



DEFEND CONTROL JOBS
AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

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CIRCULAR 2010HOC0408MW

16 June 2010

TO: ALL MEMBERS

Dear Brother/Sister

PAY - NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL 15 JUNE 2010

You will be aware from circular 2010HOC0316MW that we submitted a pay claim to the Employers in May. The claim was for a rise in all NJC pay rates equal to the percentage increase in inflation as identified by the Retail Price Index (RPI) in June of this year.

Since 2004 our pay settlement date has been 1st July. For most years since then pay has been settled prior to this date.

The claim for 2010 was based on our view that FBU members should not suffer real cuts in living standards as a result of below inflation pay rises. The RPI figure is published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the publication date was 15 June. RPI currently stands at 5.1%.

The National Joint Council met yesterday. The Employers' Side reported that they were unable to respond to our pay claim as they wished to give further consideration to pay in the light of the Government's emergency budget on 22 June.

This has obviously caused considerable alarm among the Executive Council. We have made clear to the Employers that we do not accept that Fire Service pay should be sacrificed as a result of decisions made by the new Government. We have insisted that the Employers respond to the claim as early as possible.

The Executive Council held a longer debate on pay at the June business meeting and the full details of this will be reported back through our Committee structure.

Members will have noted the difficulties on pay faced by our colleagues in other public services. It is clear that we face tough times as the Government and many employers attempt to utilise the economic crisis to make attacks on pay, on pensions and on other conditions of service. We made clear to the Employers that Firefighters and other public sector workers did not cause the economic crisis and should not be made to pay the price for it.

Members will be informed as soon as a response is received from the Employers. In the meantime Officials will report back to Branches on the discussion held on pay at the Executive Council.

Yours fraternally

MATT WRACK
GENERAL SECRETARY

MW/sll