

## **Homebase in Gateshead to remain open**

*Forty-three jobs have been saved as Homebase Gateshead springs back from the brink of closure*

**Milton Keynes: 21 January 2020** – Homebase, one of the UK’s leading home improvement and garden retailers, has secured a deal with the landlord of its Gateshead store, which will see the store stay open.

The store had been scheduled to close in December 2018, but the new deal will see the store reduce in size from 45,000sq. Ft to 22,500sq. Ft, saving 43 jobs.

Homebase has occupied the site on Retail World since 1987, and the store benefits from experienced and knowledgeable team members with many boasting long service with the company. Many of the team have worked for Homebase from 10 to 30 years, and are diverse in age, with one team member in her seventies.

The store features a Mezzanine floor, housing its showroom and lighting offering, and has also seen the introduction of fitted bedrooms and furniture, and refreshed kitchen displays.

In addition, customers will find everything they need to complete their home projects in store, from paint to power tools, and a garden centre offering a wide range of plants and garden accessories. Homebase Gateshead is a one-stop-shop for all home improvement and garden needs.

**Mark Simanis, Gateshead Store Manager, said:** “We’re delighted to have avoided closure and be able to continue to serve our customers. We’re now more motivated than ever to ensure everyone enjoys shopping with us. I have worked for the business for 26 years, and I’m excited to continue my journey with Homebase.”

Homebase Gateshead is open seven days a week, Monday-Friday 8am-8pm, Saturday 8am-7pm and Sunday 10am-4pm, at Retail World, Gateshead, NE11 0BD.

ENDS

### **Enquiries:**

#### **Homebase**

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### **Notes to editors:**

#### **About Homebase**

Founded in 1979, Homebase is one of the UK’s leading home improvement and garden retailers. The company operates stores across the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

Its product range includes painting and decorating, plants, garden tools and accessories, and kitchens – available in-store or online at [www.homebase.co.uk](http://www.homebase.co.uk).