Novel Coronavirus COVID-19

December 2020

apetito proud of its stance not to take Government support during the COVID-Crisis

With the recent press coverage around Companies that have chosen to repay some of the Government support they have received as a result of the COVID crisis, we wanted to clarify our position.

The COVID crisis has created both opportunities and significant challenges across our business, with some markets increasing in volume and other decreasing. However, the overall impact has been positive and we recognise that we have been one of the fortunate ones.

From the very beginning of the crisis, we made a decision that it would be inappropriate for us to seek or accept any Government subsidy or support (such as Rates relief). We also decided that we would not furlough any of our team, even if they worked in areas that had been adversely affected by the crisis. We are extremely proud of the commitment shown by our team, over 140 of whom re-deployed into other roles.

Every one of our front-line team have recently shared a special "COVID bonus" equivalent to an additional weeks pay to reflect the manner in which they have stepped up to meet the needs of our customers. These front-line staff will also participate in our annual team apetito bonus scheme which will pay out the equivalent of an additional 2 week's pay in January. We are also proud to have been accredited real living wage employers for the last 5 years.

Over recent months, we have been undertaking COVID testing in critical areas - investing over £120,000 to protect our team and business. This has been widely welcomed by our team. We have now been approached by Government and are embarking on a rapid-testing trial as part of their pilot programme to determine the best way to move to rapid mass testing.

Supported by our outstanding team, we believe that we have acted in a responsible way to protect NHS Hospitals, Care Homes, Nurseries and consumers in their home across the UK.

Paul Freeston
Chair & CEO, apetito UK & North America