Cineworld to implement Restructuring Plan in the UK

Cinema chain takes action to secure long-term future of UK business

Cineworld has announced a Restructuring Plan to restore the business to profitability.

Against a background of increasingly high and unsustainable operating costs, the business is set to implement a Restructuring Plan (RP) that will enable it to address its lease portfolio and rental terms with landlords in the UK.

The company's proposal is primarily to reduce rent to market level at some UK locations and to exit six sites (Glasgow Parkhead, Bedford, Hinckley, Loughborough, Yate and Swindon Circus) that are commercially unviable, so that the business can return to profitability.

In addition, the RP will provide Cineworld with the opportunity to obtain further funding to meet its working capital needs, reduce its liabilities, and to benefit from a significant capital expenditure programme in the UK.

Cineworld is beginning a consultation process with employees at the six affected cinemas and will offer redeployment to as many of them as possible at nearby sites.

If the Restructuring Plan is approved by the court, it is expected to become effective in late September 2024. The total number of sites cannot be confirmed until the process is complete. The RP will not affect the Cineworld business outside of the UK.

While this process is ongoing, all Cineworld cinemas in the UK will continue to operate as normal.

A Cineworld spokesperson said:

"We are implementing a Restructuring Plan that will provide our company with a strong platform to return our business to profitability, attract further investment from the Group, and ensure a sustainable long-term future for Cineworld in the UK."

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