

UPDATE for Pensioners

Welcome to the thirteenth edition of our newsletter

Welcome to the 2018 pensioner's newsletter, which has been compiled for individuals who currently receive a Local Government Pension from Enfield Council. Our aim is to provide you with information that you will find both useful and interesting.

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Paper Payslip Distribution 2018/19

March Payslip

At the end of March you received a payslip for month ending 31st March 2018. This payslip shows the total pension paid and any tax deducted for the whole financial year 2017/18. These figures can be found in the "Tax to Date" table on the bottom left of the payslip and they will appear on your P60.

April Payslip

Along with any tax code changes for financial year 2018/19, your April payslip will also show, where applicable any pensions increase from 9th April. This means, should you qualify a proportion of your April pension will be at the old rate and a proportion at the new rate. Please see below for further details of this year's pensions increase.

May Payslip

If applicable this payslip will show the new rate of your pension for a whole month following the annual pensions increase. This will normally be the last payslip you will receive until March 2019. We no longer issue a monthly paper payslip unless there is a variation to the **net** monthly pension of at least **£1.00** when compared with your May payslip.

E-Payslip are coming!

In the summer the Payroll Team will be introducing e-payslips for all its customers. This will replace paper payslips for those pensioners who wish to receive them.

The e-payslip offering will include a self-service hub which will enable you to not only access your payslips but also your P60 and general Payroll/Pension information.

The e-payslip is an online version of the printed paper payslip you currently receive, containing all the same pay information. You can access your e-payslip through a secure online portal which is accessible by any internet enabled device i.e. PC, laptop, tablet or smartphone - anytime, anywhere.

The secure online portal is a safe place to keep all past and present pay information. To access the portal you will be provided with an individual username and password, which you can change once logged in. In your portal you will find your pay information, payslips, and any key messages or announcements. You can access and view your information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year; with the option to print a PDF copy of your payslip should you require a hard copy.

We understand pay information is very sensitive and private to you, and you may be concerned about the security of your information held online. The online portal's external hosting facility has data security accreditations, and has been developed to banking standards to keep your information safe and secure with strict password settings. Security questions are also required to help maintain a high level of security.

Once the payslip phase of the system is live the payroll team will introduce electronic versions of the HMRC's P60.

To enable you to access e-payslips we require a valid email address. Please send your email address to: zpensions@enfield.gov.uk. We will store this securely and only use it in connection with the e-payslip project and will not share this with any other parties.

More information regarding e-payslips will be issued to you in the summer.

Year End Update

P60

Before 31st May 2018 you will receive a Form P60. The P60 shows taxable pay, tax deducted and your final tax code for the tax year starting April 2017. The same information will be given to HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC).

Your P60 is very important. You need to keep it safe in case you are asked to complete a tax return.

If you lose your P60 you can use your March payslip to obtain the figures, as explained above. If you need a copy of your P60 please contact the Payroll Team using the contact details at the end of this Newsletter.

Pay Dates for 2018/19

For pensioners who have their pension credited to bank accounts in the United Kingdom pay dates for the 2018/19 year are as follows:

Period	Pay Day	Pay Day
2018		
Apr	30/04/2018	Monday
May	31/05/2018	Thursday
Jun	29/06/2018	Friday
Jul	31/07/2018	Tuesday
Aug	31/08/2018	Friday
Sep	28/09/2018	Friday
Oct	31/10/2018	Wednesday
Nov	30/11/2018	Friday
Dec	21/12/2018	Friday
2019		
Jan	31/01/2019	Thursday
Feb	28/02/2019	Thursday
Mar	29/03/2019	Friday



Pensioners who have their pension credited to bank accounts outside of the United Kingdom will normally have their pension credited four banking days later than the above list, although this may vary according to local public holidays.

Public Sector Pensions Increases

Local Government pensions are updated by the increase in the Consumer Prices Index (CPI). Each April Her Majesty's Treasury uses CPI in the previous September to ensure pensions are keeping up with the cost of living. CPI is the Government's measure of how prices are rising or falling.



