

You may have seen the news that massive cuts are being proposed to the frontline of your local Fire & Rescue Service. These cuts include the loss of over 140 full time Firefighter jobs and would see the downgrading of 6 Fire Engines and a vital aerial appliance (used to make high reach rescues and fight fires from above). The cuts would also see the downgrading of 3 entire Fire Stations.

Cuts on this scale are unprecedented and Fire Crews are deeply concerned that they will severely compromise our ability to do our job and protect the public. We understand that times are difficult and money is tight, but we believe these cuts go too far and that the current situation cannot continue without risking the long term safety of the public.

The cuts would mean that **Taunton Fire Station** would lose over 20 full time Firefighters and have a vital Fire Engine downgraded. This would cut full time fire & rescue cover in the town *by half* and drastically reduce our ability to respond and deal with incidents in the way that we currently do.

Everyone who witnessed the severe floods in our Region will understand that the Fire Service has been stretched to the limit and sometimes beyond. Your Fire Service has suffered severe cuts for a number of years and if this latest set is forced through we believe our ability to serve you in times of need will be severely compromised.

The cuts are currently out for public consultation and we are asking for your help in making the politicians responsible think again. Your voice is important. If you agree that there should be no further cuts to the frontline Fire & Rescue Service please contact the Consultation Officer in any of the following ways:

Telephone: 01392 872354

Post: Consultation Officer, DSFRS Headquarters, Clyst St George

Exeter, Devon EX3 0NW

Fax: 01392 872300 (Marked for the attention of the Consultation Officer)

Email: ConsultationOfficer@dsfire.gov.uk

Twitter: @DSFireUpdates

Facebook: Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service

Have your say – Back your local Fire Service and say No to Cuts!