

**Officers' Section meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2008**  
**Eastleigh Fire Station**  
**16.00hrs**

1. Attendance

Andy Eades, Gary Jackson, Andy Bowers, Tom Carr, Paul Cater, Paul Coates, Paul Crouch, Nick Davies, Lee Fisher, Malcolm Freemantle, Tim Gates, Niall Hayden, Al Heinrich, Dave Lock, Malcolm Pinchin, Steve Robinson, Gary Roe, Ryan Thurman, Steve Trevithick, Dave Turner, Tim Vile, Bob Wythe.

2. Apologies

This meeting was sent as an Outlook meeting request and all members of the Branch replied to the Secretary (whether accepted, tentative or declined). Therefore those not in attendance are deemed to have given their apologies

3. GM Rota

The thoughts of the branch were positive towards the new rota. Concerns were raised as to the provision of specialist roles such as FI however it was pointed out that this was an issue prior to the introduction of the revised rota. It was felt that there should be some feedback from Control but that this is an issue for management not FBU. The reps are to attend a meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> Sept to review the trial with a view to accepting the revised rota for GMs

Vote for accepting at meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> passed by the branch.

The issue of SMs moving to the same system was discussed. It was pointed out that the current timesheet does not fully reflect the conditions the SMs work under. However the recording of time was a fundamental H&S safeguard and should remain. A 'new' timesheet will be introduced in October which will roll over the accrued/deficit time. Andy Bowers has asked for a TOIL figure as at end June 08 and this together with the figures for July/Aug/Sept will be given as a start figure for the new sheet. Andy Bowers said he had not had all returns for the end June figure and that no return could result in a 'zero' hours figure being placed in the timesheet. The overwhelming view was that SMs should move to the same rota as GMs however there was a feeling that the Service actively want the different roles to have different rotas (even if by name only) to satisfy desired outcomes from members of SMT.

Vote to work towards all FDS on the same rota system was passed with just 3 abstentions.

**Post meeting note**

**Action: GJ to raise this issue at the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> September when the 'trial' of a revised FDS rota for Middle Managers, carried out on a sample group consisting of GMs is (we anticipate) accepted and implemented. The FBU will request there be a group set up with a view to introducing the *same* rota system to *all* Middle Managers in FDS roles. This group will produce a realistic timeline for the introduction of this revised FDS System to SMs**

#### 4. Provision of cars for FDS officers

Malcolm Pinchin gave an overview of the issues surrounding the use of private vehicles for Service duties. He highlighted the Corporate responsibility and outlined the current audit of both individual driving licences and of private vehicle (grey fleet) MOTs and Insurance.

Should it become necessary for the introduction of fleet cars this will not be carried out overnight but rather staged to ensure a realistic servicing/replacement schedule with Fleet Maintenance.

The vehicle is likely to be individual issue.

Members raised issues of individual's needs and that the vehicle will have to be 'fit for purpose'. It was stated that in the SE region other Brigades have fleet vehicles and they run successfully.

There is an undertaking from those on the working group for full consultation with RBs as this issue progresses.

Issues already highlighted are:

- Tax implications as 'Benefit in kind'.
- Use of vehicle for personal transport whilst both 'on call' and off duty.
- Type of vehicle.
- Single type for all FDS.
- Marked vehicles at private addresses (some covenants may prevent 'commercial vehicles' in certain estates).

A recommendation as to how to progress this issue is anticipated within 6 months.

#### 5. AOB

Dave Graham requested all personnel participate in the Staff Uniform Survey as this will have an influence on future uniform provided