

# RULE A15

## Compulsory retirement on grounds of disablement

**Rule A15 explains the terms under which a fire and rescue authority may require a firefighter to retire on grounds of permanent disablement.**

### **Decision to retire firefighter on grounds of permanent disablement**

Rule A15(1) explains that a fire and rescue authority can require a regular firefighter to retire on the grounds of permanent disablement. (“Permanent disablement” is explained in Rule A10.) The date of retirement is to be determined by the fire and rescue authority.

This decision to retire you on grounds of permanent disablement can only be taken after the fire and rescue authority has sought a medical opinion (see the explanation of Rule H1).

### **How such retirement may be void following appeal**

Rule A15(2) allows that if –

- you use your right of appeal against the medical opinion upon which the fire and rescue authority based their decision, and
- the Board of Medical Referees appointed to hear your appeal decide that you are not permanently disabled,

then your retirement on grounds of permanent disablement is made void.

### **Points To Note**

1. The employers’ side of the National Joint Council for Local Authorities’ Fire Brigades agreed at a meeting held on 11 July 1983 that in the case of an appeal against retirement on grounds of permanent disablement, retirement should be held in abeyance until the appeal was decided.
2. If your fire and rescue authority do not hold your retirement in abeyance and then following appeal your retirement is made void, you would not be entitled to the pension received. You would be entitled to pay as a firefighter. Your pay as a firefighter would be adjusted by any pension payments made. You would also be required to return any lump sum commutation received.