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Circular: 2024HOC0432MR

Date: 25 November 2024

To: All Members

Dear Brother/Sister

Executive Council Statement: Social Media Posts

The Executive Council has issued the following statement in relation to recent social media posts.

Executive Council Statement: Social Media Posts

The Executive Council is alarmed to see officials and members of the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) liking and sharing posts from social media accounts that appear to exist with the sole intention of attacking, defaming, humiliating and undermining individual members, officials and employees of the Fire FBU.

Our rule book, and the policies of our union, are clear that members should treat others with dignity and respect.

Our rule book has specific rules in relation to this:

Object A2 (8) states: *To support and promote working class unity through the Trade Union and Labour movement and therefore to oppose all forms of discrimination whether on the grounds of race, creed, sex, sexual orientation or otherwise.*

Rule B3 (3) states: *It shall be the duty of every member to treat others with dignity and respect and to challenge offensive behaviour of any kind.*

Rule G1 (1) states: *A member of the Union commits a disciplinary offence if that member.*

G1 (1) (iv) *Discriminates against, harasses or bullies another whether on the grounds of race, creed, sex, sexual orientation or otherwise.*

G1 (1) (vi) *Acts contrary to or fails to carry out or comply with the policies and/or rules of the Union.*

G1 (1) (vii) *Acts in any way prejudicial to the interests of the Union.*

Officials of our union should be fully aware of the stipulations of our rule book and set an example for members to follow, it is the view of the Executive Council that officials/members involved in promulgating such posts, from such accounts, are likely in breach of rule and the Executive Council will take action under rule to enforce the values and rules of the FBU.

Issued on behalf of Executive Council members:

Bro Colin Brown R1
Bro Jim Quinn R2
Bro Tony Curry R3
Bro Pete Smith R4
Bro Andrew Fox-Hewitt R5
Bro Adam Taylor R6
Bro Andrew Scattergood R7
Bro Gareth Tovey R8
Bro Jamie Newell R9
Bro David Shek R10
Bro Joe Weir R11
Bro Steve Wright R12
Sis Val Hampshire R13

If members or officials require any further clarification in relation to this statement they should contact their regional officials in the first instance.

Yours in unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Rowe', with a large, stylized 'M' and 'R'.

Mark Rowe
National Officer

MR/am