



The Fire Brigades Union

GENERAL SECRETARY: MATT WRACK

BRADLEY HOUSE, 68 COOMBE ROAD, KINGSTON UPON THAMES, SURREY, KT2 7AE

Telephone: 0208 541 1765
Facsimile: 0208 546 5187
E-mail: office@fbu.org.uk

Our Ref: MW/sll

13 March 2012

Sarah Messenger
Service Director
Local Government Employers
3rd Floor
Local Government House
Smith Square
London, SW1P 3HZ

Dear Sarah

PAY 2012

At the last meeting of the NJC we discussed the issue of pay and we set out the growing anger and frustration of FBU members on this matter. As you are aware there was no agreement on pay for 2010 or 2011 at the NJC and for the Employees' side this matter remains unresolved.

This is now to register our claim for 2012. We seek a rise in all NJC rates of pay equal to the percentage increase in inflation as identified by the Retail Price Index (RPI) which is available in June 2012. Once again, we believe this to be an extremely modest claim which seeks to ensure that living standards can be maintained.

During our discussions you have pointed to the financial difficulties facing Fire and Rescue Authorities. We are aware of the difficulties caused by Central Government policy but we are also aware that many Authorities have large, and in some cases, growing reserves.

We would also remind you in this context that Firefighters and their families have suffered falling living standards as a result of two years without a pay increase. This is exacerbated by the high levels of inflation we have experienced over this period.

The position in the Fire and Rescue Service is further exacerbated by the fact that pay structures are extremely flat in that there are very few increments available to the vast majority. This means that Firefighters are particularly adversely affected by the approach to pay which the Employers have taken over the past two years.

Firefighters have demonstrated time and time again their commitment to developing a world class public service. They have taken on significant new challenges over the past ten years and we hope that you will recognise this by engaging positively to address this claim.

Yours sincerely

MATT WRACK
GENERAL SECRETARY