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FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES National Employers

Matt Wrack
General Secretary
Fire Brigades Union
Bradley House
68 Coombe Rd
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey, KT2 7AE

28 July 2020

Dear Matt,

The Employers' Side of the NJC has now had the opportunity to undertake four regional consultation meetings and to consider its response to the employees' side pay claim made at the start of June.

Affordability and sustainability remain key issues for the employers, which was reaffirmed at the consultation meetings. Budgets have been under pressure for some time and that will remain the case this year, impacted by a number of factors including the UK's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We need to balance rewarding firefighters and protecting services to the community and jobs.

Accordingly, I write to advise you of the National Employers' offer that basic pay and continual professional development payments be uplifted by 2.0% with effect from 1 July 2020. This offer is not conditional on any other changes and we hope the FBU will accept it so that the increase can be in pay-packets as soon as possible.

We remain committed to ensuring the challenges facing fire and rescue services are fully understood and they are properly resourced, with the aim of securing longer term investment to ensure the protection of communities and recognising the role firefighters would play within this. This could help to support increased pay offers in the future. It is important that both sides of the NJC remain fully engaged in achieving that outcome.

Yours sincerely,

Naomi Cooke

Naomi Cooke
Employers' Secretary