

**Question for written answer E-006858/2017/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Alex Mayer (S&D)

Subject: Prescriptive compensation for firefighters in contact with carcinogens

The UK Fire Brigades Union has regularly raised concerns over the number of contaminants that firefighters are exposed to in the course of their work. As a whole, research by Graveling & Crawford (2010) has also concluded that firefighters are at an elevated risk of several forms of cancer, as well as multiple myeloma. In both the United States and Canada, presumptive legislation has been achieved for firefighters to provide them with compensation should they be affected by cancer. However, the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council (IIAC), which advises the Department for Work and Pensions in Great Britain as regards Injuries Disablement Benefit has concluded that the research does not meet the 'burden of proof' of more than 2.0 times greater risk in order for prescriptive compensation to be considered.

1. Does the Commission have any plans to enhance, at the EU level, the protection of firefighters from exposure to carcinogen substances in the course of their work?
2. Will the Commission consider requesting a report on the impact of contaminants and carcinogens on the increased risk for firefighters of developing cancer?
3. Would the Commission support the claims of firefighters wishing to claim compensation retroactively?