



## Pensioner's Newsletter 2008

### The 2008 Pensions Increase Order

This year's increase is payable from 7 April 2008. For this month, April, you will receive the increase for the period 7 to 30 April and from May onwards you will receive the full increase each month.

Your pension will be increased by 3.9% if one of the following applies: -

1. You are receiving a spouse's pension and your husband/wife retired before 22 April 2007 or
2. You were a deferred pensioner who left the Pension Scheme before 22 April 2007 or
3. You are a pensioner who retired before 22 April 2007.

Otherwise you will receive a proportionate increase as detailed in the table below;

Date Pension Started	Percentage Increase
23 April to 22 May 2007	3.58
23 May to 22 June 2007	3.25
23 June to 22 July 2007	2.93
23 July to 22 August 2007	2.60
23 August to 22 September 2007	2.28
23 September to 22 October 2007	1.95
23 October to 22 November 2007	1.63
23 November to 22 December 2007	1.30
23 December 2007 to 22 January 2008	0.98
23 January to 22 February 2008	0.65
23 February to 22 March 2008	0.33
23 March 2008 onwards	NIL (First increase payable in 2009)

If you are under age 55 and retired on the grounds of redundancy or efficiency of the service, pensions increases will not become payable until your 55th birthday.

If you are receiving a state pension and there is an amount shown as "additional pension" on your statement from the Department for Work and Pensions, part of the increases due on your Council pension will be paid with your state pension (included in the "additional pension" mentioned above) and part will be paid by the Council. Otherwise the Council will pay the increase shown above in full.

## **Payroll Provider and P60s**

The Council's payroll provider is Selima Bureau Services. Their address is 797 London Road, Thornton Heath, CR7 6AW. . The telephone numbers are unchanged and you can contact them on 020 8664 1575 or by fax on 020 8664 1579. You should receive your P60 by 31 May 2008.

***If you have a query about the calculation of your pension or about anything to do with the Pension Scheme please contact Pension Services, Guildhall 2, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1EU, telephone 020 8547 5615, 5610 or 5722, who will be glad to help you.***

## **New Look LGPS 2008**

A New Look LGPS was introduced on 1 April 2008. The New Scheme applies to those who were members of the Scheme from 1 April 2008. Those who retired before 1 April 2008 will remain subject to the 1997 Pension Scheme Regulations.

## **Pension Sharing on Divorce**

If you are going through a divorce (including the dissolution of a civil partnership) you will be required to provide details of the pension you are receiving. Please contact Pension Services who will be able to provide the information needed for which a charge will be made. If the Court issues a pension sharing order there will be a further charge. The pension shared with your ex spouse/partner will not be payable until their 65<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## **National Fraud Initiative**

The Royal Borough of Kingston is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers. To this end, from time to time, we may use information provided to us for the prevention and detection of fraud and share it with other bodies administering public funds, solely for these purposes.

The Council is currently participating in an anti-fraud initiative organised by the Audit Commission and being carried out under Section 6 of the Audit Commission Act 1998. Under this initiative we are providing details of occupational pensioners to the Commission so that they can compare them with information provided by other public bodies to ensure that:

- ❖ no pensions are being paid to persons who are deceased
- ❖ occupational pension income is being declared by housing benefit claimants
- ❖ re-entry to the scheme is disclosed

While the object of the exercise is the detection of fraud, previous exercises also uncovered underpayments to pensioners which were rectified. These exercises therefore help ensure the best use of public funds.