject to a number of covenants. As a result of the ongoing difficult trading conditions, particularly in the United Kingdom and The Netherlands, management believe that there is a risk of a covenant breach during the next twelve months unless specific steps are taken to prevent it. Such steps could include any or all of selective assets disposals, careful cash management and negotiations on its terms of finance with Lenders. Such steps are already underway.

If covenants are breached debt would become repayable on demand and therefore may effect the group and company's ability to continue as a going concern Nevertheless, after considering the uncertainties disclosed and the actions underway, the directors have concluded that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis. These financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the company were unable to continue as a going concern.

#### Turnover

Turnover is the total income receivable for goods supplied and services rendered, excluding VAT and similar sales taxes. The principal revenue streams are for room accommodation and food and beverage sales which is recognised at the point at which the goods and services are delivered to the customer. Revenue is also generated through leisure club membership fees which are recognised on a straight line basis over the membership period.

#### Depreciation

Leasehold land is depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease, or such longer period where the anticipated renewal is considered to be sufficiently certain and is calculated to reflect the consumption of value over the lease term

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual values, on a straight line basis over the expected useful economic lives of the assets concerned Buildings are separated into identifiable components with significantly different useful economic lives as follows

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

#### ..... continued

#### Asset class

Depreciation method and rate

L ng leasehold buildings

25 to 75 years

Properties on leases with less than 25 years to run at the

over the unexpired period of the lease

balance sheet date

4 to 7 years

Fixtures and fittings
Plant and equipment

3 to 15 years

#### Fixed asset investments

All tangible fixed assets are recorded at historical cost, being their purchase cost, together with any incidental expenses of acquisition

#### Stocks, work in progress and long-term contracts

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Net realisable value is based on selling price less anticipated costs to completion and selling costs.

#### Deferred tax

Full provision is made for deferred tax arising from timing differences between recognition of gains and losses in the financial statements and their recognition in tax computations, where future payment or receipt is more likely than not to occur

Deferred tax assets are regarded as recoverable and therefore recognised only when, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted

Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is provided on a non-discounted basis.

#### Leases

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the lease term

#### Pensions

Both the company and certain individuals make contributions into either a Group Stakeholder Pension or a Group Pension Fund Company contributions are expensed through the profit and loss as incurred

#### 2 Operating loss

Operating loss is stated after charging

	2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
Operating leases rentals	4,007	4,004
Depreciation of owned assets	576	590

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011 ...... continued

#### 3 Auditor's remuneration

Auditors' remuneration for the year ended 31 December 2011 amounting to £1,000 (2010 £1,000) has been borne by QMH UK Limited on behalf of the company

#### 4 Exceptional items

	2011	2010
	£ 000	£ 000
Onerous leases	10,000	

The exceptional charge is a provision for three onerous leases

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011 ...... continued

5	Particulars of employees	_	
	The average number of persons employed by the company (including direcategory was as follows	ctors) during the ye	ar, analysed by
		2011 No.	2010 No.
	Other departments	200	204
	Other departments represent the average number of employees in the compar	ny	
	The aggregate payroll costs were as follows		
		2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
	Wages and salaries	3,171	3,156
	Social security costs	204	217
	Staff pensions	47	37
		3,422	3,410
6	Directors' remuneration		
	The fees of Mr Rieck and Mr Rosenberg were paid by QMH Limited, no rec	harge was made to t	he company
	W2001 Britannia LLC and W2001 Two CV received no remuneration for company or any of the company's fellow subsidiaries	or their services as	directors of the
7	Other interest receivable and similar income		
		2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
	Bank interest receivable	1	•
8	Taxation		
	Tax on loss on ordinary activities	2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
	Commentation	£ 000	£ 000
	Current tax		

(1,117)

Corporation tax credit

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

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#### Factors affecting current tax charge for the year

Tax on loss on ordinary activities for the year is higher than (2010 - higher than) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 26 5%  $(20 \ 0 - 28\%)$ 

The differences are reconciled below

	2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	(12,487)	(2,516)
Corporation tax at standard rate	(3,309)	(704)
Depreciation for the period in excess of capital allowances	152	165
Adjustments in respect of previous periods	2,650	-
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	3	1
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods	(613)	-
Utilisation of tax losses		538
Total current tax	(1,117)	_

#### Factors that may affect future tax charges

Losses available but not recognised, subject to agreement with the relevant tax authorities to set against future profits of the company amount to £4,795,000 (2010 £6,118,000)

The company has not recognised any net deferred tax assets in respect of losses available of £3,971,000 (2010 £2,425,000) and Accelerated Capital Allowances of £810,000 (2010 £712,000) Subject to changes in tax legislation, the directors do not expect sufficient taxable profits to arise to utilise these tax losses and unclaimed allowances, in the foreseeable future Given current economic circumstances, there is currently insufficient evidence to support recognition of a deferred tax asset

