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Circular: 2024HOC0418BS

Date: 7th November 2024

To: All Members

Dear Brother/Sister,

FBU Disabled and Neurodivergent Members – 2nd National Forum 2025

The FBU is pleased to announce that the 2nd annual Disabled and Neurodivergent Members' Forum will take place **Wednesday 29 January –Thursday 30 January 2025** in Leeds.

The forum is your opportunity to connect, network and organise with members and officials from across the UK in a safe and informal environment. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their experiences at work, hear what progress is being made, and explore how to get organised and win change in the workplace. Sessions will provide an opportunity to gain the knowledge and confidence needed to make a real difference to members' working lives.

The forum will begin at 11am on 29 January 2025, with registration opening from 10:30am, and will close at 4pm on 30th January 2025. Overnight accommodation and all meals will be provided. Travel and childcare costs will be reimbursed, and an out-of-pocket subsistence fee will be paid.

Applications are open to any FBU member who identifies as disabled and/or neurodivergent. There is no requirement to have attended the first forum.

To apply, please complete the application form as soon as possible and before Friday 20th December. Confirmation of your place will be sent by email after the closing date. Apply here: <https://forms.office.com/e/m8XiYAEQ4f>.

For more information, please see the website: <https://www.fbu.org.uk/disabled-and-neurodivergent-members-forum>.

If you have any questions, or you would like to discuss the event in more detail, please contact charlie.batchelor@fbu.org.uk. For logistics and accommodation-related enquiries, please contact phoebe.wilson@fbu.org.uk.

It is important that we organise to demand a fire and rescue service that is more inclusive, where anyone can thrive without fear of discrimination or disadvantage, and where disability and neurodiversity are never barriers to a long, successful, and safe career. Join us to discuss, debate and help shape our movement.

The forum will complement the FBU Education **Neurodiversity in the Workplace** course. Suitable for any branch, brigade, section or regional official who may support or represent neurodivergent members at work, the course is now open for applications and will be running 11-13 February in South Yorkshire. To express interest, contact your RELO or speak to your brigade or section officials.

Yours in solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Selby', written in a cursive style.

Ben Selby
Assistant General Secretary

BS/pw