

Sainsbury's

Try something new today – pay a living wage

Dear shareholders,

Workers from Sainsbury's branches from across the UK are demonstrating today to ask Sainsbury's to pay them fairly. Unite is calling on the board and shareholders to now hear the concerns of their workforce.

Unite has submitted our pay claim to management, but staff are concerned that yet again the plea for a decent pay award will fall on deaf ears.

In recent years staff have consistently been given a below inflation pay rise, which in these current financially strapped times is effectively a pay cut. **12,000 colleagues have had no pay rise for up to five years** because of the company's refusal to increase the band maxima; the colleagues affected by this are the loyal, long serving workers who have generated these profits for Sainsbury's management and shareholders. The Sainsbury's workforce is key to the future success of the business

It is wonderful news that Sainsbury's had record sales of £22,943 million up 7.1% from £21,421 million in 2009/10. In fact, things are so good that for 2010/11 the CEO Justin King received remuneration of £3,243,000. Of this, £900,000 (from 20/03/11 rising to £920,000) was his basic salary. King additionally received a bonus of £520,000 (the maximum cash bonus he could have received was 125% of salary), which with other benefits, including his pension took his remuneration to £2.655m. Additionally he exercised share options worth £588,000.

It is only right that many of the dedicated workforce, many of which are female and work part-time for family reasons, who form the backbone of this company, are given a fair pay settlement. This must reflect the outstanding performance and contribution of our members to the company.

While Sainsbury's claim '*our values make us different*' they continue to pay their staff less than their competitors and less than a living wage.

Today Unite is calling on Sainsbury's to

Making low pay taste bitter

www.unitetheunion.org