With effect from 09th April 2018, qualifying pensioners will have their pensions increased by 3.00% (or in accordance with the table below).

Pensions Increase 2018

If your pension began on or after 25th April 2017, you will receive a proportion of the full increase in accordance with the table below.

From	To	Percentage increase (%)
Pensions commencing on or before 24 April 2017		3.00%
25 April	24 May	2.75%
25 May	24 June	2.50%
25 June	24 July	2.25%
25 July	24 August	2.00%
25 August	24 September	1.75%
25 September	24 October	1.50%
25 October	24 November	1.25%
25 November	24 December	1.00%
25 December 2017	24 January 2018	0.75%
25 January	24 February	0.50%
25 February	24 March	0.25%

Please note that pensions increase is normally paid to pensioners who:

- are aged 55 or over, or
- have retired due to permanent ill-health regardless of age, or
- are spouses and dependants of former employees or pensioners.

Further information about CPI can be found by visiting the Office of National Statistics website: www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/previousreleases

Budget 2018 Update

Income Tax Allowances

	2017/18	2018/19
Personal Allowance	£11,500	£11,850
Transferable Tax Allowance for married couples and civil partners	£1,150	£1,190

Income Tax Bands

Rate	%	Net Taxable Pay
Basic Rate	20%	£0 to £34,500
Higher Rate	40%	£34,501 to £150,000
Additional Rate	45%	Over £150,000

What is the Personal Allowance?

Nearly everyone who lives in the UK is entitled to an Income Tax Personal Allowance. This is an amount of income you can receive each year without having to pay tax on it.

The Personal Allowance will rise to £11,850 in the 2018-19 tax year.

The value of the personal allowance will be restricted for those with annual incomes over £100,000. The personal allowance will be reduced by £1 for every £2 that income exceeds £100,000 until the personal allowance is reduced to nil.

Transferable Tax Allowances for Married Couples & Civil Partners

This allowance is currently set at 10% of the personal. It allows a spouse or civil partner who is not liable to income tax above the basic rate to transfer this amount of their personal allowance to their spouse/ civil partner. The recipient must not be liable to tax above the basic rate. The recipient is eligible to a tax reduction of 20% of the transferred amount.

To register your interests please follow this link: <https://www.gov.uk/marriage-allowance>

New Pension website

We have developed a new pension website for members of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The site is easy to use and will provide you with comprehensive information on all aspects of the pension service, the LGPS scheme and the Enfield Pension Fund.

You can access the pension website by using the following link <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/pensions/> or by going to the Enfield website and typing in 'Enfield Pension Scheme'.

Changes to your personal details

It is extremely important that we keep our records up to date so that we can keep you informed of any changes to the pension scheme and in some rare cases, avoid the possibility of pension payments being suspended. Could you therefore please let us know of any changes to your personal details such as: Surname, address, banking arrangements, marital status etc?

For bank and address changes, please complete the appropriate form from our website or request a copy, <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/pensions/forms/>



If we receive any amendments by the 15th of the month, (or the last working day prior to 15th), that change will take place for that current month. An exception to this will be the early pay day for December, where we will require any changes by the 8th December.

Tax Code Changes

Occasionally HMRC issue tax code changes to individuals directly. These code changes are issued approximately 4 weeks before HMRC notify the Payroll Team.

If you receive a change of tax coding, wait approximately two pay days and if by this time your tax code has not been reflected in your net pension payment, please contact the Payroll Team and we will investigate.

Why do I pay more tax since I started to receive my State Pension?

If you receive a State Pension you may pay additional tax on the pension you receive from Enfield. This is because State Pension is classed as a taxable income even though it is not taxed initially when it is paid to you by The Pension Service, part of the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

When HMRC allocate your personal allowance it will be reduced by the amount of your State Pension so that the tax due on both sources of income are deducted from the pension you receive from Enfield Council.

HMRC – Personal Tax Account

In 2015 HMRC introduced the Personal Tax Account. Since this time it has been phasing in the use of this new online account and by April 2016 all tax payers, both business and personal, have been able to manage their tax affairs online.

