

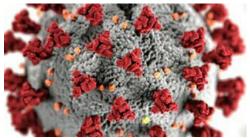
GMB YOUR VOICE IN ASDA

March 2020

Coronavirus Update

Colleagues,

As you will be well aware, the Coronavirus, and by proxy the disease caused by it called COVID-19, has been slowly appearing across the UK. Government advice has been to take good precautions with your health and hygiene and if you have concerns call 111 where you could be advised to self-isolate.



Our Asda members interact with the public on a daily basis, and in the case of our home shopping drivers they also go into customers' homes. With this in mind, we have asked Asda to look at this interaction within the customers home and asked for the company to make interim control measures, to include not entering the customer's property, for the protection of members.

After initial discussions with Asda, GMB London Region can confirm that Asda have put in place contingencies to support colleagues. Full sick pay from day one for all colleague's self-isolating due to contracting the virus, for a period of 2 weeks, and irrespective of your current sick pay entitlements. The company is also trying to source antibacterial hand sanitiser for colleagues. This however is proving difficult due to shortage of stock in the UK.

Asda have also agreed that colleagues are free to leave their working area and wash their hands more frequently. We are awaiting ASDA guidelines upon drivers entering customer's property. GMB London Region advises that drivers should make their own assessment on whether they feel safe entering a customer's house to make a delivery.

Full sick pay from day 1 was suggested by GMB to ensure that our members didn't feel that they had to come into work due to their financial situation, and put other colleagues at risk of infection. We commend Asda for implementing the full Company Sick Pay in line with the Government guidelines, and for offering an additional 2 weeks sick pay outside of normal entitlement.

GMB London Region will continue to work with Asda to ensure that we respond to the evolving situation and make recommendations to the company that will keep our members safe and healthy.

If you're a GMB member needing support or advice about this matter, or any other issue you have in the workplace, speak to your local GMB Shop Steward, visit www.gmb-asda.com/support, or call our office at 01603 626492

Regards,

Nathan Clarke

GMB National Shop Steward

GMB London Region

For assistance visit the GMB Members Support Centre www.gmb-asda.com/support