

MEDIA RELEASE: OSCAR MAYER, FLINT

Oscar Mayer has today informed its staff and customers of its intention to enter into consultation with its employees over the proposed transfer of a number of products from its Flint manufacturing business (at Aber Park Industrial Estate) to its other North Wales site in Wrexham. Should this proposal go ahead, this would ultimately result in the downsizing of the site in Flint.

Oscar Mayer currently employs 330 members of the local community many of whom, if they find themselves unable to commute to Wrexham, are sadly now at risk of redundancy over the next 5 months. The employee consultation period will commence in early April and will last a minimum of 45 days, after which a final decision on the future size of Oscar Mayer in Flint will be made.

Since lockdowns were eased, we have not seen the anticipated return to the levels of pre-pandemic sales. Increases in the cost of production due to unprecedented inflation, coupled with the broader cost of living crisis across the UK, have noticeably impacted demand across the ready meals market. Sadly, Oscar Mayer has also been affected. Our sales have fallen short of expectations by over 10% over the past few months and we see little sign of this changing in the near to medium term.

It is clear Oscar Mayer is far from alone in having to meet these challenges, but we remain resolute in our determination to minimise the disruption to our valued staff from this partial transfer of operations and jobs.

Peter Thornton, Executive Chairman of Oscar Mayer said:

“Consulting our colleagues on a potential transfer of production and jobs has been a desperately difficult decision to reach.”

“Oscar Mayer fully recognises its responsibility to the local community and sincerely regrets the distress and disappointment this move may cause. This downsizing, should it occur, is no reflection on the talent and capability of our dedicated staff, who have worked exceptionally hard to help us increase efficiency, for which we remain extremely grateful.

“I only hope it’s of some reassurance that every measure will be taken to assist our colleagues in their search for meaningful alternative employment, should they find themselves unable to commute to Wrexham.

“Until any decision is finalised, we are determined to continue to provide the highest standard of production to meet our valued customers’ demands.”

ENDS



For further information please contact:

Bell Yard Communications [BellYard@bell-yard.com](mailto:bell-yard@bell-yard.com)

Melanie Riley

melanie@bell-yard.com

07775 591244

About Oscar Mayer

Oscar Mayer has been at the forefront of own-brand packaged ready-meals in the UK since 1985 and is a long-standing partner to many leading UK supermarket chains.

The Flint site was acquired by the Oscar Mayer Group in 2020 and is smallest of Oscar Mayer's manufacturing units.

In 2021 Oscar Mayer closed its production units in Chard, Somerset and transferred production to Wrexham & Flint in North Wales and Erith in Dartford.

Oscar Mayer currently employs 330 members of the local Flint community many of whom, if they find themselves unable to commute to Wrexham some 20 miles away, are sadly now at risk of redundancy over the next 5 months.

Oscar Mayer continues to employ over circa 2,500 people in its existing sites in Wrexham and Erith whose jobs are unaffected by this announcement.