

Mr C O'Shea
Chief Executive
Centrica
(via email: chris.oshea@centrica.com)

Councillor James Lewis
Leader of Leeds City Council
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Our ref JL/DC
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Dear Mr O'Shea

We have been contacted by residents in Leeds who work for Centrica who have raised concerns regarding your negotiations with their trade union GMB.

At Leeds City Council we have a commitment to social value. We expect employers to recognise trade unions and offer good terms of employment and good rates of pay. As an organisation over the last five years we have spent £9.1 million with Centrica. As such, we feel we must highlight our concerns about your ongoing dispute with British Gas workers in our city.

We were particularly shocked to hear about threats to fire and rehire workers in Leeds if they do not accept the changes proposed. It is also concerning to hear about the potential impact of strikes on British Gas customers in Leeds, with increasing delays to repair and service visits.

We would urge you to continue negotiations with the GMB trade union and reach a deal with the workforce instead of imposing one on them.

We hope that you can change course, withdraw the fire and rehire threat, and resume meaningful negotiations to ensure a shared recovery for the company.

Yours sincerely



Councillor James Lewis
Leader of Leeds City Council



Councillor Debra Coupar
Deputy Leader of Leeds City Council