

# Thousands of Asda distribution workers vote over strike action



## Asda pressuring key workers into self-funding pay increase via cuts to their sick pay

Thousands of Asda workers begin a consultative vote on industrial action today [6 April 2022] over proposed cuts to their sick pay and a real terms pay cut

Bosses are trying to force through a pay deal which would see loyal workers lose sick pay entitlement – including the first three days of paid sick pay in any sickness absence and the last 13 to 26 weeks of sick pay

The sick pay scheme was introduced in 2012 when Asda distribution workers were at increased risk of workplace stress and musculo-skeletal issues due to higher pick rates.



The consultative ballot of nearly 8,000 GMB members working in driver, warehouse and clerical roles ends on 4 May.



asda

**Nadine Houghton, GMB National Officer, said:**

“These workers kept the nation fed during the pandemic when, in 2020, Asda’s executives awarded themselves a 38.8 per cent pay increase.

“It’s sad that Asda now want to use the cost-of-living crisis to try to pressure these key workers into self-funding their own pay increase via cuts to their sick pay.

“With inflation soaring above 8 per cent and the UK facing the worst drop in living standards in fifty years, it’s time these workers need a proper pay rise to help them make ends meet.”

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