

# GMB Midland & East Coast region: standing with the British Gas strikers.

14 Jan 2021

**When working people are threatened by their employer, the GMB doesn't back down. That's why GMB Midland & East Coast region is backing the British Gas strike fund with a £10,000 donation.**

This week the GMB Midland & East Coast Regional Executive Committee have committed to donating £10,000 towards the British Gas strike fund. This strike fund has been established by the union to support and protect GMB members and their families taking industrial action at British Gas. British Gas workers across the Midland & East Coast Region have been out on strike for five days in January, with a further five days of industrial action announced for January and February.

<https://youtu.be/ExMJd5sHrgY>

This is in response to British Gas owners Centrica threatening to fire its entire UK workforce of 20,000 so that it could re-employ them on new terms. It sent out the statutory notice for these dismissals before negotiations had started on the proposed changes. The result was a massive breakdown in trust between the workforce and their employer.

**Martin Allen, Regional Secretary of the GMB Midland & East Coast said:**

"Our region has a long and proud tradition of backing GMB members taking industrial action against unfair, unjust and downright crooked decisions by bosses. This donation will go a long way to supporting British Gas workers and their families, who are all forgoing a day's pay to fight for what is right.

I hope this sends a clear message from our region to Chris O'Shea and the British Gas leadership, we're turning up the heat and we don't back down from a fight".

**Phil Soper, President of the GMB Midland & East Coast said:**

"This donation shows what this union is all about, standing shoulder to shoulder with your colleagues when the going gets tough. I'm proud our region is showing its solidarity with British Gas workers and I know this fund will go a long way to supporting striking workers across our region".



Contributions can be made to the strike fund at [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/british-gas-strike-fund](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/british-gas-strike-fund)

If you would like to discuss making a contribution from your GMB Branch, you can contact the GMB Midland & East Coast on 0115 960 7171.

