

JANUARY 2026

RED NOTICE



General secretary's comment

As we enter the new year, we are ready to confront cuts in every fire and rescue service.

Recent wins in Avon and Leicestershire show what determined, organised members can achieve. They saw off threats of frontline cuts and secured increased funding.

Now we need that same energy nationally. This isn't about just pushing back against new cuts; it's about overturning years of under-investment. Join the all-member meeting on 11th February and play your part in the fight ahead.



CUTS KILL: FBU PREPARES FIGHT-BACK



The FBU is gearing up for a major national campaign to fight cuts in local fire and rescue services and demand proper government investment. An online meeting will take place in the evening of 11 February, and every member is urged to join and learn how they can support the fight ahead.

The Cuts Kill campaign formally launches in Westminster on 24 February, where officials and members will rally and lobby MPs to defend the service and protect public safety.

Cuts averted in Avon and Leicestershire

FBU members in Avon and Leicestershire have won improved funding after sustained campaigning, including lobbying and threatening strike action. Their fightback has successfully prevented the loss of up to 72 posts in Avon and five roles in Leicestershire, protecting vital frontline services.

Firefighters unite to oppose cuts in Oxfordshire

Firefighters from across the UK are preparing to show solidarity with Oxfordshire colleagues as the cuts consultation closes on 20 January. Officials visiting the county on 11 February will join local members in a march to a threatened stations, sending a clear message to the service that cuts will not be accepted.

BUILD YOUR UNION

Cuts Kill: join the all-member meeting

Join the meeting at 6pm on 11th February and get involved in fighting for our service. Register here: <https://streamyard.com/watch/JWwZPgGp8pJj>

Stand with Dorset and Wiltshire firefighters

Rally with firefighters fighting against eight station closures - 9am, 10th February, Salisbury City Hall, Malthouse Lane, SP2 7TU

Support campaigns against local cuts

Support firefighters facing cuts by getting involved in campaigning actions - <https://www.fbu.org.uk/local-campaigns>

DORSET AND WILTSHIRE FIREFIGHTERS FIGHT TO SAVE EIGHT FIRE STATIONS



Firefighters in Dorset and Wiltshire are mobilising against plans to cut eight fire stations, with the service still refusing to reveal which sites are at risk.

Members will rally on 10 February outside the fire authority meeting, where councillors will decide whether to approve the proposals and launch a public consultation.

Union pursues legal challenge over Hampshire and Isle of Wight cuts

The FBU is pursuing a judicial review over plans to cut £1.6 million from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service. Former Chief Fire Officer Neil Odin pushed the cuts through before retiring, despite the fire authority voting to delay them.

The union argues the consultation process and decision-making models were unlawful and is seeking to overturn the proposals, warning the cuts will undermine public and firefighter safety.



Scotland budget fails to provide funds to rebuild fire service

The Scottish government's latest budget has failed to deliver the funding needed to rebuild the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. Despite a small increase to the service's resource budget, it falls £11 million short on recruitment plans and offers no meaningful plan to tackle an £818 million capital backlog that has left stations in dangerous disrepair. The FBU will continue the fight for serious investment.



Key dates for your diary

- **10 February**
Dorset and Wiltshire cuts rally
- **11 February**
Cuts Kill: All Member meeting
- **24 February**
Cuts Kill: Parliamentary launch



Education events

- **21-23 January**
Fairness At Work: All Different, All Equal – open for applications
- **11-13 February**
LGBT+ National School

