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**NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL
FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES**

**To: Chief Fire Officers
Chief Executives/Clerks to Fire Authorities
Chairs of Fire Authorities
Directors of HR (Fire Authorities)**

Members of the National Joint Council

5 June 2015

CIRCULAR NJC/08/15

Dear Sir/Madam,

ADOPTION APPOINTMENTS

1. Circular NJC/1/15 provided authorities with a number of amendments to the Scheme of Conditions of Service (Grey Book) arising from legislative change.
2. You will recall the circular also made reference to an indication from the Employees' Side of a forthcoming additional claim.
3. The claim subsequently presented related to adoption appointments and stated:

'We seek an amendment to the provision that where a uniformed employee of a fire and rescue service who is seeking to adopt a child with a partner has not elected to be the partner receiving paid leave, he/she shall be entitled to receive paid leave for the first meeting with the child.'

4. At the meeting of the National Joint Council on 3rd June members reached agreement on that basis, with immediate effect. The addition to the Scheme of Conditions of Service will be issued shortly.

Yours faithfully

**SIMON PANNELL
MATT WRACK**
Joint Secretaries