

ASOS 'playing Russian Roulette with people's lives'



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ASOS are 'playing Russian roulette with people's lives' as they refuse to enforce social distancing in packed warehouses amid the Coronavirus crisis

The fast fashion giant, which has decided to stay open despite Government advice, has up to 4,000 people at its warehouse in Grimethorpe, Barnsley.

Workers report no social distancing measures, a complicated clocking in system which means large numbers of people gather in a small area, and hundreds of workers all breaking for lunch at the same



time.

 ambulance

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Those working in the warehouse feel Government guidelines with regards to PPE and social distancing are being completely ignored.

One worker said: "It'll be like a domino effect, if one gets it, we'll all get it and people will lose their lives.

Another said: "They are playing roulette with people's lives."

A third added: "I'm currently in isolation as I live with someone who is high risk. However, because I have been told I am not sick myself I will not be entitled to sick pay. So I'm currently off work unpaid."

Deanne Ferguson, GMB Organiser, said:

"The situation at ASOS is disgusting – thousands of people under one roof, not enforcing social distancing.



"It looks exactly like a hot bed of infection – and workers are very scared.

"ASOS needs to put people before profits and make sure workers are the are distance apart and paid properly if they need to take time off.

"Anything else is putting unnecessary lives at risk."

Stephanie Peacock, MP for Barnsley East, said:

"I have spoken to a number of concerned workers employed at the ASOS warehouse in Grimethorpe who feel that profit is being put before their health in this national crisis.

"It is imperative that we all do our bit to stop the spread of coronavirus, saving future lives.

"ASOS employs more than 4000 workers in the UK. They shouldn't have to put theirs and their family's wellbeing on the line for a pay check.

"I have written to the CEO expressing my concern and will do all I can to make sure workers across Barnsley East are able to do their jobs in safe conditions.

"We should treat workers in London and the north the same."

Sign our open letter to ASOS CEO Nick Beighton

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