

# PENSIONS FOCUS

for Retired Members

SUMMER 2006 – ISSUE 5



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Welcome to the latest edition of your Pensions Focus Newsletter issued by the North Yorkshire Pension Fund.



Since the last Pensions Focus was published, there have been many references to issues and proposed legislative and taxation changes relating to pensions in the press. The LGPS is not immune from this. Whilst not directly affecting those members such as yourselves who are already in receipt of their LGPS pension, we thought it might be interesting to those of you who do like to keep abreast of pension scheme changes to receive an update. We have therefore included an article detailing the changes.

We have also included a range of other material that hopefully you will find both interesting and helpful. It is essential that Pensions Focus continues to address the issues that interest you and I have therefore included a Feedback Form. I would be grateful if as many of you as possible could take the time to complete the Form to help us to continually improve this Newsletter.



Thank you.

**John Moore**  
Treasurer to the North Yorkshire Pension Fund

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## New Operations Manager joins Fund

Some of you may be aware that our Operations Manager (Pensions) Richard Howard, retired from North Yorkshire County Council in April 2006, and indeed will now be receiving a copy of this publication!



We are pleased to announce that his successor is Mrs Karen Scott who joined North Yorkshire County Council also in April 2006. Karen has worked in the pensions field for over 15 years and is keen to develop her career with Local Government.

If you have any specific queries or feedback for Karen, she can be contacted at Pensions Section, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AL, or by email at [karen.1.scott@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:karen.1.scott@northyorks.gov.uk).



# Pensions Increase - 2.7% this year



## What was the increase this year?

The Pensions Increase (Review) Order, which is issued each year by central government, tells public sector pension schemes, including the North Yorkshire Pension Fund, of the increases that should be applied to pension benefits. The increase payable from 10 April 2006 is 2.7%, based on the rise in the cost of living in the year up to last September.

## Who is eligible for the increase?

- anyone in receipt of a pension who is over 55 or left employment to retire on the grounds of ill health
- a person who has received the payment of their preserved benefits on ill health grounds and who was incapable of carrying out any type of work
- anyone in receipt of a spouse's or children's pension.

## Who is not eligible for the increase?

- anyone who is below the age of 55, except those in receipt of ill health benefits
- a person who is below the age of 55 and has received the payment of their preserved benefits on ill health grounds but who was not incapable of carrying out any type of work.

## How is the increase to pensions worked out?

Pensions increase is calculated on the annual pension in payment at the end of March 2006 less any Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) for anyone who has reached State Pension Age. The GMP is a figure supplied by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) which ensures that you receive at least the value of benefits which the State would have provided had you not been contracted out of the upper earnings related tier of the State Scheme between 6 April 1978 and 5 April 1997.

The increase on your GMP is paid by the DWP as an addition to your State pension. The DWP refer to the GMP as a 'contracted out deduction' on their correspondence.

## When did we notify pensioners about the increase?

Payslips were sent in April showing the increase, where applicable, for the period from 10 April to 30 April. For those eligible to an increase of more than £1 a month a further payslip was sent in May to show the increased pension for a full month. **You will not receive a payslip in any months other than April and May unless your net pension has changed by more than £1 from the previous month.**

## Am I entitled to the full increase?

If your pension began on or before 25 April 2005 your pension will have increased by the full 2.7% (but see previous comments regarding increases to the GMP if you have reached State Pension Age). If your pension began after this date a smaller, pro-rata, increase applies as shown in the table below:

Pensions Beginning	Pensions Increase
11th April 2005 to 25th April 2005	2.70%
26th April 2005 to 25th May 2005	2.48%
26th May 2005 to 25th June 2005	2.25%
26th June 2005 to 25th July 2005	2.03%
26th July 2005 to 25th August 2005	1.80%
26th August 2005 to 25th September 2005	1.58%
26th September 2005 to 25th October 2005	1.35%
26th October 2005 to 25th November 2005	1.13%
26th November 2005 to 25th December 2005	0.90%
26th December 2005 to 25th January 2006	0.68%
26th January 2006 to 25th February 2006	0.45%
26th February 2006 to 25th March 2006	0.23%

## Tax Free Winter Fuel Payments



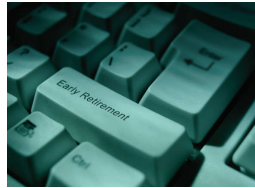
Annual Winter Fuel payments are provided to help people aged 60 and over with the costs of keeping warm during the winter.

