



For **GMB** Members in **ASDA STORES**

GMB – YOUR “VOICE” IN ASDA

August 2014 - 83

CANTEEN UPDATE – Superstores & Living

Dear Colleagues,

Further to previous **GMB Newsbriefs**. Colleagues at Superstores/Supercentres should recently have been briefed by your local management teams that **GMB** have managed to persuade the company of the importance of retaining the canteens for hot serve Breakfasts for Superstores. This has been a hard fought achievement. Thousands of colleagues responded to **GMB** surveys, and thousands of signatures were collected on petitions. Not forgetting the hard yards that were needed to be put in producing a **GMB** study and a well researched **GMB** counter proposal based which established that the vast majority of **GMB** members and Asda colleagues preferred to retain a hot serve for breakfasts.

Your **GMB** national forum colleagues and your **GMB** regional organisers conducted many listening exercises amongst colleagues, and provided support to those **GMB** members that were potentially impacted by the canteens hot serve closure. As a result of the work undertaken by **GMB**, the company Chief Operating Officer and People Director met with **GMB** National Forum colleagues, to inform **GMB** that they had examined the counter proposals including the costs savings of 10.7m. The company confirmed that they had been persuaded by **GMB** counter proposals.

GMB is delighted that the company listened and accepted **GMB** proposals to keep the option for a hot serve for Breakfasts at Superstores. **GMB** is also delighted that the company brought colleagues at Living stores into line with colleagues at supermarkets, who will now be provided with free tea/coffee etc. The five trial stores that had their canteens removed, as a result of **GMB** and Asda saving the hot serve breakfast, the company will now put back those canteens facilities that were removed.

However we are mindful that with the reduction in hot food service at Superstores some colleagues will be impacted. **GMB** will be working hard to ensure those colleagues impacted are treated fairly and are offered redeployment if they wish to continue with ASDA. The overall impact on colleague numbers is now vastly reduced, because of the retention of breakfasts. **GMB and Asda by working together have now saved hundreds of jobs as a result of keeping the canteens open.**

Yours Sincerely,

Mick Rix

Mick Rix
National Officer
GMB

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