

RE: ECR 2022 consultation from The Fire Officer Association (FOA)

I have considered the ECR 2022 proposals from a FOA perspective and overall I support the ECR proposals, as it seems that these will enhance Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services (LFRS) response arrangements, give staff further choice to work differing shift systems and provide further use of On-Call capabilities. Additionally, enhancing LFRS preparedness to climate change emergencies and high-rise buildings fires.

However, I would particularly recommend the following:

1. High Rise: That the primary crewing of the new 45M ALP is vital to ensure that this critical high reach special appliance can be mobilised effectively to support high rise building fires following the learning from the Grenfell Tower fire.
2. Water Rescue: That enough trained / competent boat operators are maintained within LFRS to staff the 3rd boat (reserve boat?) in times of wide area flooding response and that the numbers of SRT staff are too carefully considered to provide an effective response to our communities for water rescue.
3. Penwortham due to its risk profile and attendance at critical fires is kept as DCP (would only cost £25k more per year more to keep).
4. That further savings could be made by reducing FDC to 13 staff (saving of 4 Ff posts) to align with the new collective agreement for DCP (to be reinvested*).
5. That further DCP stations could be kept (as in 3 above) which would reduce further the number of Ff posts (to be reinvested*).
6. *Savings and posts identified in 3, 4 and 5 above should be reinvested in the proposed FWT (Flexible Whole Time) shift system to ensure that the staffing on this proposed flexible shift system are adequate (ridership of 5 normal) and fully supports staffing welfare.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards
Fire Officer Association (FOA)