



DEFEND CONTROL JOBS
AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

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TO: ALL MEMBERS

Dear Brother/Sister

SOUTH YORKSHIRE - THREAT OF TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS

We have today been informed that the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority have decided to terminate the contracts of 744 Firefighters if they do not accept a change to their contract which will alter the current shift arrangements. The Fire and Rescue Authority proposes to take this step from 1st January 2010.

Accompanying the letter from the FRA is a statutory form (HR1) which gives notice of those to be dismissed/made redundant. The form from South Yorkshire FRA states that this (dismissal/redundancy) applies to '*approximately 744*' employees and to:

"All staff currently conditioned to the wholetime shift duty system (other than those within Fire Control)."

This unilateral step was taken by the Fire and Rescue Authority in a session of the Authority meeting closed to the public. Local officials of the FBU were unaware that the issue was even due to be discussed.

Members of the FBU across the UK will be angered at the confrontational decision taken by the Authority. The Union will be consulting members locally on the immediate steps which need to be taken and further information will follow as soon as it is available. We have already put in place measures to urgently discuss this with local officials and to raise the issue with key politicians.

I am sure that all members will join with me in condemning this step by the employer and will agree that we should take every step possible to support our members in South Yorkshire in the face of this attack.

Further information will follow as available.

Best wishes.

Yours fraternally

MATT WRACK
GENERAL SECRETARY

MW/sII