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Circular: 2025HOC0020SW

Date: 17th January 2025

To: All Members

Dear Brother/Sister,

A new chapter for our union

I am deeply honoured to have been elected as your new General Secretary. I want to extend my thanks to all the members who participated in the election process. For generations, my family has proudly served as firefighters and FBU members, and it is both a privilege and a profound responsibility to lead our Union and advocate for the committed and passionate individuals it represents.

The trust and confidence you have placed upon me are not taken lightly. I understand the importance of this role and commit to embracing it with integrity and determination. Regardless of whom you may have voted for, I pledge to be a General Secretary for all members, ensuring that your voices and concerns are what will guide us in moving our Union forward. We use our democratic values to make sure our members voices are at the core of our decision making.

Before we turn our focus to the future, I want to take a moment to pay tribute to my predecessor, Matt Wrack. Under Matt's leadership, our Union achieved significant milestones and upheld the values that are the foundation of our organisation and the broader trade union movement. I wish him well in all his future endeavours.

As we embark on this new chapter together, I want to assure you that my primary focus will be on building a stronger, more united and effective Union that tackles the challenges we face today. Our collective strength lies in our solidarity, and it is essential that we leverage this power to address the issues ahead.

In my election address, I outlined my priorities and pledges for the future. Now that you have placed your trust in me, I am committed to implementing these initiatives as swiftly as possible. To facilitate this, I have called an urgent meeting of the Executive Council to initiate a comprehensive review of our processes and practices.

This review will encompass our current strategies, communication methods, membership engagement, and support services. The goal is to identify critical areas for improvement and ensure our Union remains responsive to your needs.

Together, we will strive to create a Union where every voice is heard, every member feels valued, and where we collectively work toward enhancing our industry and significantly improving our pay,

safety, and working conditions. I want to build a Union that not only advocates for your rights but also empowers you to play an active role in shaping our collective future, and in order to achieve this we won't hesitate in carrying our fight to whomever we need to and to wherever it matters, be that the employer, the wider trade union movement and to the Government.

I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and want to thank you for being an integral part of our Union. I look forward to working alongside you as we build a stronger future together.

Yours in solidarity,

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

Steve Wright
General Secretary