

#SAVEOURSTORES

GMB

U N I O N

## BREAKING NEWS: ASDA/SAINSBURY'S MERGER

Today an announcement was made about the Asda/Sainsbury's merger. I wanted to write to you straight away so you know what GMB Union is doing to protect members' jobs – that's our number one priority.

### What's the news?

For two supermarkets as big as Asda and Sainsbury's to merge, they need to get permission from the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA). The CMA is a body that makes sure no one company gets too big and controls the entire sector.

Today, the CMA said it has "extensive" concerns about the merger and could require Asda/Sainsbury's to sell a large number of stores and petrol stations as well as distribution centres servicing online operations.

The figures are still provisional, but concerns were raised about supermarkets in 629 areas, convenience stores in 65 local areas and delivery supply points in 290 local areas.

### What does that mean for Asda workers?

The CMA has said it is considering two options. It will either block the merger entirely, meaning it just doesn't go ahead, or it will require Asda/Sainsbury's to get rid of some stores. Given the scale of the concern from the CMA, and the numbers they are talking about, that could mean a risk to jobs – from stores and distribution, to head office and home shopping.



**Join the GMB campaign to block the takeover**  
Sign our [petition to the CMA now online at:](#)  
[www.gmb.org.uk/saveourstores](http://www.gmb.org.uk/saveourstores)

That is why GMB came out to firmly oppose the merger plans this morning. You can join the campaign calling on the CMA to block this merger here: [www.gmb.org.uk/saveourstores](http://www.gmb.org.uk/saveourstores)

This decision is about more than boardrooms, it's about Asda workers' lives, livelihoods and communities and we're going to make sure people know that.

### What will GMB Union do now?

First and foremost, we will campaign against this merger taking place. It is not good for Asda workers or for shoppers. Please encourage your Asda colleagues to sign up to the campaign too.

We have demanded an urgent meeting with Asda bosses and called for them to very quickly give certainty to you and your colleagues. We will step up pressure on the CMA to block the merger in the interests of protecting shoppers and workers alike. In the coming days and weeks we will be speaking to all Asda workplace reps and will make sure you are kept up to date.

### What can I do?

To support the campaign for Asda jobs right now, please join our call for the CMA to block the merger: [www.gmb.org.uk/saveourstores](http://www.gmb.org.uk/saveourstores)

It's vital we stand strong together and show the strength of opposition in communities across the country.

### Is there anything more I can do?

It has never been more important to be in GMB at Asda. If your colleagues haven't joined us yet, now's the time. Hundreds of Asda workers have been joining us each week online, they can join us at [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)