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Your ref: 101606

Our ref: JH/HR/JP/PD2665

Date: 28th April 14

Dear

National Industrial Action

Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority has now been formally notified by the Fire Brigade Union (FBU) of further periods of industrial action in respect of the on-going dispute with Central Government regarding reform of the Fire Fighters pension scheme on the following dates and times;

2 nd May 2014	1200hrs – 1700hrs
3 rd May 2014	1400hrs – 0200hrs
4 th May 2014	1000hrs – 1500hrs

The times of the industrial action are viewed as particularly disappointing by the Authority given the obvious impact on those staff that are not members of the FBU and are providing cover. Whilst it is recognised that Merseyside FBU members have very little influence over the times and dates of industrial action, the forthcoming episodes are at the very limit of what the Authority will tolerate before refusing to accept partial performance of shift.

The Authority is, after carefully considering the options available and in light of the on-going constructive dialogue with the representative bodies, prepared on this occasion to accept partial performance of shift. However, any future periods of industrial action will be considered on their merits and may result in a refusal by the Authority to accept partial performance of shift.

For the avoidance of any doubt a refusal by the Authority to accept partial performance would result in an individual not being required to attend for a full shift where any part of that shift is subject to industrial action.

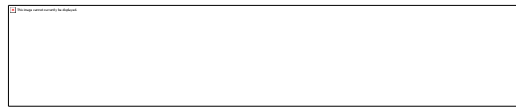
The Authority recognises that this is a National dispute between the Government and the FBU. The Authority however has no influence over these negotiations and must continue to protect our communities during industrial action, whilst safeguarding the wellbeing of those staff who continue to work.

I am sure you will appreciate the reasons for this correspondence, and understand the actions to be taken by the Authority in managing the local impacts of this national dispute.

Yours sincerely



JANET HENSHAW
CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY



DAVE HANRATTY
CHAIR OF THE AUTHORITY