

## Notice of Motion

### Motion to be moved by Councillor T. Neal:

Council notes that:

- 1) The Government has concluded its “Fair Funding Review 2.0” consultation, and
- 2) Humberside Fire and Rescue Authority (HFA) is significantly impacted by the proposed changes included in the “Fair Funding review”, and this will have a detrimental impact on the communities in Hull. That HFA is facing the 3rd largest reduction in core spending power, with a reduction of £5 million over the medium term – equivalent to 85 full time firefighter posts - 20% of operational staff in Humberside.

Further, Council notes that the reduction in Government grants appears to be underpinned by an assumption that council tax will be increased by £5, thereby essentially centralising what should be a local decision. That if only a 3% precept increase is approved, the core spending will decrease due to inflation. That this reduction in funding is likely to impact on hardworking fire officers’ future pay awards and this will impact on the working relationships with HFA staff and unions. That many of the Fire Rescue Authorities which, modelling suggests, will see the lowest increases (or lack of an increase) in core spending power cover some of the most deprived areas of England (including parts of Humberside, in particular Hull).

Council notes some political groups have already refused to allow for a precept increase to cover central government cuts meaning likely service reduction and job loss. That those political groups have come to this decision without full engagement and understanding of the impact on resident safety.

Council believes that Fire Rescue Services (FRS) face significant funding pressures because of a range of issues including the evolving role of FRSs in protecting our communities; responding to an increasing number of extreme weather events; inflationary pressures; responding to emerging technology risks; challenges around cyber resilience; the need for increased but unfunded capital investment in aging estates; existing budgetary commitments and more. That Fire Funding is removed from the Fair Funding review and funding is allocated separately (like Policing). In addition to FRSs’ statutory duties, public and Government expectation of an FRS response has also grown in several areas which are not underpinned by a statutory footing but requires investment, such as rescues from water at the request of this council passing a motion, emergency medical response to support ambulance services, and road and water safety messaging. Without additional investment, there are serious concerns that the level of service provided to communities in Hull may not be sustainable in the medium to long-term. Whilst recognising the current very challenging economic climate.

Council resolves:

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- 1) to support HFA's campaign to request government to take appropriate funding steps to support the proper funding of HFA, and
- 2) that the Council should do all it can to support HFA's proper funding.

Council further requests that:

- 1) the Leaders of all Groups write to the Minister of State for Crime, Policing and Fire and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to review the proper funding for HRA, and
- 2) the Group Leaders write to the three local MPs to ask them to support this campaign.

Sources:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-fair-funding-review-20>

<https://nfcc.org.uk/incomprehensible-cuts-would-threaten-public-safety-warn-fire-chiefs/>

Letter from Phil Shillito Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive and Cllr Nigel Sherwood Humberside Fire Authority Chair, dated 15th August 2025, ref: MR/AJB

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