

War Pension Increases Announced

The Ministry of Defence announced today that war pensions and allowances will be increased effective from 7th April 2008 using the RPI figure of 3.9% published in September 2007.

Since 1979 the Retail Price Index (RPI) figure has been used to calculate increases in war pension and allowance rates and Social Security rates. Using the same RPI figure across the board ensures a fairer and uniformed system.

Although a new compensation scheme has been introduced in respect of death and disablement related to service on or after the 6th April 2005, there are still many veterans who will continue to be entitled to claim and be paid under the war pension scheme for many years to come. The level and nature of compensation awarded are calculated on the veteran's degree of disablement. This is assessed on a percentage basis by comparing their health with that of a normal, healthy person of the same age and sex; with 100 per cent representing maximum disablement.

In addition to the basic War Disablement Pension the War Pension scheme includes a substantial range of tax-free supplements and additional allowances, many of which are paid at preferential rates to their Social Security equivalents. War widows and widowers pensions are also payable under the scheme providing maintenance for widows, widowers and children of service personnel who die as a result of service.

The scheme is administered by the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency. We would encourage those who think they may be eligible, to call the national Veterans Helpline on **0800 169 2277**. This is also the number to call for help and advice on any issue affecting a veteran's life.

The new and existing rates are set out below:

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
December 07

MOD ANNOUNCES NEW RATES FOR WAR PENSIONS AND RELATED ALLOWANCES

The Ministry of Defence today announced the new increased rates of War Pensions and related allowances, effective from 7th April 2008.

<u>(Weekly rates unless otherwise shown)</u>	RATES 2007	RATES 2008
WAR PENSIONS		
Disablement Pension (100% rates)		
officer (£ per annum)	7290.00	7571.00
other ranks	139.70	145.10
Age allowances		
40%-50%	9.40	9.75
over 50% but not over 70%	14.35	14.90
over 70% but not over 90%	20.45	21.25
over 90%	28.70	29.80
Disablement gratuity		
specified minor injury (min.)	889.00	924.00
specified minor injury (max.)	6643.00	6902.00
unspecified minor injury (min.)	367.00	381.00
unspecified minor injury (max.)	8637.00	8974.00
Unemployability allowance		
Personal	86.35	89.70
adult dependency increase	48.65	50.55
increase for first child	11.30	11.75
increase for subsequent children	13.30	13.80
Permitted Earning Levels	4472.00	4602.00
Invalidity allowance		
higher rate	17.10	17.75
middle rate	11.00	11.40
lower rate	5.50	5.70
Constant attendance allowance		
exceptional rate	105.40	109.60
intermediate rate	79.05	82.20
full day rate	52.70	54.80

part-day rate	26.35	27.40
Comforts allowance		
higher rate	22.60	23.50
lower rate	11.30	11.75
Mobility supplement	50.30	52.25
Allowance for lowered standard of occupation (maximum)	52.68	54.72
Therapeutic earnings limit	4472.00	4602.00
Exceptionally severe disablement allowance	52.70	54.80
Severe disablement occupational allowance	26.35	27.40
Clothing allowance (£ per annum)	180.00	187.00
Education allowance (£ per annum) (max)	120.00	120.00
War widow(er)s' pension (further details in schedule WWP)		
widow(er)s – private	105.90	110.05
Widow(er)s' (other ranks)	105.90	110.05
Widow(er) - Officer (£ p.a. max)	6525.00	6779.00
Childless widow(er)s' u-40 (other ranks)	25.37	26.36
" " (Officer max.£s pa)	6525.00	6779.00
Supplementary Pension	70.88	73.64
Age allowance		
(a) age 65 to 69	12.10	12.55
(b) age 70 to 79	23.20	24.10
(c) age 80 and over	34.40	35.75
Children's allowance		
Increase for first child	16.65	17.30
Increase for subsequent children	18.60	19.35
Orphan's pension		
Increase for first child	18.95	19.70
Increase for subsequent children	20.80	21.60
Unmarried dependant living as spouse (max)	103.55	107.70
Rent allowance (maximum)	39.95	41.50
Adult orphan's pension (maximum)	81.35	84.50