

Date: Wednesday, 02 September 2009

ALL MEMBERS

CONDUCT OF FBU BALLOT.

Dear Brother/Sister,

I refer to the circular issued by Merseyside management referring to the conduct of the ballot for strike action.

I have no idea why this was issued. The ballot paper which members will receive and which has been copied to the Fire Authority states quite clearly that:

'The law requires your union to ensure that in this ballot: (i) your vote will be secret; (ii) you are allowed to vote without interference from, or constraint imposed by, the union or any of its members, officials or employees; (iii) you are able to vote at no direct cost to yourself; and (iv) your vote is accurately and fairly counted in determining the result of the ballot.'

So it is beyond me why they would issue a circular referring to a different practice which as far as I am aware does not exist.

I would suggest that members disregard such misleading and confusing circulars from management about non-existent practices. Members should simply follow the clear and unambiguous instructions on the official FBU ballot paper issued by the Independent Scrutineer under the statutory provisions.

Yours in unity

L Skarratts
Brigade Secretary