
WILKINSON

REDUCTIONS IN HOURS

Dear Colleagues,

Many Team Members will be aware that the company has brought forward proposals to reduce hours at certain stores, due to reductions in sales. The company continues to consult with your GMB Convenors, Keith Espin and Billy Gaskell, regards the company proposals including the number of sites affected.

Keith and Billy have been doing an excellent job, along with the management team, in reducing the number of stores affected to just over 80, where the company original proposals affected in **excess of 100 stores**.

All GMB regions were given private and confidential advance notice of the proposals by the company. This at a time when we were considering the pay claim deferment, and other cost cutting and restructuring issues the company are implementing. Consultation now moves on to local level, where the company will try to agree arrangements on the reductions in hours that were dealt with in the main company zone consultation meetings. It is to be hoped where there is still a requirement to reduce hours at a particular store, an agreement can be reached that enables this option to be undertaken. Otherwise, this may affect employment levels at that store. We know members will be upset by the recent company announcements. This is an unsettling time for everyone. The economic recession brought about by bad policies, is having a devastating effect on retail, and especially High Street retail.

If colleagues feel that they need to speak with their GMB Convenors on this matter, they will be more than pleased to assist and advise where they can, their contact details **are below**. We will keep all Team Members updated on all further significant developments, and may I again thank you all, for your kind support and assistance in this matter, especially in these very difficult times,

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE GMB Convenors,

Yours sincerely,

Mick Rix

Mick Rix
GMB National Officer

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