



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

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**FIRE BRIGADES UNION**  
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TO: ALL MEMBERS

Dear Brother/Sister

**DEFEND OUR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - NATIONAL RALLY AND LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT**

Members will be aware of the scale of attack we face in the Fire and Rescue Service as part of the wider cuts agenda facing the entire public sector. The recent budget has started a process which could lead to the most significant cuts in public services in living memory. There is no indication whatsoever that the Fire and Rescue Service will be exempted despite assurances made prior to the election about protecting 'front-line services'.

The prospects we face are startling on a number of fronts:

- Government policy for a two year pay freeze in the public sector.
- The decision of our Employers to make no offer on pay for 2010 i.e. to freeze pay immediately.
- The prospect of cuts of 25% over the next five years.
- The impact such cuts would have on the quality of service delivered to the public.
- The loss of jobs which would result from this level of cuts.
- Further attacks on conditions of service arising from the cuts.
- Further attacks on our pensions.

As a part of our campaign against this agenda there will be a national event as follows:

**Defend our Fire and Rescue Service  
National Rally and Lobby of Parliament  
Westminster  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010**

This event will provide an opportunity to outline to the new intake of MPs the importance of the work which Firefighters undertake and to make the case against the cuts. It will form part of a wider campaign during the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review which will affect Fire Service budgets for the next three years. It will also provide an opportunity to build our campaigning around the cuts and attacks we are facing at a local level.

Further information on this event will follow and all Branches are urged to discuss how to build for a successful event.

Best wishes.

Yours fraternally

**MATT WRACK**  
**GENERAL SECRETARY**

MW/sll