

# Sustainability review continued



## NATURAL CAPITAL

### WATER CONSUMPTION

Reducing water consumption remains a joint effort between employees and guests. We encourage guests to help reduce water consumption without minimising their experience. Our newer and refurbished hotels reduced the number of rooms with baths to approximately 60% of the total complement. We also installed low-flow showerheads and taps and are evaluating other ways to reduce overall water consumption.

CLHG relies on municipal supplies for water, although some of our South African hotels use borehole water for property maintenance. We are looking into increasing the utilisation of borehole water. This involves the installation of filtration plants to ensure the water is fit for human consumption. The first plant is being trialled in Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth), and thereafter focus will shift to Gauteng. This adds to the group's operational sustainability rather than our direct environmental sustainability of reducing consumption, as it provides an alternative to traditional infrastructure and enhances business continuity especially as the steady supply of water is impacted by the aging water supply infrastructure in South Africa.

The total water consumption for the period was 410 942kℓ (2021: 312 112 kℓ), a 98 830kℓ, or 32%, increase year on year.

We are also responsible for managing water quality at our properties, achieved by using biodegradable chemicals and products, installing grease traps, and implementing saltwater chlorinators for swimming pools.

### ANIMAL WELFARE

There has been much discussion around the subject of layer hens and the environment in which they are kept, specifically in respect of whether the layer hens are kept in cages. Eggs that are not cage-free are often cheaper and are more easily sourced, but the conditions in which the hens are kept are unacceptable to CLHG and to support the suppliers of non-cage-free eggs goes directly against the values of the group. Our guests demand food that is safe, healthy and grown sustainably. We acknowledge public concern and the wishes of our guests and are determined to ensure that our product supply chain is ethical and transparent.

In January 2020, the group publicly committed to only serving 100% cage-free eggs throughout its operations by 2025. We partnered with Humane Society International-Africa (HSI-Africa) on its journey towards offering eggs and egg products sourced in this way. CLHG Environmental currently serves approximately 1.4 million eggs annually of which 55% are cage-free.

Our sustainability committee has also recently raised proposals in respect of sourcing crate-free pork, which is sourced from sows that are not kept in gestation crates for the duration of their pregnancies. In the upcoming financial year, these proposals will be investigated and considered by the Exco.

### COMPLIANCE

The group complies with the following South African legislation relevant to environmental sustainability:

- Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act, 45 of 1965
- Environment Conservation Act, 73 of 1989
- National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998
- National Water Act, 36 of 1998
- Occupational Health and Safety Act, 85 of 1993
- Water Services Act, 108 of 1997

No environmental accidents occurred during the year, nor were any environmental-related fines imposed on the group.

The group currently does not have any biodiversity management plans in place.

