

ACO Evans
Employers Joint Secretary
Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service
Service Headquarters
Bridle Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L30 4YD

Date: Thursday, 10 January 2008

Ref: Registration of Dispute - Delivering of Recruitment Material Under Instruction.

Dear Mr. Evans,

I write with regard to an instruction given by one of your station managers to operational crews of Ecclestone Fire Station and community fire safety staff at the same location.

SM Garrigan has instructed those members to deliver leaflets advertising vacancies for volunteer firefighters at a Rainford location, to be clear this does not involve leaflets providing fire safety advice which the crews remain content to undertake to distribute as appropriate.

Mr Garrigan, although receiving representations from local officials decided to unilaterally decide to issue an instruction to the crews to deliver those leaflets, an instruction that is unreasonable and which does not comply with the NJC Rolemaps. Mr Garrigan then is acting outwith the NJC policies, procedures and agreements.

Accordingly, the Fire Brigades Union have no alternative, despite attempting to resolve this at a lower level, but to register a failure to agree on this matter and as such the Union confirms this matter is to be referred through to the NJC Joint Secretaries for assistance. The FBU are aware, and intend to fully comply with, the NJC Circular NJC/08/07 the joint protocol for good industrial relations in the fire and rescue service which requires evidence of discussion to date on the issue in dispute and as part of the dispute resolution procedure seek your views on attempting a local joint secretaries dispute resolution meeting which may avert the necessity for national assistance.

I also request that the Authority complies with Section 6, Part C, Paragraph 18 of the Grey Book with immediate effect and that Mr Garrigan's actions are suspended pending resolution on this matter.

I await your earliest response and if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

L Skarratts
Brigade Secretary

cc D Wright - Clerk to the Authority