

UPDATE for Pensioners

Welcome to the fourteenth edition of our newsletter

Welcome to the 2019 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 2019

The pension paper payslips will be issued as follows:

March Payslip

At the end of March you received a payslip for month ending 31st March 2019. This payslip shows the total pension paid and any tax deducted for the whole financial year 2018/19. 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 2019/20, your April payslip will also show, where applicable, any pensions increase from 8th 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 pensions increase. This will normally be the last payslip you will receive until March 2020. We no longer issue a monthly payslip unless there is a variation to the net monthly pension of at least £1.00 when compared with your May payslip.

e-Payslip & e-P60

Last summer the Payroll Team successfully introduced e-payslips for all its customers. This replaced paper payslips for those that successfully set up their accounts.

At the time this article goes to press we are preparing the form P60 which will be available for users by the HMRC deadline of 31st May 2019.

For those pensioners yet to access Epay the e-payslip and P60 are online versions of the printed paper payslip but would be available to you every month, it contains all the same pay information. You can access your e-payslip through a secure online portal, which is accessible to any internet enabled device - 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.

If you have yet to create an Epay account, please contact our dedicated Epay email address. Please quote you Pay Number, NI Number and let us know the email address you want linked to the account and we will set you up and issue you with all the information you need to get started.

LBEPayslip@enfield.gov.uk

Year End Update

Form P60

If you were in receipt of your pension at 5th April 2019 you will receive form P60 by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) statutory deadline of 31st May 2019. The P60 will show your pension and any Income Tax you paid during the financial year starting April 2018 and ending March 2019. The same information will be given to HMRC.

Electronic P60

Alternatively, for those staff with access to Epay, your 2018/19 P60 will be available to you in an electronic format. This can be accessed in the same way you currently access your e-payslip. If you do not have an Epay account, please refer to the article 'e-payslip & e-P60' above which will show you how to gain access.

Your P60 is very important. If you receive a paper copy you need to keep it safe in case you are asked, by HMRC to complete a tax return. Historical P60's will be retained on Epay and mi portal.

Self-Assessment

HMRC believe that the idea of self-assessment is that you are responsible for completing a tax return each year if you need to, and for paying any tax due for that tax year. It is your responsibility to tell HMRC if you think you need to complete a tax return.

If you are required to complete a self-assessment tax return you should include all your taxable income and any capital gains. You can also claim tax allowances or reliefs that you may be entitled to on the tax return.

For more information and help on the process, deadlines and possible penalties please follow this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/topic/personal-tax/self-assessment>

Budget 2019 Update

Income Tax Allowances

	2018/19	2019/20
Personal Allowance	£11,850	£12,500
Transferable Tax Allowance for married couples and civil partners	£1,190	£1,250

Income Tax Bands

Rate	%	Net Taxable Pay
Basic Rate	20%	£0 to £37,500
Higher Rate	40%	£37,501 to £150,000
Additional Rate	45%	Over £150,000

Pension below your personal allowance is not taxed. Changes will be implemented in April in accordance with HMRC instructions.

The value of the personal allowance will be restricted for employees 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 Allowance. 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>

Pay Dates for 2019/20

For pensioners who have their pension credited to bank accounts in the United Kingdom pay dates for the 2019/20 year are as follows:

Period	Pay Day	Pay Day	
2019			
Apr	PM	Tuesday	30/04/2019
May	PM	Friday	31/05/2019
Jun	PM	Friday	28/06/2019
Jul	PM	Wednesday	31/07/2019
Aug	PM	Friday	30/08/2019
Sep	PM	Monday	30/09/2019
Oct	PM	Thursday	31/10/2019
Nov	PM	Friday	29/11/2019
Dec	PM	Monday	23/12/2019
2020			
Jan	PM	Friday	31/01/2020
Feb	PM	Friday	28/02/2020
Mar	PM	Tuesday	31/03/2020



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.

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

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?



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.

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.

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 the 8th April 2019, qualifying pensioners will have their pensions increased by 2.40% (or in accordance with the table below).

Pensions Increase 2019

If your pension began on or after 24th April 2018, you will receive a proportion of the full increase in accordance with the table below.

From	To	Percentage increase (%)
Pensions commencing on or before 23 April 2018		2.40%
24 April	23 May	2.20%
24 May	23 June	2.00%
24 June	23 July	1.80%
24 July	23 August	1.60%
24 August	23 September	1.40%
24 September	23 October	1.20%
24 October	23 November	1.00%
24 November	23 December	0.80%
24 December 2018	23 January 2019	0.60%
24 January	23 February	0.40%
24 February	23 March	0.20%

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

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 its anti-fraud initiative. This exercise requires us to provide details of persons in receipt of a pension from the Council so that the information can be compared with data provided by other public bodies. This will help ensure that, for 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 anti-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 Payroll & Pension Services in the normal way.



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:

Payroll & Pension Services

Thomas Hardy House
39 London Road
Enfield EN2 6DS

Pension Team (Local Government Pension Scheme)

Website: <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/pensions/contact-us/>
Email: zpensions@enfield.gov.uk
Phone: 020 8379 3168

Payroll Team

e-payslip related issues:
LBEPayslip@enfield.gov.uk

Email:

Surnames A to C	zpayroll.a.to.c@enfield.gov.uk
Surnames D to H	zpayroll.d.to.h@enfield.gov.uk
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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 0800 731 7898

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.