

# SHEFFIELD TRADES UNION COUNCIL.

Established 1858

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31st July,2011

Circular 2011-29 (REMPLOY)

Dear Colleagues,

## **DEFEND DISABLED WORKERS! SUPPORT REMPLOY!**

The Sheffield TUC has received a letter from Phil. Davies, Secretary of the REMPLOY Consortium of Trades Unions, headed:"REMPLOY Support Groups. To: All REMPLOY Factory and Employment Workplace Employees." in which he writes:-

"It is now absolutely crystal clear that the Government intends to go beyond the recommendations by the Sayce Report. The Government's consultation document which was launched on the 11th July confirms the complete closure of REMPLOY factories and the privatisation of Employment Services. It also advocates the compulsory redundancy of those disabled people who are left on REMPLOY terms and conditions.

"The Tory led Coalition Government has decided to abandon the commitments given by the last Labour Government and make thousands of disabled workers compulsory redundant. The Minister Maria Miller met with senior trade union officials from UNITE and the GMB on 13th July and clearly stated that her Government was not prepared to fund any part of REMPLOY in the future. Their intention is to remove the name of REMPLOY and all it represents for disabled people now and in the future.

You now have to defend your jobs and the jobs of future disabled people. The REMPLOY Consortium of Trade Unions is asking you to take an active part in our Campaign and as a first step we are asking you and your colleagues to establish a factory and workplace Action Group. The Action Group should consist of REMPLOY employees who work in factories, Business offices, Employment Services branches and workplaces including CCTV sites.

"The Trade Union Shop Stewards, Safety Reps and Union learning Reps. should lead on the formation of these Committees. Anyone and everyone who works for REMPLOY can be involved in this Committee. We would urge you, once these committees have been formed, to meet on a weekly basis to decide your factory's campaign activities, such as visiting your MP, lobbying local councillors and raising awareness of the benefits that REMPLOY can bring to the community. We expect that these factory Action Groups will develop into wider based campaign groups which could include family members partners, trades union councils, local celebrities and just about anybody that cares about disabled people.

**Continued.**

The REMPLOY Trade Union Consortium will be monitoring and supporting your group's work. For further information or if you have any comments please contact-

Brian Davies:	brian.davies55@yahoo.co.uk	07984 309762
Les Woodward:	les.woodward@ntlworld.com	07977 436251
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**Yours sincerely (signed) P. Davies, Secretary to the Consortium of Trade Unions.**

### **INFORMATION ATTACHMENTS TO THIS CIRCULAR**

**1 & 2 REMPLOY:** Letter from Les. Woodward National Convenor & Trades Union Councils Co-ordinator to REMPLOY TU Consortium

**3 & 4 REMPLOY** Letter from GMB GS Paul Kenny & UNITE GS McCluskey plus a copy of a Petition Form.

**5 & 6 REMPLOY** Disabled Workers' Co-operative product advertisements

**7 REMPLOY** REMPLOY Rally to be held in Wakefield Town Hall at 1.00 P.M. for 1.30.P.M. on Friday, 19th August.

### **CONCLUSION.**

Remploy has a factory under threat of closure in Sheffield which employs many disabled workers. Their GMB Branch is an active affiliate of the Sheffield TUC.

Affiliated organisations wishing to participate in the Campaign, or wishing to have a Speaker, or seeking further information should contact::James Stribley,GMB REMPLOY, 445,Brightside Lane,Sheffield,,S9 Email .remploycampaign@hotmail.co.uk

For your early and most serious attention.

Yours fraternally,  
Bill Ronksley,  
Secretary.