

Asda faces strike threat over pay freeze



Asda faces potential industrial action as GMB Union ballots workers over Asda's failure to make a meaningful pay offer.

The supermarket giant failed to offer distribution staff a meaningful pay offer - which, with inflation rampant, is a kick in the teeth for their key workers.

In 2020 Asda's directors trousered £12.6 million in pay and share based payments - a whopping 30 per cent increase on the previous year.

Meanwhile the company turned an operating profit of **£486 million in the year to 31 December 2020.**



ASDA and GMB are currently locked in a long-running equal pay claim on behalf of **40,000 Asda workers over whether the predominantly female shop floor workforce deserves equal pay to that of those in the distribution centre.**

The ballot closes on 20 December.

Nadine Houghton, GMB National Officer, said:

"Asda workers turned up throughout the covid pandemic risking their lives to keep the nation fed – as well as helping the company turn a profit of almost £500 million.

"Staff who saw colleagues lose their lives to covid are not having their legitimate demands for a pay rise treated seriously.

"Asda now say GMB members pay claim is 'unaffordable' and yet their hard work and sacrifice helped directors trouser almost £10 million between them.

"It's a disgrace – we urge Asda workers to fight for what they deserve and vote YES for a ballot for industrial action."

Press office

079859 1525698

press.office@gmb.org.uk

Member requiring help?

Click to contact your local GMB Region

info@gmb.org.uk

