



## **DEFENCE POLICE FEDERATION**

Established by Act of Parliament

### **All Members**

**7<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

### **Circular 13/19**

#### **Pension Action Update**

As you are all aware, the DPF lodged over 1000 Employment Tribunal discrimination claims on behalf of members on the grounds that the transition arrangements of the public sector pension reforms introduced in 2015 were discriminatory on the grounds of Age, Sex and Ethnicity. These claims were “stayed” by the Tribunal service pending the outcome of similar claims already lodged by the Firefighters and the Judiciary.

On 4 July 2019 the DPF published Circular 08/19 informing members that the Supreme Court has refused the government’s application for permission to appeal against the Court of Appeal’s decision in the firefighters’ and judges’ age discrimination claims. In these claims it was alleged that the 2015 changes to the firefighters’ and judges’ pension schemes were unlawful. The Court of Appeal agreed.

The Government Legal Department has now informed our solicitors that they accept that the result applies equally to the claims that we have filed for members. The Government has therefore accepted that it is liable to provide a remedy for members who have had to transfer to alpha (or would have had to transfer to alpha).

Quite how to remedy the situation will take some time and you should not expect any changes in the short term. Our legal advice is that any remedy will have to proceed on the basis that anyone who was already in the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (PCSPS) on 31 March 2012 is in fact still a member of the PCSPS (whether or not the Government recognises that at the moment).

The immediate point to note is that we have won. I will keep you informed as the questions relating to remedy develop.

**Mitch Batt**

**General Secretary**

Please don’t forget to register on our website and receive updates [www.dpf.org.uk](http://www.dpf.org.uk)

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