

Caroline Dinéage MP
Conservative Office
167 Stoke Road
Gosport
Hants

18th November 2010

Dear Caroline Dinéage

Armed Forces Occupational Pensions & Gratuities including back payments, interest and compensation for lost opportunities for service prior 1975.

Thank you for your letter dated 27th October 2010 with References and Enclosures as set out below.

1. Superannuation Bill 28th November 1950.
2. Pension Schemes Act 1993 Part X Ref Mr P. Kidd.
3. House of Commons Library Report – The Legal Challenge.

I shall be responding to the above in due course but at present there appears to be nothing new, or anything that alters the opinion of our Federation to date that it amounts to yet more and more misinformation, spin and false pretences from Government Departments. In fact it seems we are going around and round in circles, getting nowhere and considering the same old catalogue of MOD and Treasury Department's excuses for refusing to pay our legal entitlements.

I appreciate you are new to your role as an MP, and new to the background and history of our on going claims regarding this whole debacle. However you and this Coalition Government have now been in office for six months and no progress has been made whatever. Like the last Government our Pension Rights are being illegally withheld and this is contrary to existing legislation. It is almost a year now since John Thurso MP presented our legal claims to the previous Government and at no time since has the MOD and/or Treasury addressed them as requested from a legal perspective.

I have enclosed with this letter another copy of my letter to John Thurso MP and he has kindly offered to assist you if you so wish. I should particularly request you to obtain a copy of our Researched Report and Addendums 2008 and study them if you have not already done so. The House of Commons Library Report – The Legal Challenge has been more than adequately covered and considered in detail in our Researched Report.

Would you now put the following questions to the Minister of Defence Dr Liam Fox MP for him to provide specific 'Yes' or 'No' answers where necessary by December 15th 2010 at the very latest.

1. Will the Minister now personally implement the requirements of his legal duty in relation to the Parliamentary Command 945 which became law in April 1959 immediately ?
2. Will the Minister now personally implement the requirements of his legal duty in relation to the Social Security Act Section 38 Schedule 16 and the Social Security and Pensions Act 1975 which became law in April 1975 immediately ?
3. Will the Minister now personally state categorically which other employees, either Public or Private, besides members of the Armed Forces pre 1975, whose Transitional and Transfer long service benefits were not taken into account when transferring from one occupational pension scheme to another after 1975 immediately ?

For the benefit of the Minister in reply to this question the Public Service Departments introduced these benefits above prior to 1975. Also the Social Security Act 1973 created and introduced an 'Occupational Pensions Board' tasked with the ability to require all Managers of Occupational Pension Schemes to submit all their schemes for approval of transitional and transfer arrangements prior to 1975 in the Private Sector of Schemes.

4. Will the Minister of Defence now personally, in liaison with the Minister of the Cabinet Office and Treasury, now require the refunding of contributions Pre 1978, to the Principal Civil Service Widows Pension Scheme following the Government's and Treasury's Breach of Contract in that year, immediately ? Contributions in the Widows Pension Scheme have now been disregarded.

There are other matters I wish to draw to your attention personally every bit as important as these, including comments related to all the information you have provided me with to date.

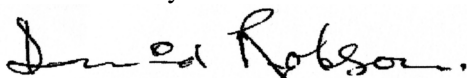
Would you therefore please arrange another meeting for me at your earliest opportunity for discussions which will probably take up at least one hour of your time.

We did our duty by this country at the time. Now it is high time this country did its duty by these members of the armed forces. We were yesterday's heroes. There were no welcome home parades in those days – and now just contempt it seems ?

Please note Dr Liam Fox MP, Minister of Defence, has the responsibility for the overall MOD budget, whereas the Minister for Veterans Andrew Robatham MP does not.

Thanking you for your kind attention.

Yours sincerely



David Robson

Secretary General

The Combined Armed Forces Federation U.K.