September 2020

Pensioners' Newsletter





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Pensions Board

This meets three times a year. The Board members are as follows:

Employer Representatives James Tumbridge (Chairman) Jon Averns Mark Wheatley <u>Member Representatives</u> Yvette Dunne Christina McLellan Martin Newnham

Minutes and agendas of the meetings are posted to our website - <u>http://democracy.cityoflondon.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=1206</u>

Pay Day Schedule for remainder of 2020			
October 2020	30 th October 2020		
November 2020	30 th November 2020		
December 2020	31 st December 2020		

COVID-19

This year has obviously been a difficult time for everyone and we appreciate your understanding with the changes our team have had to make as detailed below.

<u>Lockdown</u>

The Pensions team have all been working from home as the Guildhall complex has been closed.

Correspondence

Lockdown has meant that the majority of our correspondence has been and will continue to be for the foreseeable future, via email. If you are contacting us by email, it is unlikely we have your email address. Please, therefore, attach a copy of your passport, driver's licence or similar document so that we may verify who we are talking to.

Looking after your information is one of our main priorities along with paying your pension. If we are unable to verify who we are talking to and where we have been asked to send information to, we will not send any information.

We appreciate not everyone has email accounts though and suggest that if email is an issue and you need to contact us, please phone us and we will work with you to find a solution.

Payslips

Having to work from home has also meant that we were unable to send out the March, April and May 2020 payslips as we usually do and any subsequent payslips where the difference in pay from the previous pay period was £2 or more.

As the latest government guidelines cover the next six months, we will not provide payslips automatically. They can, however, be emailed to you should you need one but <u>only</u> for a specific purpose, for example a mortgage application. Should you need one, please email verification in the form of a photo of your driver's licence, passport or birth certificate. We have been able to send out P60s and newsletters using an independent printing firm. Unfortunately, we are not able to use this method to send out the payslips.

Phones

A further change due to working from home is that the Pensions Payroll team is only available on the phone between the hours of 2pm and 5pm each working day. Should you call outside of these hours, please leave a message and we will get back to you the following working day.

Life Certificates 2020

Many thanks to those people living abroad that have returned their life certificates this year.

Should you have not managed to do so as yet, we would be grateful if you could as soon as you are able to. Any problems with doing so, please email our team and we will help to find a solution.

Pensioners' Association

Membership of the City of London Pensioners' Association is available to most City pensioners and for their partners who are receiving survivor pensions. For a small monthly subscription, currently 90 pence per month, the Association provides; the services of a Welfare Officer, a quarterly newsletter containing useful information on benefits together with news and articles submitted by members and a diary. If you would like more information please contact the Membership Secretary, Sue Clark, on telephone number 020 8524 4472 or email her on <u>mpwandsemc@ntlworld.com</u>

Details of new retirees are passed to the Pensioners Association where they have agreed to their information going across. Details of those pensioners who have passed away each month are also sent to them. This information is included in their newsletters.

Income Tax 2020/2021

<u>Rates</u>

Personal Allowance 0%	Up to £12,500
Basic Rate 20%	£12,501 to £50,000
Higher Rate 40%	£50,001 to £150,000
Additional Rate 45%	£150,001 and above

Please note that Scottish tax rates vary from the above. For further information go to: <u>https://www.gov.uk</u>

<u>Tax Reference</u> The Monthly Pensions PAYE reference is 951/CO862.

National Fraud Initiative – 2020

The City is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end may use the information you have provided to us for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for these purposes. For further information visit <u>www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/NFI</u>

Data Protection Act 18 (DPA18) Privacy Notice

From 25/05/2018, new rules regarding data protection were introduced.

The City holds pensioners' data. We share the data with other organisations e.g. the Pensioners' Association (see above), scheme actuaries and HMRC and therefore these new rules apply.

The privacy statement can be found on the website:

www.cityoflondonpensions.org

Website

With effect from 01 October 2020 the City of London Pension Fund has a new website. The new web address is <u>www.cityoflondonpensions.org</u>

CITY OF LONDON PENSION OFFICE CONTACTS

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