

Fire Safety - Emergency Exit Routes and Fire Exits Asda Retail and GMB Union Joint Compliance Communication

Every year fire costs businesses and the United Kingdom economy billions of pounds. The effects of a fire in the workplace can be devastating in terms of lives lost, injuries, psychological impact, damage to property, damage to the environment and impact on business. Most fires are preventable through effective fire safety management.

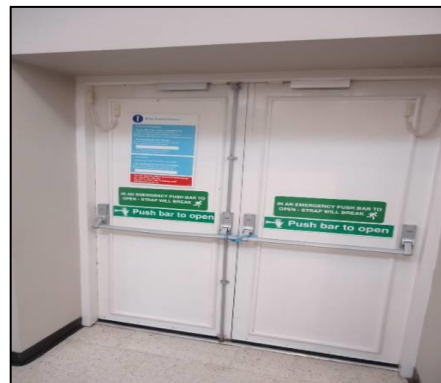
The GMB and ASDA are working in partnership to promote fire safety in the workplace. A fundamental fire safety requirement is ensuring that all emergency exit routes and fire exits are kept clear and free from obstruction both internally and externally at all times. This helps to ensure that all customers, colleagues and visitors can safely and quickly evacuate the premises in the event of a fire or an emergency situation.

To safeguard the safety of all of our customers, colleagues and visitors and to ensure ASDA continues to be recognised as a safe place to work and safe place to shop, it is important that we work together to manage fire safety effectively across all ASDA premises. To support this aim, all colleagues are required to complete the following actions when carrying out their daily duties.

Actions

1. **All colleagues** must regularly check to ensure that all emergency exits routes and all fire exits are kept clear and unobstructed at all times. This helps to ensure all customers, colleagues and visitors can evacuate the premises safely and quickly in the event of a fire or emergency situation
2. **All colleagues** must regularly check to ensure that all fire exits doors are never locked or fastened at any time when the store is open. This helps to ensure they can be easily and immediately opened by any person who may be required to use them in a fire or emergency situation
3. **All colleagues** are encouraged to support effective operational fire safety management in store by applying the 'Don't Walk By' principle at all times
4. **All colleagues** must ensure that if they identify any escape route or a fire exit door is blocked or obstructed internally or externally the obstruction is removed immediately and the matter is reported to the GSM/SM or Duty Cover straightaway
5. **All colleagues** must ensure fire extinguishers are unobstructed and located off the floor on either wall mountings or on fire extinguisher stands

WAGJLL: Routes to emergency fire exits and fire exit doors are kept clear and unobstructed.



If you have any concerns relating to the ethical behaviour or actions of anyone within the business then you can contact the Asda Ethics Hotline confidentially on:
Email: aethic@Asda.co.uk or report anonymously (via Expolink) 0800 318405