

NOVEMBER 2025

RED NOTICE



General secretary's comment

This month marks a significant victory for our union. The government has announced plans to scrap Police and Crime Commissioners, after years of campaigning by the FBU to abolish the system.

The fight for investment continues, with bonfire night exposing the pressure on crews. Brigade officials and members are running strong local campaigns pushing back against cuts.

I urge every member to stand strong, support local action, and keep pushing for the service we deserve.



The government has announced plans to scrap PCCs, a major win for the FBU after years of campaigning. The union condemned the governance model a "dangerous and failed experiment", particularly in light of scandals involving former Northamptonshire PFCC Stephen Mold in 2024.

There are currently four PCCs that hold responsibility for fire services, who will remain in position until 2028 when governance will transfer to mayors or council leaders.

Firefighters make Bonfire night call for Treasury to fund fire service

The FBU has demanded urgent government funding after firefighters faced their busiest night without adequate resources. Government data shows a 28% rise in fire incidents attended across England in 2025, highlighting mounting pressure on the service.

London fire engine shortages reach critical levels, FBU warns

New FBU data has shown that London Fire Brigade had full fire engine availability for just 5% of shifts this year so far. The union has called on London's Mayor and Fire Commissioner to prioritise frontline funding in the upcoming fire service budget.

BUILD YOUR UNION

Stand with Avon firefighters

Join Avon firefighters rallying against cuts at 9:30am, 28 November at Severn Park Fire and Rescue Training Centre, Smoke Lane, Bristol, BS11 0YA.

Demand investment from politicians

Write to your MP and councillor making the case for investment and pay reform. Use the online tools here: www.fbu.org.uk/campaigns/pay-reform

Support Oxfordshire cuts campaign

Spread the word about the campaign: <https://www.fbu.org.uk/campaigns/cuts-kill-save-oxfordshire-fire-and-rescue-service>

OXFORDSHIRE FIREFIGHTERS RALLY PUBLIC AGAINST FIRE SERVICE CUTS

Oxfordshire firefighters are urging the public to oppose proposed fire service, which include closing three fire stations, removing five fire engines and cutting night-time cover, by responding to a public consultation.

A rally is planned for 9 December outside the County Council meeting to defend community safety.

Buckinghamshire firefighters challenge CFO over consultation breach

Buckinghamshire firefighters have criticised the Chief Fire Officer for including operational independence in a consultation document on cuts without prior discussion with the FBU.

The decision breaches the “no surprises” commitment made during joint industrial relations training earlier this year. The union is demanding transparency and accountability from the service and continues to campaign against the cuts.



Avon firefighters to protest job cuts at fire authority meeting

Avon firefighters will rally on 28 November as councillors vote on plans to cut up to 72 firefighter roles to address a £2 million budget gap.

The FBU urges all members to join the protest and oppose cuts that threaten public and firefighter safety.



Key dates for your diary

- **25 November**
White Ribbon Day
- **26 November**
Autumn Budget
- **28 November**
Avon cuts campaign rally
- **9 December**
Oxfordshire cuts campaign rally
- **Various dates**
Pay reform briefings
- attend your local meeting



Education events

- **26-27 November**
Grievance and Fairness at Work
- **3-5 December**
Brigade leaders course (open for applications)

