

## Tiso Blackstar Group considers closure of *The Times* print edition

NEWSWATCH: Tiso Blackstar Group announced yesterday that it's considering the closure of the print edition of its daily newspaper, *The Times*, proposing it be replaced with a premium, digital-only daily product, taking on a new format based on successful models that have been implemented internationally.



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In a statement, Andy Gill, MD of Tiso Blackstar Group, said the publication has remained unprofitable, experiencing diminishing returns, despite numerous efforts. In effect, the group will undergo restructuring and possible retrenchments, he added. Gill is unsure at this stage how many staff will be affected, but that those with the necessary skills, qualifications and expertise would be retained. The retrenchment process is scheduled to be completed by 31 January 2018. Gill is unable to comment further until the staff consultation process, commencing on Wednesday, 8 November, has progressed. For more:

- The Times print edition to shut down, staff to be retrenched
- Tiso Blackstar may shut The Times print edition, replace it with digital version
- <u>Unprofitable The Times daily closes</u>