



The Labour Relations Commission
An Coimisiun um Chaidreamh Oibreachais

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Baile /

Re: LGMSB & SIPTU

I refer to the conciliation conference of 22 November 2011 between representatives of LGMSB and SIPTU in relation to Breathing Apparatus Refresher Training in the Fire Service

At Conciliation the Union Side agreed to respond on the Draft National Agreement which has been circulated by Management by December 1 2011. Both parties committed to further meaningful engagement on reaching agreement on the issue.

In the interim and without prejudice to a national agreement the following points of clarity were made in relation to the training.

- That Breathing Apparatus Refresher Training is a mandatory requirement for all members of the Retained Fire Service.
- All operational fire fighters will attend such training courses as required by the fire authorities.
- The Disciplinary Procedure will not be invoked as a result of a member of staff not reaching the required standard at the B.A. Refresher Training Course.
- Members of staff who do not demonstrate a satisfactory level of competence in any aspect of the course will be referred for further training with a view to bringing their skills up to the standard required.
- Management is committed to addressing any competency deficit in the shortest time possible and will make every effort to resolve the issue before the end of the Course, where possible.
- Where, for good reason, it is not possible to do so before the end of the Course Management will arrange appropriate training normally within a four to six week period to facilitate the fire fighter (s) to acquire the relevant competencies.
- In the interim the fire fighter(s) will not be assigned to duties for which they have not been deemed competent. However they will be assigned to any breathing apparatus duties they have been deemed competent to perform.
- Such restrictions on deployment are not disciplinary in nature and as a consequence the individuals concerned will suffer no loss of income nor benefits while they continue to cooperate with the training programmes designed to address the identified competency deficiencies.

Mairead Daly
Industrial Relations Officer
22 November 2011

Breege O'Donoghue, Chair
Brendan McGinty
Fergus Whelan
Gerard Barry
Iarla Duffy
John Hennessy
Peter McLoone

Kieran Mulvey (*Chief Executive*)