

Friday April 11th 2008

Dear Ms Lister.

I have just seen a copy of the latest tirade from Mr P.Burns to yourself which is circulated widely by this "champion" of oppressed Fire Service pensioners. As one who is satisfied with my pension arrangement can I sympathise with you in your discourse with this nut. I had the misfortune to have to associate with him during my many years in the service and he was no less a "nut" during that period.

The sad fact is that many Fire Service pensioners receiving injury awards are receiving them under false pretences. I know for instance that one of the central figures in this dispute was injured whilst playing football for his local pub and when the opportunity arose he feigned injury on a fire service incident. Another player in this has been awarded, at an early age, an award for operational injury which in fact he suffered whilst laying flagstones in off duty employment.

In fact the claim from Mr Burns based on some childhood experience in Ireland would have some difficulty standing up under proper scrutiny.

It is my firm opinion speaking as a taxpayer, that if Fire Service pensioners have been overpaid weather it be with or without their knowledge, and I know at least one who has been bragging about the overpayment for some years, the monies should be repaid. I would also suggest that the system used for recovering the monies should be exactly the rate and time frame at which it was paid in error so that no undue hardship is caused. If this money is not recovered I would be making representations to my elected members seeking clear explanation.

A concerned Lancashire taxpayer.

Ms D.Lister.
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