

Almost 100 workers strike after 'Grinch' bosses cancel Christmas



Thomas Swan workers – many with young children – now won't see their families over Christmas.

Almost 100 Durham chemical workers will go on strike tomorrow [Wednesday] after 'Grinch bosses' cancelled their Christmas holidays.

GMB members Thomas Swan, in Consett, voted overwhelmingly to walk out over a real terms pay cut.

Following the vote, company bosses cancelled all prebooked holidays over the Christmas period.

The strike will last for 24 hours, with further industrial action set for Dec 7, 14 and 21 and 4 Jan.



A revised offer of 5.1 per cent – capped at £1,500 – was overwhelmingly rejected.

Laura Maughan, GMB Organiser, said:

"These dedicated Thomas Swan workers put their lives on the line to keep the company afloat during the pandemic.

"Instead of recognising that, the company has hit them with a real terms pay cut in the midst of a gruelling cost of living crisis.

"And if that wasn't enough, they've resorted to Grinch tactics – cancelling all prebooked holidays over the festive period.

"Thomas Swan workers – many with young children – now won't see their families over Christmas.

"They are understandably angry, but they are ready to negotiate. Thomas Swan just needs to make them a decent offer so they can make ends meet."

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Member requiring help?

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