

Asda Consultation Update

Dear Colleagues

A further meeting took place yesterday 26th January in Leeds between management, National Forum representatives and National Officials.

This meeting was also attended by Haley Tatum and Glen Bowles from ASDA's executive board who were anxious to hear the views and any alternative proposals from the GMB.

The meeting focused on feedback to date from the National Representatives to the company proposals. Management were made aware of the concerns raised by colleagues over the proposal to withdraw the canteen facilities and the impact this was having on morale, this when combined with the possible job losses also announced was having a major impact on colleagues.

The executive members attending the meeting understood the GMB position regarding these proposals and made it clear that they were open to working jointly to explore every opportunity available to mitigate the impact on colleagues.

- With regard to the Canteens they accepted the proposal by the GMB to look into the viability of a Third Party vendor for Canteens. A small working group has been set up (including two of the National Reps) to review the viability of all this and possible other options for the future.
- On Photo Shops we were aware of the interest shown by an interested party in taking over this in store provision, however, at this stage due to commercial requirements to their shareholders and discussions being at an early stage there was no update available. As soon as there is anything to report on this matter we will be informed.
- Further discussions also took place regarding Selling Champions, George Desks Pharmacies. These would be continued and the meeting scheduled for next week regarding the potential impact.

Proposals raised by GMB at the meeting were that any Redundancies should be based on a Voluntary basis, also an enhanced redundancy package to be made available, and a copy of any Selection Criteria for redundancy that the company would propose to use in this current situation, along with any appeals process.

We appreciate the uncertainty and anxiety of colleagues during this difficult consultation process. In the interim can you please pass on any comments or questions to your National forum reps for inclusion in the meeting scheduled for Tuesday of next week.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Donaldson

Harry Donaldson
National

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