

PensionConnection

Introduction

Welcome to the latest edition of Pension Connection, our newsletter for retired members of the Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund and Fire Pension Schemes. This year sees a 1.7% increase for the majority of our retirees on their pensions from April 2020.

This newsletter is intended to provide you with useful facts and information about your pension. There's quite a bit of information so please do remember that our Pension Helpdesk Team are happy to help on

01443 680611

You can also find a great deal of useful information on our pension website which has a specific section dedicated to our retired members. The site has some useful links to related sites.



Our website can be accessed via:
www.rctpensions.org.uk

My Pension On-line

If you haven't done so already you can register for My Pension On-line, this is an on-line facility which allows you to view your payslips and P60 on line or update your address or bank account details. You can register for the service by clicking on the My Pension On-line button on the RCT Pension Fund website and following the instructions.



Pension Pay Dates

Fire Payroll 96	Local Government Payroll 98 (end of month)	Local Government Payroll 99 (mid monthly)
May 01	April 30	April 16
June 01	May 29	May 15
July 01	June 30	June 16
July 31	July 31	July 16
September 01	August 28	August 14
October 01	September 30	September 16
October 30	October 30	October 16
December 01	November 30	November 16
December 31	December 31	December 16
February 01	January 29	January 15
March 01	February 26	February 16
April 01	March 31	March 16

Data Protection

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into force in May 2018. Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund is a Data Controller, this means we store, hold and manage your personal data in line with statutory requirements to allow us to administer your pension. Further details on the data we hold and what we do with that data can be found in our Privacy Notice on www.rctpensions.org.uk

Your P60 & Payslips

Your P60 Certificate will be issued in May this year and provides a summary of the pension you have received and tax paid for the year, up to 5 April 2020. Your P60 includes information which is required by HMRC, called the Lifetime Allowance.

The Lifetime Allowance is a limit on the value of all of your pension benefits before incurring excess tax charges. The limit for 2019/20 was £1,055,000. Your Lifetime Allowance figure can be found on your P60 Certificate, and is based on your Local Government pension benefits and does not include any other pensions in payment.

Please note that members who retired before 6 April 2006 will have a blank entry on the P60 Certificate, as this is not required by HMRC.

It is important that you keep your P60 certificate safe as you may need to refer to it in the future.

You will receive a monthly pay-slip if your net pension changes by more than £1 from the previous month or your tax code changes, so usually you will only receive a pay-slip in March, April and May of each year.

Make a Connection!



Pensions Helpdesk: 01443 680611
Mon - Fri: 9am - 5pm



Email: pensions@rctcbc.gov.uk



Website: www.rctpensions.org.uk



Write: Bronwydd House, Porth CF39 9DL



This year's pension increase

The annual increase to your Local Government and State pension is based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as at 30th September from the preceding year and will be payable from 06th April 2020.

Your pension will be increased if you:

- are aged 55 or over
- or are receiving a spouse's, beneficiary's, or child's pension
- or retired on ill health grounds

If you do not fall into one of these groups, your pension will still attract the increase, but it will not be paid until your 55th birthday.

This year, your pension will increase by 1.7%

If your pension began after 21st April 2019 then you will receive a proportion of these benefits depending on the date you retired.

If you are receiving a pension and have reached State Pension Age the full increase may not be paid by the Pension Fund, some of it will be paid by the Department for Works and Pensions in the form of an increase to your Basic State Pension. This will be equal to the full increase.

Pensions Beginning	Pensions Increase
24th March 2019 to 21st April 2019	1.70%
22nd April 2019 to 21st May 2019	1.56%
22nd May 2019 to 21st June 2019	1.42%
22nd June 2019 to 21st July 2019	1.28%
22nd July 2019 to 21st August 2019	1.13%
22nd August 2019 to 21st September 2019	0.99%
22nd September 2019 to 21st October 2019	0.85%
22nd October 2019 to 21st November 2019	0.71%
22nd November 2019 to 21st December 2019	0.57%
22nd December 2019 to 21st January 2020	0.43%
22nd January 2020 to 21st February 2020	0.28%
22nd February 2020 to 21st March 2020	0.14%

Language of Choice

We are happy to correspond with you in either Welsh or English, please let us know your preference and we will make sure all future correspondence is provided in that language. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay.

Protecting your money

The Pension Fund participates in the National Fraud Initiative which is designed to target and prevent fraud and corruption, which costs the taxpayer hundreds of millions of pounds each year.

Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund's involvement in this exercise helps detect fraud and corruption, and we have a legal duty to protect public money. As part of this initiative public agencies are allowed to share this information.

Do not be alarmed if you receive a request for information as it may be an inconsistency that requires further clarification.

If you are claiming any sort of benefit, for example housing benefit, you need to disclose your pension payments, including ill health pensions from the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The change will automatically be taken into account in survivor benefits paid to civil partners and same sex spouses in the future.

Your State Pension and Tax Queries

The Pension Service, which is a part of the Department for Work and Pensions, can provide you with information on your state pension and pension credits as well as providing advice on winter fuel payments and other related benefits.

Claiming your State Pension for the first time:

0800 731 7898

**Welsh Language number:
0800 731 7936**

**State Pension Enquiries:
0800 731 0469**

**Welsh Language number:
0800 731 0453**

If you have any question about your tax you should contact the tax office, quoting your National Insurance number.

**HM Revenue & Customs
South Wales Area
Ty Glas, Llanishen
Cardiff
CF14 5YA**

Tel: 0300 200 3300

**Welsh Language number:
0300 200 1900**

www.hmrc.gov.uk

Changes to your personal details

Please make sure you let us know if you move house or change your bank details.

You can either tell us by

- Using My Pension On Line, or
- If you have previously registered a password with us you can tell us about these changes by telephone, or
- You can download the **Change of Address or Bank Details Form** from our website at **www.rctpensions.org.uk** Make sure you tell us in good time otherwise it may delay your payment.

If you tell us that you have moved we will automatically report your new address details to HMRC.

If your marital status has changed, you will need to tell us and send us your original marriage certificate, civil partnership certificate or decree absolute.