

July 2025

RED NOTICE



General secretary's comment

Welcome to the first edition of *Red Notice*, your monthly FBU update.

It's been a busy month with key discussions on national pay reform and local campaigns to resist fire service cuts. Now, more than ever, unity is vital to protect our services.

Congratulations to Adam Taylor on his new role as national officer, and to Pete Smith, Mark Stilwell, and Jed Goodfellow for their new positions. Together, we'll continue to fight for the future of our profession.



WORK BEGINS FOR PAY REFORM



Improving the national pay structure is a top industrial priority for the FBU, which was unanimously agreed at 2025 Conference. Delegates approved an emergency resolution calling for urgent reform, after the union accepted a 2025 pay offer.

Talks have already begun, with the General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary meeting with national employers to outline priority areas. Both parties have expressed a shared goal of

implementing a reformed pay structure by July 2026.

FBU hits back at government plans attacking firefighter pensions

The FBU has criticised proposed cuts to public sector pensions, calling them a “false trade-off” driven by austerity. The union opposed reduced pensions and longer working years, urging the government to introduce a wealth tax to fund pay rises and public services instead.

FBU calls for tax on polluters

The FBU has joined two climate coalitions, urging the government to tax major polluters to fund emergency services. The union has signed the Polluters Pay Pact by Greenpeace and joined the Make Them Pay coalition led by Global Justice Now.

BUILD YOUR UNION

Shape the future of mental health

Your input could make all the difference. Take the survey at:
redcap.link/MentalHealthOfUKFirefighters

Step up, make a difference

Your branch needs a rep, and it could be you.
Talk to your brigade reps today!

Your voice matters

Find out when your branch meeting is and show up! If you don't have meetings, hold one - speak to brigade reps if you're not sure where to start.

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT FIREFIGHTERS RALLY AGAINST CUTS

Firefighters protested outside the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire Authority's headquarters in Eastleigh against a proposed £1.6 million fire service budget cut.

The meeting to debate the cuts was cancelled after six members failed to attend. The FBU is now calling for the 29 August meeting, where the decision will be made, to be postponed.



Scotland firefighters warn against more cuts to service

The FBU has warned that proposed cuts to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, including the closure of up to 13 stations and removal of 10 appliances, could compromise public safety. While the service argues these changes are necessary for future sustainability, the FBU has pointed to a decade of budget cuts and job losses, stressing that response times could

worsen. Public consultations are underway, with the FBU calling on local communities and politicians to respond and strongly oppose the proposals.



FBU members lobby MPs on investment

FBU members have been heading to Westminster every Wednesday, meeting MPs to demand better funding for the fire service. Their lobbying efforts will intensify this Autumn when Parliament reconvenes, pushing for vital support to ensure firefighters have the resources needed to protect communities effectively.



Key dates for your diary

- **25 July**
National LGBT+ Committee meeting
- **26 July**
Belfast Pride
- **20 August**
All officials meeting to discuss the EC's strategy on pay.



Education events

- **Various dates**
Introductory Branch Officials' course
- **1-3 October**
Officers' School
- **8 October**
Tackling the Rise of the Far Right

