

Tel: 0300 200 1031
E-mail: myhelpdeskpensions@surreycc.gov.uk



SURREY

Pension Services
Surrey County Council
Room 243 County Hall
Penrhyn Road
Kingston upon Thames
KT1 2DN

<<Date4>>

Dear <<TITLE>> <<SURNAME>>,

Firefighters' Pension Scheme (FPS) - Pensions Increase (Review) Order 2018

I am writing to advise you that the annual pension increase award applies from 9 April 2018 and the rate of this year's increase is **3%**. This annual award is based on increases in the Consumer Prices Index over the twelve month period ending in September 2017.

Your gross yearly pension will be £<<Post Increase>> from 9 April 2018. The section below called **'Other factors affecting the pension increase'** explains why your pension may not increase by the full 3%.

As your pension is paid a month in advance, and the increase applies from 9 April, you will receive a proportion of the full monthly increase in your March pension payment.

Other factors affecting the pension increase

In certain circumstances the pension you are receiving will not increase by the full 3%.

1. Guaranteed Minimum Pension

If your pension is wholly or partly based on scheme membership between 6 April 1978 and 5 April 1997 and you reached State Pension Age before 6 April 2016, you may have been notified by HM Revenue and Customs that you are entitled to a Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP). The amount of the GMP is included in your FPS pension but pensions increases are split between the State Pension and the FPS. If you are entitled to a GMP, your total FPS pension will not be increased by the full 3%.

2. Pensions that started after 24 April 2017

If the payment of your pension started after 24 April 2017 you will receive a proportion of the full increase based on the date your pension began.

The full 3% increase will apply to any pension built up in the career average scheme.

Pension Payments

Pension paydays from April 2018 to March 2019 will be the last Thursday of each month, except in December, when the payday will be earlier.

A payslip will be issued to you each March and April. In other months, a payslip will only be issued if the net pension payment varies by more than £1.00 when compared with the previous month.

Income tax form P60

Your income tax form P60 for the year 2017/18 tax year will be sent to your home address with your April 2018 pay advice close to the 26 April payment date.

Tax Queries

You will need to refer any tax enquiries to the Tax Office quoting your personnel number (this is shown on your payslip), your National Insurance number and the reference number shown below. Please note Pension Services are unable to deal with your tax coding queries, as the Tax Office will not discuss your personal tax affairs with us.

The contact details of the Tax Office are: Pay as you Earn and Self Assessment
HM Revenue and Customs, BX9 1AS

Telephone number: 0300 200 3300 **Reference number:** 846/UZ09906

Moving home or changing your banking arrangements? Please keep in touch

If you move house or change your bank or building society account, you will need to notify Pension Services as soon as possible. Our contact details are shown below. **For your own security we are not able to accept bank changes by phone or email.**

National Association of Retired Firefighters & Surrey Old Comrades Association

Membership of these two Associations is open to retired members of the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service. **The National Association of Retired Firefighters (NARF)** was formed in 1968 for the purpose of protecting the interests of retired firefighters and their families. The **Old Comrades Association (OCA)** enables retired members of Surrey Fire and Rescue Service to get together and keep in touch with one another.

There is no joining fee for either organisation and the monthly subscriptions are (NARF) 55p and (OCA) 20p. The subscriptions can be deducted from your pension each month.

The contact details for further information about events and the Associations are shown below.

NARF: Clifford Webb **Phone:** 01342 716065
The Old Pumphouse, North Street, **Mobile:** 07725 261731
Turners Hill, West Sussex, RH10 4NS **email:** mrcwebb@icloud.com

OCA: Stuart Gwilliam **Phone:** 01737 760 759
173 Honeycrook Lane, Salfords, **email:** spgwilliam@icloud.com
Redhill, Surrey, RH1 5JR

Or Ray Clifford **Phone:** 01737 277 584
3 Orpin Road, Redhill, **email:** rayclifford49@gmail.com
Surrey, RH1 3EX

Surrey County Council – Staff Retirement Association

Surrey County Council also offers membership of their Retirement Association to retired firefighters and their dependants. As a member you can renew old friendships and establish new ones.

You will be able to meet people in a friendly atmosphere and take part in activities, talks and visits etc. There are groups across the county, but if you have moved away from Surrey, you will still be able to keep in touch through the quarterly Newsletter, which is circulated to all members.

There is no joining fee, and the monthly subscription of 45p will be deducted from your pension every month. Please contact Pension Services for an application form.

Contact details for Surrey Pension Services

Email:	myhelpdeskpensions@surreycc.gov.uk
Phone:	0300 200 1031
Address:	Pension Services, Surrey County Council, Room 243 County Hall Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2DN

Yours sincerely



Jason Bailey – Lead Pensions Manager