

## TORTILLA PUBLISHES FIRST ESG REPORT

## Report sets out the Group's sustainability commitments and its vision for the future

**London, 14 September 2022**: Tortilla, the UK's largest fast-casual Mexican restaurant brand, has published its first Environment Social Governance (ESG) report.

The report sets out the Group's sustainability commitments and five areas of focus for future initiatives, which are aligned to the United Nations Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs), and the Group's ESG performance for the 2021 financial year and the first six months of 2022.

Tortilla's ESG strategy is based on three core pillars:

- to reduce its impact on the **environment**;
- to attract, develop and retain its **people** and core values; and
- to enhance its positive impact on **society and the communities** where it operates

Highlights of Tortilla's progress in line with these focus areas include; maintaining zero waste to landfill status, procuring 100% renewal electricity and offsetting gas, turning all waste cooking oil into biodiesel, launching a partnership with food waste organisation Too Good To Go with all raised funds going to ESG initiatives, launching a local burrito donations programme, driving wellbeing and career progression through the Tortilla apprenticeship scheme, and raising more than £37,000 for charity over the past year.

The Company's commitments include developing a net zero roadmap, verified by the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi), and implementing strategies to reach this; reducing waste; improving data capture across all staff and implementing further training initiatives to aid retention and support long-term career progression; and finally, to strengthen governance around ESG including through becoming ISO 27001 certified by 2023.

**Richard Morris, Chief Executive Officer at Tortilla, commented:** "We are proud to be sharing our first ESG report, as we emerge from and continue to navigate what has been a very challenging period for many. The pandemic and the months since have shown the importance of building a business that is resilient and sustainable in its operations, and customers are expecting this from us now more than ever.

"The urgency of issues such as climate change and growing socio-economic challenges is clear, and our focus now is on our plans and commitments to reducing our impact on the environment while enhancing our positive impact on our communities and society as a whole. This will be a central part of our business operations moving forward, and I look forward to reporting on our progress in this area over the coming years."

Tortilla's first ESG report 2022 is available to read in full at: <u>www.tortillagroup.co.uk/corporate-governance/</u>

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## Alignment to United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Tortilla has chosen five UN SDGs to align with:

- Ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture
  - Our menu boasts fresh ingredients hand-made from whole foods to leave our guests feeling full and nourished.
  - We support local and charitable communities in the global fight against hunger.
  - Through our 'Burritos to the rescue' (burrito donations) programme, launched in 2020, we have donated thousands of burritos to local shelters, homeless charities and emergency services.
- Ensuring healthy lives and promoting wellbeing for all at all ages
  - We feed our customers and crew great tasting, fresh quality food that supports a healthy balanced diet, with a free meal for team members on duty.
  - We commit to promoting plant-based eating in our restaurants: 70% of our ingredients are vegan and we add new options every year.
  - Crew are provided with online wellbeing support and regular team building events.
- Ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns
  - We strive to source sustainably produced ingredients and we aim to inform our customers about where their food comes from so they can make better choices.
  - We commit to keeping our food waste to a minimum of 1.5% of our sales and redistribute any surplus food to those who need it in the community by partnering with organisations such as Too Good To Go.
- Taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
  - All 40 of our managed locations procure 100% renewable electricity, guaranteed by Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) certificates.
  - We have set ambitious goals to measure and mitigate our carbon emissions moving forward, including our commitment to becoming Net-Zero.
- Protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably managing forests, combating desertification and halting and reversing land degradation and biodiversity loss
  - We are aiming to carry out a biodiversity assessment of all our key ingredients to ensure that we are doing everything in our power to ensure we only source ingredients from sustainably managed forests and farms.