

MAY 2026

RED NOTICE



General secretary's comment

This month, FBU delegates from across the UK came together to decide the priorities of our union.

Conference reaffirmed our fight for fair pay, investment in fire & rescue services and action on firefighter health and contaminants.

Pay negotiations remain a key focus. After years of pressure and increasing workloads, firefighters deserve proper recognition and reward.

As hot weather stretches services, our members continue protecting communities. Our fight for investment, staffing and public safety must continue.



PAY NEGOTIATIONS ARE ONGOING



Pay negotiations continue following this month's discussions. An initial offer of 3% was rejected by negotiators, and a revised offer of 3.3% rejected by the Executive Council at a recall meeting on 22 May. Talks are set to resume in early June at the National Joint Council (NJC), the national negotiation forum, with regular updates to members from the Executive Council through the usual union structures.

Conference debated the future of pay - more information on that will be in the next Firefighter magazine.

Climate Change Committee

The Climate Change Committee gave its 5 yearly advice to the government in May 2026. The union gave input to ensure the government invests in FRSs and to ensure there are resources, equipment and PPE to deal with ever increasing climate related incidents.

FBU officials attend Firefighters Memorial Day

Firefighters attended the London Fire Brigade memorial service on the 4th of May, at St.Pauls firefighter memorial. Honouring the sacrifice of those that lost their lives in the line of duty - protecting the communities they serve.

Firefighters right across the UK attended similar events remembering those that came before them.

BUILD YOUR UNION

Grenfell Silent Walk

Join FBU officials & London firefighters at the 9th anniversary Grenfell Silent walk. *Remember, Honour & Demand Justice.* Sunday **14th June** Notting Hill Methodist Church. **6PM**

Cuts Kill: Dorset & Wiltshire rally

Join the rally outside **Salisbury City Hall** against the closure of eight stations and the axing of 96 firefighter posts. **9am, 30 June.**

Support campaigns against local cuts

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



FOLLOW THIS LINK TO HELP PAUL SPEND MORE TIME WITH HIS FAMILY

Firefighter Paul Whitaker has a message to all FBU colleagues:

"Live life to the best, while you can."

Paul, a Watch Commander at Cambridgeshire training establishment, was just 41 when he was diagnosed with a brain tumour and given 3-5 years to live. Two years later, he is raising funds privately to continue treatment.

"It's a struggle, but any extra time with my family is worth it," he says.

FBU celebrates Pride Month

Pride Month is a chance to celebrate LGBT+ communities and reflect on the importance of respect and inclusion across the fire and rescue service. The FBU believes everyone should feel able to be themselves at work and in their community.

A supportive, welcoming service helps build stronger crews, stronger workplaces and better public trust.



FBU Scotland - Cuts Leave Scars

Relentless campaigning by the FBU in Scotland has secured a commitment from the Holyrood government to deliver on its recent pre-election commitment to invest additional fire service funding, in what the union hopes will be a step to averting cuts.



Key dates for your diary

- **1 June**
Red Plaque unveiling for George Macdougall, Inverness
- **5 June**
Red Plaque unveiling for Colin Hill, South Yorkshire
- **7 June**
Red Plaque unveiling for Asher David Latner, London
- **23 June**
Red Plaque unveiling for James Fegan, Northern Ireland

Education events

- **29 June**
Health, Safety and Welfare - Development
- **30 June**
Introduction to Health, Safety & Welfare at Work
- **30 June**
Disability and Neurodiversity in the Workplace
- **1 July**
Grievance and Fairness at Work