If you are aged 60 to 79 and you are entitled to receive a Winter Fuel Payment, you will get either £100 or £200, depending on your circumstances in the qualifying week (18-24 September 2006). If you are aged 80 or over and you are entitled to a Winter Fuel Payment, you will get an extra £50 or £100, so you could get up to £300, depending on your circumstances in the qualifying week.

**For more information, please contact the Winter Fuel Payment Helpline on 08459 151515 or visit their website at:**

[www.thepensionsservice.gov.uk/winterfuel/home.asp](http://www.thepensionsservice.gov.uk/winterfuel/home.asp)

## Are you under State Pension Age ?



If you are - did you know you could get a forecast of how much your state pension is likely to be when you get to State Pension Age?

All you have to do is call the State Pension Forecasting Team on 0845 3000 168 (local call rates apply) or textphone 0845 3000 169 if you have hearing or speech difficulties and you have a textphone.

Or you can request a State Pension forecast application form by writing to:

### State Pension Forecasting Team

Future Pension Centre  
The Pension Service  
Tyneview Park  
Whitley Road  
Newcastle Upon Tyne NE98 1BA

or online at

[www.thepensionsservice.gov.uk/atoz/atozdetailed/rforecast.asp](http://www.thepensionsservice.gov.uk/atoz/atozdetailed/rforecast.asp)

If your State Retirement Pension will not be as big as it could be, your forecast will tell you what 'Class 3 voluntary National Insurance contributions' you could pay to top it up.

If you have already reached State Pension Age and have a question about your State Retirement Pension please contact the The Pension Service on telephone number **0845 60 60 265**.

## Pensions Credit



If you are aged 60 and over and living in Great Britain you could be entitled to Pension Credit. Pension Credits guarantee anyone aged 60 and over an income of at least:

- £114.05 a week if you are single
- £174.05 a week if you have a partner

in addition, if you or your partner are 65 or over you may be rewarded for saving for your retirement up to:

- £17.88 a week if you are single
- £23.58 a week if you have a partner

There is also a possibility that you will receive up to 12 months back payment from the date you first applied.

You can also look into claiming Housing and Council Tax Benefit at the same time as applying for Pension credits.

To apply telephone **0800 99 1234** or get an application form from

[www.pensionsservice.gov.uk/pensioncredit/form.asp](http://www.pensionsservice.gov.uk/pensioncredit/form.asp)

Further information is also held at:

[www.pensionsservice.gov.uk/pensioncredit/](http://www.pensionsservice.gov.uk/pensioncredit/)

## P60s and Self Assessment Tax Returns

You should have, by now, received your P60. The P60 is a certificate of pension paid and tax deducted for the tax year April 2005 to March 2006. If you have been sent a self assessment tax return you should enter the Pay and Tax Deducted as shown on your P60. You will then need to deduct the Tax Deducted from Pay to arrive at the net amount paid. These three amounts all need to be entered on the self assessment tax return.



# Changes to the LGPS (April 2006)

Many of you will have heard of the changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) that took effect in April of this year. **Although these changes will not affect you or your pension**, some of you may be interested to know what has changed and why.

## Why changes have been made?

On average, people are living longer and receiving their pensions for longer. This is great news but it means that the cost of providing the LGPS benefits has risen. The Government has therefore made changes to ensure that the Scheme can remain affordable for employers whilst still providing a good level of pension benefits for current and future employees.

Also, the tax rules that govern pension schemes have changed from 6 April 2006, allowing the LGPS to relax many of the contribution and benefit limits that previously applied.

## What are the Tax Simplification changes?

These changes take effect from 6 April 2006. They result from a simplification of the tax rules that govern pension schemes and introduce greater flexibility and choice for Scheme members.

