

UNITE  
MEMBERS  
IN  
PLYMOUTH –

LOSING  
FAITH  
IN  
CO-OP  
VALUES?

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**Unite – *fighting for workers' rights***

In amongst the high profile governance review and public scrutiny of the Co-op's financial position Unite members in Plymouth are facing an uncertain future.

We know and accept that changes are unavoidable to ensure that Co-op stores are at the forefront of modern convenience shopping and that is nowhere more important than in the South West of England. Co-op Retail Logistics (CRL) management have put in place changes in the distribution network which will hopefully turn around the current position and put the Co-op back where it should be. But it seems that the core values and principles have been forgotten along the way. Unite is happy to engage with employers to secure future employment but why is there a need to transfer drivers, with decades of service, to a French logistics company?

We have received no compelling business rationale for the transfer and we have endeavoured to meet with management to discuss the issue without a gun at our member's heads but to no avail. They are carrying on regardless of what the drivers are saying and regardless of the core principles of the Co-op.

The drivers here today are just a few of the 53 Unite members that are facing their employment with the Co-op being ended through absolutely no fault of their own. Without any business sense and with no compassion or commitment the management are casting many years of loyal service aside.

We are asking for time to carry out a proper consultation on the requirements in the South West without a ticking time bomb of outsourcing under our seats.

Please support Unite members in Plymouth by seeking reassurances at the AGM that all outsourcing must stop until such time as the workforce has had the opportunity to have their say.