



## **National News for UNISON members in Cadent Gas - Consultation on Hinckley Exit**

**Dear UNISON Member**

**06/21**

UNISON met with the business again this week as part of the formal property consultation which is dealing with the recently announced proposal to close Block 1 at Hinckley. The consultation is ongoing and if you have concerns about your own situation please contact your local UNISON rep as soon as possible.

We have raised several issues with the business and have used the feedback from the UNISON survey to flag the areas of most concern. This has led to discussions on mitigations to address key problem areas should the proposal go ahead. We remain of the opinion that no jobs need to be lost through this location change.

These mitigations include.

- Provision of free transportation from Hinckley and other locations to the new office location at Ansty. Details of which have not yet been provided but the business is discussing with us how this might work including times and frequency etc.
- Development of new technology and support to enable all workers to work flexibly if this is an option that works for them. We have made clear that not all workers want to work from home, but many would welcome this commitment with the right support in place. Presently some workers in areas like scheduling and dispatch are not able to benefit from flexible working and this needs to change.

The business has indicated that it expects the first workers to be using Ansty from March 2022 but that no firm date has been announced on exit from Block 1. A likely exit date of Nov 2022 is suggested but not confirmed.

We still await more information on the home locations of impacted workers to understand how impactful the office location change is going to be and how mitigations could be effective. We will be meeting again to pick this up and further to discuss outstanding issues including flexible working and technology to support this, investment at Aylestone Rd - Leicester, how it will actually work at Ansty. We will update on progress.

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