

Date: Tuesday, 29 August 2006

## **ALL MEMBERS**

### **STRIKE UPDATE.**

Dear Brother/Sister,

You will no doubt now have received further communication from MF&RS at your home address entitled 'Proposed Call for Strike Action by the FBU'.

The letter is absolutely standard tactics from the employer in time of impending industrial action with few exceptions. The correspondence refers to picketing etc.

This element of the correspondence offers striking firefighters/firefighters (control) some advice on how we are able to picket. MF&RS politely remind us that we are only permitted to picket at the fire station or other premises at which we are based yet they have constantly reminded us that we are contracted to work at any location within MF&RS.

It politely reminds us on the numbers of pickets allowed at any one time, and requests us to carry photo identification to stave off terrorist threat. The FBU officials will be circulating proper advice on picketing very shortly but in the meantime your officials have yesterday met the Merseyside Police, at their request, at Police Headquarters, Canning Place.

The meeting with senior police officers was very constructive and convivial, with issues such as picketing discussed with an agreed avenue to resolve any unseen issues. We are pleased to say that we were extremely happy with the outcome of the meeting and as such your officials have agreed to meet with the Police again on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August where we will now discuss the contents of the MF&RS letter.

You will note that the correspondence does not mention any intention whatsoever to request talks to resolve the dispute a remarkable failing of the councillors and senior management.

Yours in unity

L Skarratts  
Brigade Secretary