
DPD to recruit 100 staff, citing spike in online orders

DPD to hire 100 extra staff amid Covid-19 surge in demand with a spike in deliveries of electrical goods, pet food and orders for gym equipment.

Ireland's largest parcel delivery company DPD is to recruit 100 additional staff to meet a "phenomenal increase in demand" due to Covid-19.

DPD Ireland's chief executive Des Travers said its volumes have "gone through the roof" with deliveries of electrical goods up 800pc, pet food up 300pc, and sports equipment up 225pc.

Travers said deliveries are continuing to increase week on week, with most shops closed, and more and more consumers turning to the internet to shop.

Loading and unloading during lockdown

"Parcel volumes have exceeded those handled on Black Friday weekend 2019, with the company experiencing its busiest parcel volume throughput ever through its Athlone Central Sortation hub on Tuesday.

"In the last month we have increased the number of drivers in the network by 115 to 1,100. However, that's not enough, we need more," Travers said.

He said the company was looking to hire 100 additional drivers, adding that it was looking for people over the age of 25, with previous delivery experience and a full licence to apply for driver positions on their website.

"Our hub has plenty of capacity. The expansion in 2018 and subsequent deployment of additional chutes in Q4 last year means that we can handle the increased volume easily," he said.

In terms of behavioural changes, drivers are reporting that people are waiting for their deliveries with even more anticipation than usual, that it's the highlight of their day, particularly if they are self-isolating.

DPD Ireland is part of DPDgroup - the second largest international parcel delivery network in Europe. With more than 78,000 delivery experts and a network of more than 42,000 local pick-up points, DPD Group delivers 1.3bn parcels to over 230 countries each day through the brands DPD, Chronopost, SEUR and BRT.

DPD Group is the parcel delivery network of GeoPost, which posted sales of €7.3bn in 2018. GeoPost is a holding company owned by Le Groupe La Poste.

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Published: 17 April, 2020