

Factsheet - War Pensions Committee (WPC's)

War Pensions Committee (WPC's) were first established in 1921, in the wake of the First World War, to assist the Ministry of Pensions. Members undertook the adjudication and administration of grants to disabled ex-servicemen, the organisation of care for widows and neglected children, and the monitoring of the Ministry of Pensions administration of the War Disablement Pensions Scheme.

There are 13 WPCs throughout the United Kingdom, with a separate committee in the Isle of Man and the War Pensions Advisory Committee in the Republic of Ireland. Members in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland are appointed by the Secretary of State and in the Isle of Man by the Tynwald. They are independent of the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency.

War Pensions Committees are Non-Departmental Public Bodies whose main functions are to:

- act as a medium for local consultation by Ministers, the Ministry of Defence and the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency on issues affecting War Pensioners and War Widow(er)s
- Raise awareness of the War Pensions Scheme and the services of the Veterans' welfare Service in their area
- Support and monitor the work of the Veterans' Welfare Service and seek to co-ordinate, the efforts of voluntary and statutory sector organisations to deliver the best possible welfare support to war pensioners and war widow(er)s'
- Assist individual War Pensioners and War Widow(er)s with any problem or complaint they have regarding war pensions or the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency and act on their behalf when appropriate

For further information:

Free Veterans Helpline - **0800 169 2277**
Textphone - **0800 169 3458**
E-mail - veterans.help@spva.gsi.gov.uk
Website - www.veterans-uk.info

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Telephone Number (Overseas) +44 1253 866043
Website www.veterans-uk.info