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Sarah Ward
Acting Employers' Secretary
Local Government Association
18 Smith Square
Westminster, London
SW1P 3HZ

Dear Sarah

FBU strike ballot and special meeting of the NJC 8 February 2023

The Executive Council of the FBU met yesterday and discussed the latest developments in relation to our pay campaign. We felt it important that the employers are aware of our assessment of the situation prior to the meeting of the NJC.

As we approach the conclusion of our strike ballot, we are confident that our members will have voted overwhelmingly for national strike action in the fight for fair pay.

Recent events indicate that fire service employers are increasingly aware of the level of anger among FBU members and that there is a growing understanding of the need to improve the current offer on pay.

FBU members have suffered years of pay freezes, or low or below inflation pay rises. This situation cannot continue. The current offer from the employers has been rejected by FBU members. To be clear, no offer currently presented either nationally or locally, adequately addresses the issue of falling real wages.

Our message to the fire service employers is this:

We wish to avoid strike action. To achieve this, the national employers must present an improved national pay offer which is different to any currently discussed and worthy of consideration by FBU members.

We hope that the national employers will address these concerns as a matter of urgency at the NJC on 8 February.

Yours sincerely

Matt Wrack
General Secretary