



Press Release - 21 November 2023

WARWICKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE FIRE STATION CLOSURE PROPOSALS

Tristan Ashby Chief Executive of the Fire and Rescue Services Association (FRSA) which represents firefighters in Warwickshire along with Executive Committee member Ben Redwood discuss the proposed changes to fire cover in Warwickshire in a podcast released today.

Tristan Ashby said:

'This podcast is part of our campaign to make people aware of the ill thought-out and reckless proposals waived through for consultation by the County Council's Cabinet earlier this month.

The FRSA is astounded that the fire and rescue service should be getting ready to consult on what will be a major degradation in fire cover in Warwickshire. Even according to its own calculations both financial savings and attendance times will not be improved, and we argue that they they will worsen. We are particularly shocked at the heartless and cavalier way Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is treating its staff, with a casual disregard to their financial and emotional well-being. The reward for their hard work and considerable commitment to their community is the threat of redundancy.'

The podcast can be heard [here](#):

Message End

Note for Editors:

- Proposals were approved by the Warwickshire County Council Cabinet to launch a public consultation next month which will effectively close seven on-call stations turning them into so-called 'surge stations' to be used less than once a year.
- The future of all on-call firefighters currently employed is unclear, but they cannot remain on their current terms and conditions and redundancy is the likely option.
- In spite of these changes the saving of the preferred option are a meagre saving of just £14,000.
- There will be a 17 second saving in attendance times for the first fire engine, but a 12 second increase for the second engine. The FRSA doubts the statistical validity of the figures. Given the attendance time and financial savings are so small there can be little confidence in them.