

'Grinch' chemical company cancels Christmas holidays for striking workers



Thomas Swan has cancelled Christmas for workers

A 'Grinch' Durham chemical company cancelled workers' Christmas holidays after they voted for strike action

Almost 100 GMB members at Thomas Swan, in Consett, have overwhelmingly voted to take industrial action over a real terms pay cut.



The company has now cancelled all prebooked holidays over the Christmas period.

Five 24 hour strikes will take place on 30 Nov, Dec 7, 14 and 21 and 4 Jan.

A revised offer of 5.1 per cent – capped at £1,000, meaning the vast majority of the workforce would get even less – was overwhelmingly rejected.

Laura Maughan, GMB Organiser, said:

“GMB members at Thomas Swan worked tirelessly through the pandemic, placing their loved ones at risk, in dedication to the company.

“Instead of showing respect to their employees for their hard work, Thomas Swan has resorted to Grinch tactics – cancelling all prebooked holidays over the festive period.

“This means workers will not be able to spend time with their loved ones – many of them have young children they will no longer see during the holidays.

“Thomas Swan has stolen Christmas.

“GMB urges Thomas Swan to negotiate and reach an amicable resolution. Our door remains open for such talks to take place to end this dispute.”

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Member requiring help?

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