

Date: 5th September 2006

ALL MEMBERS

Dispute Update

Dear Brother/Sister,

All FBU members will be aware of the magnificent turn out of Merseyside members at the Mass Meeting held in the Liner Hotel yesterday. Over **700** FBU members attended this meeting to unanimously show their determination and strength to not accept dangerous cuts to the service we provide but also to show their disgust at the handling of this dispute by MF&RS and the treatment of our members by MF&RS managers.

The support from FBU members from around the UK is growing everyday with more pledges of support, financial and physical streaming into the FBU Office in Merseyside. The General Secretary also informed the meeting that a **National Demonstration** in support of all the striking FBU members in Merseyside will take place on **Friday, September 15th**. (Full details will follow shortly). Many FBU members from around the UK have already pledged to attend this demonstration in support of our members.

FBU picket lines should now be up and running at all stations with campaign material and leaflets for the public readily available from the FBU Office. Members should also remind themselves of the letter from Thompson's solicitors concerning theft of FBU materials that was highlighted during that meeting.

The public support from right across Merseyside is overwhelming and FBU members and officials need to keep the pressure through letters, e-mails, petitions, leaflets and through contacting their local councillors and members of parliament.

Any member experiencing Hardship should apply through the Branch Officials who will process their application through to the Hardship Committee to authorise a payment.

Yours in Unity

Mark Dunne
Brigade Chair