

Redundancies to be made at Port of Liverpool as owner blames 'economic backdrop'

Redundancies are to be made at the Port of Liverpool after its owner said the "marked deterioration" in the volume of containers it handles had made the move "extremely regrettable but now unavoidable, given the economic backdrop".

Peel Ports said the redundancy consultation process will start next week as it restructures its containers division.

The group added that the unitised cargo market is "experiencing a significant decline in volume due to several factors which underpin the bleak outlook on the global economy; with rising interest rates, higher energy costs and weakening consumer demand for manufactured and imported goods".

READ MORE: [Click here to sign up to the BusinessLive North West newsletter](#)

The news comes as the port has been hit by long-running strike action [in recent weeks](#) by members of the Unite union.

A spokesperson for Peel Ports Group, operator of the Port of Liverpool, said: "We have seen an increasing decline in the movement of containerised cargo for Liverpool over the last few months, in line with industry figures which show a 4.6% drop in volume across Europe.



Dock workers on strike at the Port of Liverpool 23/09/2022

“This, together with a recent sharp fall in container vessel charter rates of around 50%, indicate a rapid decline in throughput is expected over the next few months.

“Whilst this is an extremely regrettable situation, as a responsible employer, we need to restructure now in order to minimise the potential greater impact the downturn in container business will have on jobs, further down the line.

“We are exploring a number of different options to try and protect as many jobs as possible, including redeploying staff in other areas of the business which are less exposed to the economic crisis.

“We have invested heavily in building a business which has changed the outlook and prosperity for the Liverpool City Region, creating growth and jobs across the supply chain.

“Our aim is to grow the business further and create more jobs, not lose them. Every effort is being made to safeguard and protect as many jobs as possible and keep redundancies to a minimum.”

READ NEXT:

- [Record sales for UK arm of Adidas after Covid disruption](#)
- [Planned £32m city centre landmark could be home to 600 jobs](#)
- [Investigation launched into Mazars audit of Frasers-owned Studio Retail Group](#)
- [Planned £32m city centre landmark could be home to 600 jobs](#)
- [Victorian Plumbing confident despite challenging economic environment](#)