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

..... continued

# 9 Tangible fixed assets

# Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and	
	fittings £ 000	Total £ 000
Cost or valuation		
At 1 January 2011	4,760	4,760
Additions	644	644
At 31 December 2011	5,404	5,404
Depreciation	<del></del> -	
At 1 January 2011	2,348	2,348
Charge for the year	576	576
At 31 December 2011	2,924	2,924
Net book value		
At 31 December 2011	2,480	2,480
At 31 December 2010	2,412	2,412

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

..... continued

#### 10 Stocks

1

	2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
Stocks	72	69
1 Debtors		
	2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
Trade debtors	351	277
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	205
Other debtors	-	1
Prepayments and accrued income	4,056	4,063
	4,407	4,546

Included within amounts owed to group undertakings is a non-interest bearing loan to QMH Limited of £206,000 (2010 £206,000) This loan is repayable on demand, on giving thirty days notice, however, the company has no current intention of calling for repayment

#### 12 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
	2 000	
Trade creditors	284	362
Amounts owed to group undertakings	13,483	12,125
Other creditors	283	191
Accruals and deferred income	480	552
	14,530	13,230

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

..... continued

Included within amounts owed to group undertakings is a non-interest bearing loans from QMH UK Limited of £556,000 (2010 £556,000) This loan is repayable on demand, however, the directors of QMH UK Limited have informed the company that they have no current intention of calling for repayment

# 13 Creditors. Amounts falling due after more than one year

Creditors amounts falling due after more than one year includes the following liabilities, on which security has been given by the company

2011 2010 £ 000 £ 000

1 deferred share of £1

The deferred share carries no right to participate in the distribution of profits by way of dividend. On a return of assets on a winding up (but not otherwise) the surplus assets of the company remaining after payment of its liabilities and the capital paid up on the ordinary shares, shall be applied in paying the capital paid up on the deferred share, any balance being distributed among the ordinary shareholders. The deferred share carries no right to attend or vote at any general meeting unless a resolution is to be proposed at such a meeting for the amendment, variation or modification of the company's objects or memorandum of association or any abrogation, variation or modification of any of the rights and privileges attached to the deferred share. In such event, the holder shall be entitled to attend, speak and vote only in respect of these resolutions.

#### 14 Provisions

	Other provision £ 000	Total £ 000
At 1 January 2011	•	-
Charged to the profit and loss account	10,000	10,000
At 31 December 2011	10,000	10,000

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

..... continued

#### 15 Share capital

Allotted, called up and fully paid shares					
		2011		010	
	No	£	No.	£	
1 Ordinary of £1 each					
16 Reserves					
			Profit and loss account £ 000	Total £ 000	
At 1 January 2011			(6,190	) (6,190)	
Loss for the year			(11,370	(11,370)	
At 31 December 2011			(17,560	(17,560)	
17 Reconciliation of movement in sl	hareholders' fu	ınds			
			2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000	
Loss attributable to the members o	f the company		(11,370	(2,516)	
Net reduction to shareholders' fund	is		(11,370	(2,516)	
Shareholders' deficit at 1 January			(6,190	(3,674)	
Shareholders' deficit at 31 Decemb	per		(17,560	(6,190)	

#### 18 Contingent liabilities

On 24 November 2004 the company entered into a guarantee providing fixed and floating charges over its assets, together with certain other subsidiary undertakings, to secure a mezzanine loan held by QMH Limited, which at 31 December 2011 amounted to £157 6 million (2010 £158 8 million)

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2011

..... continued

#### 19 Commitments

#### Capital commitments

Amounts contracted for but not provided in the financial statements amounted to £7,000 (2010 - £100,000)

#### Operating lease commitments

As at 31 December 2011 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows

Operating leases which expire

	2011 £ 000	2010 £ 000
Land and buildings		
Over five years	4,006	4,004
Other	<del></del>	
Within one year	17	17
Within two and five years	1	
	18	17

#### 20 Related party transactions

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of QMH Limited Consequently it has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS8 "Related Party Disclosures" from disclosing transactions with other members of the group

#### 21 Ultimate parent company

The company is a subsidiary of QMH Limited, which owns the entire share capital of the company and is incorporated in England and Wales Copies of QMH Limited's consolidated financial statements are available from its registered office at 9-17 Eastern Road, Romford, Essex, RM1 3NG. The directors consider the company's ultimate holding company to be W2001 Britannia LLC who is the majority shareholder and is a limited liability company formed under the laws of the State of Delaware on 29 April 2004.

W2001 Britannia LLC is wholly owned and controlled by four separate Delaware limited partnerships Whitehall Street Global Real Estate Limited Partnership 2001, Whitehall Street International Real Estate Limited Partnership 2001, Whitehall Street Global Employee Fund 2001, L P and Whitehall Street International Employee Fund 2001 (Delaware), L P each formed in 2001 The sole general partner of each Whitehall 2001 Partnership is a Delaware limited liability company, and each said partner is wholly owned by Goldman Sachs The limited partners of each Whitehall Partnership include (as applicable) Goldman Sachs, institutional investors, employees of Goldman Sachs and its affiliates