

London Fire Brigade Pay Scales 2026

LFB's own pay scale from 1 July 2026 (LFB Policy 558) · every rank · firefighterpay.co.uk

LFB pay rates, Firefighter to Station Officer, from 1 July 2026

Rank and stage	Annual basic	Hourly	Overtime x1.5	Public holiday x2
Firefighter Development	£37,402	£17.08	£25.62	£34.16
Firefighter Competent	£47,991	£21.91	£32.87	£43.82
Firefighter Competent Plus	£49,223	£22.48	£33.72	£44.96
Leading Firefighter (Development paid at Competent)	£52,374	£23.92	£35.88	£47.84
Leading Firefighter Maximum (1 year after sign-off)	£53,610	£24.48	£36.72	£48.96
Sub Officer (Development paid at Competent)	£54,781	£25.01	£37.52	£50.02
Sub Officer Maximum (1 year after sign-off)	£55,850	£25.50	£38.25	£51.00
Station Officer (Development paid at Competent)	£57,666	£26.33	£39.50	£52.66
Station Officer 1 year	£59,143	£27.01	£40.52	£54.02
Station Officer 2 year	£60,623	£27.68	£41.52	£55.36
Station Officer Maximum (3 years after sign-off)	£62,476	£28.53	£42.80	£57.06

Source: LFB Policy 558, Appendix 1. Legacy Protected Sub Officer rate (closed to new entrants after 16 October 2019): £54,956, £25.09 hourly, £37.64 overtime, £50.18 public holiday.

LFB Station Commander and Group Commander pay, from 1 July 2026

Role and stage	Basic salary	20% FDS	Total	Hourly (on total)
Station Commander A Competent	£60,792	£12,158.40	£72,950.40	£33.31
Station Commander A Competent Plus	£61,812	£12,362.40	£74,174.40	£33.87
Station Commander B Competent (Development paid at this rate)	£64,589	£12,917.80	£77,506.80	£35.39
Station Commander B Competent Plus	£65,610	£13,122.00	£78,732.00	£35.95
Group Commander A Competent	£68,923	£13,784.60	£82,707.60	£37.77
Group Commander A Competent Plus	£69,948	£13,989.60	£83,937.60	£38.33
Group Commander B Competent (Development paid at this rate)	£73,631	£14,726.20	£88,357.20	£40.35
Group Commander B Competent Plus	£74,650	£14,930.00	£89,580.00	£40.90

Source: LFB Policy 558, Appendix 2. Competent Plus is paid after one year from PDR sign-off. Appendix 3 additional-duty rates are shown in the policy as rates from 1 July 2025 and were not restated for 2026 in the edition we read.

LFB pay: take-home and the national comparison

Estimated 2026/27 take-home and how LFB basic pay compares with the NJC table · firefighterpay.co.uk

Estimated LFB take-home pay, 2026/27, England tax, FPS 2015 contribution bands

Rank and stage	Gross	Pension	Income tax	NI	Take-home a year	Per month
Firefighter Development	£37,402	£4,708.91	£4,024.62	£1,986.56	£26,681.91	£2,223.49
Firefighter Competent	£47,991	£6,761.93	£5,731.81	£2,833.68	£32,663.57	£2,721.96
Firefighter Competent Plus	£49,223	£6,935.52	£5,943.50	£2,932.24	£33,411.74	£2,784.31
Leading Firefighter Competent	£52,374	£7,379.50	£6,484.90	£3,058.08	£35,451.52	£2,954.29
Sub Officer Competent	£54,781	£7,718.64	£6,898.47	£3,106.22	£37,057.67	£3,088.14
Station Officer Competent	£57,666	£8,125.14	£7,394.17	£3,163.92	£38,982.77	£3,248.56
Station Officer Maximum	£62,476	£8,802.87	£8,901.25	£3,260.12	£41,511.76	£3,459.31
Station Commander A Competent (incl. FDS)	£72,950.40	£11,372.97	£12,062.97	£3,469.61	£46,044.85	£3,837.07
Group Commander B Competent (incl. FDS)	£88,357.20	£13,774.89	£17,264.93	£3,777.74	£53,539.64	£4,461.64

Illustration from the site's 2026/27 model. Excludes the 2% MTA payment, overtime, allowances, union subscriptions and any salary sacrifice. Check the final lines of your payslip.

LFB basic pay against the NJC table by position in the ladder, from 1 July 2026

Position	LFB rank and stage	LFB basic	NJC role and stage	NJC basic	LFB minus NJC
Entry	Firefighter Development	£37,402	Firefighter Development	£31,539	+£5,863 (18.6%)
1	Firefighter Competent	£47,991	Firefighter Competent	£40,358	+£7,633 (18.9%)
2	Leading Firefighter Competent	£52,374	Crew Manager Competent	£44,742	+£7,632 (17.1%)
3	Sub Officer Competent	£54,781	Watch Manager Competent A	£46,980	+£7,801 (16.6%)
3 (top)	Sub Officer Maximum	£55,850	Watch Manager Competent B	£50,034	+£5,816 (11.6%)
4	Station Officer Competent	£57,666	Station Manager Competent A	£53,604	+£4,062 (7.6%)
4 (top)	Station Officer Maximum	£62,476	Station Manager Competent B	£57,402	+£5,074 (8.8%)
5	Station Commander A Competent	£60,792	Group Manager Competent A	£61,736	-£944 (-1.5%)
5 (top)	Station Commander B Competent	£64,589	Group Manager Competent B	£66,445	-£1,856 (-2.8%)
6	Group Commander A Competent	£68,923	Area Manager Competent A	£72,476	-£3,553 (-4.9%)
6 (top)	Group Commander B Competent	£73,631	Area Manager Competent B	£77,186	-£3,555 (-4.6%)

Sources: LFB Policy 558 and the site's NJC data (circular NJC/2/26). Position in each ladder only, not an official equivalence. LFB Station Commanders and Group Commanders receive a 20% supplement on top of basic; under the Grey Book, flexible duty supplement applies to Station Manager and above, so compare totals for those roles carefully.

Work out your own London take-home pay

Overtime, allowances, your tax code and pension band change the figure. Free calculator and the full guide: firefighterpay.co.uk/guides/lfb-pay-scales-2026/

Source: London Fire Brigade Policy 558, operational staff pay rates (reviewed 24 July 2026), following the 3.8% NJC award from 1 July 2026. Illustrative reference only, not an official LFB document. Your contract and payslip decide your pay.