

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/00991

Date of request: 17th August 2026

Request:

Please can you provide information on LFB employees who become officials for the Fire Brigades Union at levels such as regional secretary, where they are effectively seconded to the FBU. Specifically can you please clarify:

What arrangements are made for salary payments/recovery?

Is the individual expected to maintain competence for their operational role?

Is the individual expected to maintain fitness requirements for their operational role?

Is the individual expected to maintain Brigade standards for facial hair etc. if the individual serves as an FBU official for a number of successive terms by re election, for a number of years, would that individual be expected to complete a recruit training course or would they be required to only complete back to operations revalidation.

In the event that you refuse to disclose this information, please do gather it and retain it as it will be requested to a tribunal to be disclosed by court order.

Response:

Please see below for a response to your request:

What arrangements are made for salary payments/recovery?

The Fire Brigade Union (FBU) reimburse the London Fire Commissioner (LFC).

Is the individual expected to maintain competence for their operational role?

Is the individual expected to maintain fitness requirements for their operational role?

Is the individual expected to maintain Brigade standards for facial hair etc.

For the above three questions, the answer is no as they are not because they are not operationally deployed and are seconded to the FBU.

If the individual serves as an FBU official for a number of successive terms by re election, for a number of years, would that individual be expected to complete a recruit training course or would they be required to only complete back to operations revalidation.

Staff returning from a secondment would undergo a training needs analysis from their Ops manager and would not normally attend the T/FF training modules.

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request on our website: <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/>