

Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority



AGENDA SUPPLEMENT (EXTRAORDINARY MEETING)

Date: Wednesday 12 November 2025

Time: 11.30 am

Venue: The Paralympic Room, Buckinghamshire Council, Gatehouse Road,
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP19 8FF

Agenda Item

5. Questions

To receive questions in accordance with Standing Order SOA7.

QUESTIONS

Question 1

Question from Councillor Simon Rouse – Fire Authority Member to Councillor Llew Monger, Chairman, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority

At no point between her appointment and up until June 2025 did the Chief Fire Officer discuss with the previous Chairman of the Authority, its Executive Committee or the Fire Authority a desire to undertake public consultation on widened operational independence.

The first it came into the public domain was via a letter to Members of Parliament and it is now included in the paper related to on-call service cuts. Whilst you have previously set out you do not consider this disrespectful to Members, that is not a view shared by other Members of the Authority.

Please set out:

- the date at which the Chief Fire Officer first discussed it with you as Chairman;
- what other members of the Fire Authority were consulted on it, if so on what date; and
- whether the Fire Brigades Union has ever been consulted on it, if so on what date.

Question 2

Question from Councillor Simon Rouse – Fire Authority Member to Councillor Llew Monger, Chairman, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority

Please confirm the public consultation on on-call service cuts will include an explicit "yes or no" to whether the public agrees with the proposals to reduce on call appliances.

Question 3

Question from Councillor Simon Rouse – Fire Authority Member to Councillor Niknam Hussain, Lead Member for Finance and Assets, Information Security, IT, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority

You have previously confirmed that a covenant exists on Great Missenden fire station which means it must always be a fire station. Please confirm:

- the public will explicitly be told of this covenant in the public consultation on on-call service reduction; and
- the basis on which the Fire Authority intends to comply with this covenant if it proceeds with closure of Great Missenden station

Question 4

Question from Councillor Simon Rouse – Fire Authority Member to Councillor Niknam Hussain, Lead Member for Finance and Assets, Information Security, IT, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority

You previously failed to confirm that you had undertaken assessment of the business case assumptions in the on-call service cut proposals with officers. Now that these proposals are proceeding to public consultation, please set out:

- the date on which you reviewed the outline and full business case assumptions;
- your personal assessment of the validity of the assumptions; and
- details of any further work on the financial business case assumptions that you asked officers undertake between the now infamous closed July 12th workshop and the paper in front of the Fire Authority on 12th November

Question 5

Question from Councillor Simon Rouse – Fire Authority Member to Councillor Robin Stuchbury, Lead Member for Health and Safety and Corporate Risk, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority

The Fire Brigades Union has made clear it believes the proposed on-call service cuts will endanger the public and firefighters. Please confirm that you will therefore now oppose the proposals proceeding to public consultation.

Question 6

Question from Councillor Simon Rouse – Fire Authority Member to Councillor Llew Monger, Chairman, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority

Please confirm:

- That the Authority agreed to invest in 2 additional rural firefighting vehicles following the 2022 wildfires review and confirm the specific dates the Authority decision, investment allocation and purchase commenced; and
- That at no point did the Fire Authority make the decision to approve the purchase of the rural firefighting vehicles on the basis that they would serve as a replacement for fire engines or to justify future reduction.

Question 7

Question from Councillor Simon Rouse – Fire Authority Member to Councillor Llew Monger, Chairman, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority

Please outline how you personally have satisfied yourself that the proposed public consultation on on-call service reduction meet the Gunning Principles.