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Freedom of Information Response

Our reference: FOI 24-0161

Responded to: 8 February 2024

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

The 1987 Police Pension legacy scheme makes references to the enhancement available in the scheme when an officer is ill health retired on medical grounds but needs some clarity as it does not expand sufficiently to provide worked examples.

Can you provide the simple formula used by your forces pensions branch showing how the 1/60th's are established for this hypothetical officer below:

Can you confirm if a police officer has 25yrs 6 months total pensionable service composed of 23 years 6months in the 1987 scheme and 2 years in the CARE 2015 scheme and is subsequently approved for ill health retirement on medical grounds is the calculation applied in the following order sequence?

Can you confirm as this officer has more than 13 years service is the 7/60th's applied first, thus establishing the baseline due to being medically retired?

Can you confirm if the next stage is to add 20/60th's for the next twenty years pensionable service making a total of 27/60?

Can you confirm that the next stage will be 2/60th will be added for each of the subsequent years between years 20 & 30 as these are double accrual which makes the 3 yrs 6 mths equivalent to 7/60th?

Can you confirm that the final overall total of 34/60th's is the correct answer to this scenario?

Is this the correct computational method that would be applied?

Can you confirm that all 7/60th's enhancement available would be applied in full as reference is made within the 1987 guide that the resultant pension must not be greater than the age retirement pension that could be achieved at the normal pension age of 55 or age 60 in the case of inspector or above.

Is this statement now obsolete as the Compulsory Retirement Ages (CRA) appears to be referencing where they used to be age 55 for Constable & Sergeants with that for inspectors being 60 but now for all federated ranks the CRA in the 1987 Scheme was removed in 2006 and is now defined to be 60 years old?

Can you clarify if there would be any adverse consequences if the police officer in the above scenarios was an inspector being ill health retired on medical grounds?







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I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold the above recorded information. In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

As you will be aware an individual's right in terms of the legislation is to obtain information held by a public authority at the time a request is received and there is no obligation on them to create new information specifically for this request.

By way of explanation, in Scotland, it is the Scottish Public Pensions Agency (SPPA) who act as the Scheme Manager, on behalf of Scottish Ministers, and are also responsible for administering the Police Pension Scheme. Police Scotland do not have access to police officer pension records.

I would therefore refer you to SPPA for this information: <u>https://pensions.gov.scot/police</u>

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by <u>email</u> or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - <u>online</u>, by <u>email</u> or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our <u>Disclosure Log</u> in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.