Tax Payers are being encouraged to sign up via this link.

https://www.gov.uk/personal-tax-account?utm_source=HMRCPTApage&utm_medium=GOVUK&utm_campaign=PTA

HMRC say once set up you can use your account to:

- check your Income Tax estimate and tax code
- fill in, send and view a personal tax return
- claim a tax refund
- check and manage your tax credits
- check your State Pension
- track tax forms that you've submitted online
- check or update your Marriage Allowance
- tell HMRC about a change of address
- check or update benefits you get from work, for example company car details and medical insurance

National Fraud Initiative

The Council is required by law to protect the public funds we administer. This means that we may share the information provided to us with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for the purposes of preventing and detecting fraud.

Later this year, the Cabinet Office will again require us to participate in the National Fraud Initiative, a data matching exercise that takes place every two years.

We are required by law to provide the Cabinet Office with details of everyone who receives a pension from the Council so that the information can be compared with data provided by other public bodies.

The data is processed by the Cabinet Office using statutory powers under Part 6 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and does not require the consent of the individuals concerned under either the Data Protection Act 1998 or the General Data Protection Regulation.

The Council will receive a report of matches that need investigating and our participation will help ensure that, as an example, no pensions are being paid to persons who are deceased, or who are no longer entitled, and that occupational pension income is being correctly declared when housing benefit is applied for.

Sometimes wrong payments are made because of a genuine error, and previous exercises have uncovered instances of persons receiving too little pension, resulting in payments being increased.

You do not need to take any action at this time. However, you may be contacted again if the exercise suggests that you are not receiving the correct amount of pension.

Further information is available on the GOV.UK website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-fraud-initiative>.

If you do have any questions about this counter fraud initiative, please contact Bob Cundick of the Council's Audit and Risk Management Service on 020 8379 4028 or via bob.cundick@enfield.gov.uk.

Please note that any changes in your circumstances, such as a change of address or bank account details, should be reported to the Pensions Team in the normal way.

Change of bank and home address forms can be found here;

<https://new.enfield.gov.uk/pensions/forms/>

Website <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/pensions/>

email zpensions@enfield.gov.uk

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The Enfield Pension Fund is a Data Controller under the General Data Protection Regulations. This means we store, hold and manage your personal data in line with statutory requirements to enable us to provide you with pension administration services. To enable us to carry out our statutory duty, we are required to share your information with certain bodies, but will only do so in limited circumstances. More information will be made available via our website

<https://new.enfield.gov.uk/pensions/>



If you would like any more information about any items included in this newsletter or any other aspect of your Local Government pension, please contact us at:

Exchequer Services

Pension Team
Thomas Hardy House
39 London Road
Enfield EN2 6DS

For any queries relating to your pension such as pensions increase or Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) rates please contact the **Pensions Team**:

Website: <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/pensions/contact-us/>

Email: zpensions@enfield.gov.uk

Phone: 020 8379 3168

For any queries relating to your pension payments, such as tax code changes or bank account changes, please contact the **Payroll Team**.

Phone: 020 8379 5059
020 8379 6101

Email:

Surnames A to C	zpayroll.a.to.c@enfield.gov.uk
Surnames D to H	zpayroll.d.to.h@enfield.gov.uk
Surnames I to M	zpayroll.i.to.m@enfield.gov.uk
Surnames N to R	zpayroll.n.to.r@enfield.gov.uk
Surnames S to Z	zpayroll.s.to.z@enfield.gov.uk

Other useful numbers

For information relating to your **State Pension**, please contact **The Pension Service** on 0345 60 60 265

For information on your **Teachers Pension**, please contact **Teachers Pensions** on 0345 60 66 166

For information relating to **tax** please contact **HM Revenue and Customs** on 0300 200 3300.

Please note for HM Revenue & Customs enquiries you may be asked to quote the PAYE reference number, this is **120/B32** and it may be helpful to have your National Insurance number when you call.