



Security firm forces workers to download tracking software to personal phones

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GMB, the union for security staff, has hit out at a 'big brother' company for forcing workers to download spying software to their personal mobile phones.

Churchill Security has written to employees saying they are 'expected' to use the application which will 'track locations' and 'update you of shift changes'.

“ This is appalling behaviour from a company trying to play big brother to hard working security guards.

Roger Jenkins, GMB National Officer

The letter adds 'it is the employees responsibility to ensure they have a working mobile phone at all times...disciplinary action may be taken due to an employee failing to comply with mobile phone policies'.

Churchill, based in Chorley, employs more than 160 people in across the UK, including in Cardiff Bay, Cheltenham, Watford, Milton Keynes, Bromley, Abingdon and London.

Roger Jenkins, GMB National Officer, said:



Updated Mobile Phone Agreement:

- 1.1 Mobile Phone Tracking – whilst employed by the company you will be expected to use various mobile phone applications and software to enable you to complete your duties, comply with procedures and respond to Lone Worker calls. These apps/processes will also update you of shift changes, site specific requirements and much more. The apps are mainly used to ensure your safety as it is possible to track location and check calls to ensure we know you are always safe. It is for this reason that you are required to allow tracking on your personal mobile phone whilst you are at work and by signing this agreement you are accepting these conditions. Whilst using the tracking we do not record or disclose any of your data to any other party. It is solely used for H&S and quality purposes
- 1.2 Personal Mobile phones – with reference to 1.1; it is the employees responsibility to ensure they have a working mobile phone at all times. This includes outgoing and incoming calls, text messages (SMS) and adequate data usage to use the apps/software required by the business to carry out your duties. Not having a working mobile phone can put you and possibly others in danger and could affect you not receiving shift changes and updates from our Control Room. Disciplinary action may be taken due to an employee failing to comply with Mobile phone policies

By signing this agreement, I am opting in to utilize my mobile phone, tracking, data for the use of my employment only with Churchill Security Ltd. Churchill Security Ltd will only ever use the information for quality and health and safety reasons only.

Name: _____

Sign: _____

Date: _____

“This is appalling behaviour from a company trying to play big brother to hard working security guards.

“Our members are performing a difficult, dangerous job with enormous responsibility.

“These are the people we rely on, the first on the scene after atrocities like Westminster Bridge or the Manchester Arena.

“What they don’t need is employers making their job even harder, expecting them to download spy software onto their personal phones and tracking their every move.

“GMB calls on Churchill to do the decent thing and stop trying to force this totalitarian technology on security staff.”

