

## **OPEN LETTER TO BROADGATE ESTATES 12/04/21**

The Cleaners And Allied Independent Workers Union (CAIWU) regret having to directly contact Broadgate Estates again about your outsourced subcontractor, JPC/Samsic's, victimisation of 5 out of 16 essential workers who have been selected for possible dismissal. We contend that JPC/Samsic's actions are not only illegal but, given the overall pandemic situation in which this victimisation is set to occur, anti-social and life threatening. CAIWU would like to give Broadway Estates an opportunity to put things right and this Open Letter is offered up in this spirit.

Essential workers, throughout the worst of the pandemic, have unquestioningly risked their lives to keep your buildings clean and Covid Compliant. Instead of being lauded as diligent employees and socially responsible 'whistle blowers' - they now find themselves victimised and threatened with dismissal. In October 2020 when they first raised a formal complaint against JPC/Samsic regarding management irresponsibility with a case of on-site exposure to Covid-19 they sought to protect not only themselves, but their workmates, and all of UK society as a whole.

It has not escaped our attention that CAIWU workers have been selected for dismissal precisely because of their opposition to JPC/Samsic's anti-social workplace practices last October and November; victimisation which is reflected in their spurious criteria for job redundancies in forthcoming 'consultation meetings'. To give a sense of what's going on in your buildings, details are provided in the introduction above about specific instances, along with the City of London Corporation's response (including the possibility of future police action and legal enforcement of the UK government Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020.

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2021, we will bring our campaign to your London Headquarters to challenge the impending dismissals and invite you to respond to this situation by compelling your outsourced company, JPC/Samsic to immediately desist from any further victimisation.

This Spring, the British Medical Journal referred to the UK and other nation states behaviour in this pandemic as akin to 'social murder'. It seems to us that Broadgate Estates, JPC/Samsic's client company, are ultimately responsible for their subcontractors behaviour and CAIWU intend to highlight the way in which essential workers are now regarded as expendable in the pandemic, akin to social murder. To get our campaign for justice under way, CAIWU's protest action on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April will be followed by the launch of a national media campaign highlighting JPC/Samsic's mismanagement in the face of basic worker Health & Safety concerns in the pandemic and calling out Broadgate Estates accountability on this matter as the client organisation. The vast majority of the public, the consumers on whom business depends, have played by the rules during the pandemic at cost to themselves. They are not amused by those who have not done so whatever semantics they may use. They will be still less amused when they see revenge being taken on those who have pointed out failures of responsibility.

CAIWU acknowledge that for Broadgate Estates, business is business, and profitability will always be the bottom line; but we also know that in the post-pandemic period there will be a reckoning with those in positions of power and responsibility who have behaved egregiously, particularly towards those essential workers who have kept us safe. We offer Broadgate Estates a window of opportunity here to put things right, reign in JPC/Samsic's abuse of power and victimisation of our workers OR get caught up in the ugly side of our campaign.