

SHQ - Warren, Bob

From: SHQ - Hamilton, Brendan
Sent: 11 March 2008 15:38
To: SHQ - Warren, Bob; SHQ - Harold, Anthony; SHQ - Hutchinson, Jayne
Subject: FW: Injury pension overpayments

From: Anthony Mooney [mailto:Anthony.Mooney@communities.gsigov.uk]
Sent: 11 March 2008 14:55
To: SHQ - Hamilton, Brendan
Cc: Martin Hill; Andy Boorman
Subject: njury pension overpayments

Brendan - Thank you.

.._. We have discussed your email and the issues that you have raised within the Firefighters' Pension Team and we are currently considering whether it would be appropriate for DCLG to give guidance on this issue, and if so, what guidance would be appropriate.

We are aware that some FRAs have difficulties in obtaining information from pensioners and from DWP. Other public sector schemes have previously suggested that injury awards should be exclusive of DWP benefits and we had considered putting this forward as part of the consultation for future change. It should be noted that, to date, no other scheme has yet taken this step (including the Police) and we would be wary of doing this unilaterally.

Whilst we do appreciate the problems that you have raised we do not accept that the regulations are flawed - they make clear what actions are needed and require proper administrative practices to be in place.

In order to help us determine whether we need to issue guidance we will raise the matter with other FRAs and seek their views.

In the meantime, it would be helpful to know the details of current processes that Lancashire FRA has in place to:

- monitor/record changes in DWP benefits being received by firefighters who have been retired on an injury pension
- review injury awards

{would you be able to provide a flow diagram that identifies the different process stages?}

Kind Regards

Anthony