### ■ Flexible retirement for employees from age 50

Rather than continuing in a job to 65, members may be able to continue working whilst drawing their pension benefits – building up further benefits in the Scheme – enabling them to ease into retirement. Their pension benefits may be reduced because they are being paid before age 65 but their employer may decide not to apply all or part of this reduction. This facility is linked to an agreed reduction in hours, or grade, AND their employer consenting to the release of benefits. These decisions are employer discretions.

### ■ Exchanging part of pension for extra lump sum

If Scheme members draw their benefits on or after 6 April 2006, they can take up to 25% of the capital value of their pension benefits as a tax free lump sum. The current lump sum automatically paid on retirement roughly equates to 15% of the capital value. Any amount they take above the current lump sum would be achieved by exchanging part of their annual pension for cash at a rate of £12 lump sum for each £1 of pension given up.

## Glossary

### Annual Allowance

This is the amount by which the value of Scheme members pension benefits may increase in any one year (disregarding the year that all their benefits become payable) without having to pay income tax at 40% on the excess. The annual allowance is set by the Treasury and for 2006/2007 is £215,000. Most Scheme members will not be affected by the annual allowance. For calculating the increase in value of their LGPS benefits, the first year runs from 6 April 2006 to 31 March 2007; subsequent years run from 1 April to 31 March.

The North Yorkshire Pension Fund will be able to give any member the information required on the increase in the value of their LGPS benefits including any additional voluntary contribution (AVC) arrangement they may have. The assessment covers any pension benefits they may have in all tax-registered pension arrangements – not just the LGPS.

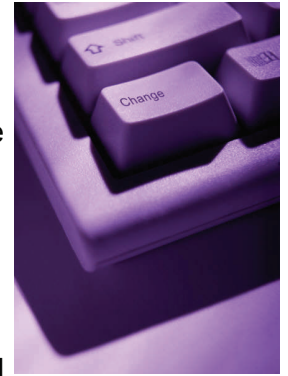
Please note, however, that the annual allowance tax charge will not apply if Scheme members have registered to have enhanced protection (but only if they keep enhanced protection throughout the relevant tax year).

### 'In-house' AVCs

All local government pension funds have an in house AVC scheme, where they can invest money deducted directly from pay. The in-house AVC is arranged through an AVC provider; in the case of North Yorkshire this is the Prudential. AVCs provide members with a flexible and tax-efficient way of topping up their retirement benefits.

### Lifetime Allowance

This is the total capital value of all pension benefits a member can have without triggering an excess benefits tax charge. If the value of the pension benefits when drawn (not including any state retirement pension, state pension credit or any spouse's, civil partner's or dependant's pension they may be entitled to) is more than the lifetime allowance, or more than any primary lifetime allowance protection the member may have, they will have to pay tax on the excess benefits unless they have enhanced protection.



cont ...

# Changes to the LGPS (April 2006)(cont)

The **lifetime allowance** is set by the Treasury and for 2006/2007 is £1.5million. The **lifetime allowance** covers any pension benefits they may have in all tax-registered pension arrangements – not just the LGPS. Most scheme member's pension savings will be significantly less than the **lifetime allowance**. For pensions that start to be drawn on or after 6 April 2006, the capital value of those pension benefits is calculated by multiplying your pension by 20 and adding the lump-sum – so, for example, an employee earning in excess of £130,000 per annum and with 40 years membership in the LGPS could be affected. For pensions already in payment prior to 6 April 2006, the capital value of these is calculated by multiplying the current annual rate, including any pensions increase, by 25. Any lump-sum already paid is ignored in the valuation.

## Rule of 85: New proposals

As a result of ongoing discussions between the Government, Local Government Association and the trade unions, the Government has issued regulations which propose to extend the date for the phasing out of the Rule of 85.

The Rule of 85 allows a Scheme member to retire voluntarily before the normal pension age of 65 without reduction in their retirement benefits if their age and length of Scheme membership equals 85 or more (for example, a member could retire at 60 if they have 25 or more years membership in the Scheme).

Regulations issued in March would have phased out the rule of 85 from 1 October 2006. The latest Regulations extend this date for all current members to 1 April 2008.

## Working again? Some of the rules have changed

In previous editions of Pensions Focus we explained that if you take on another job where you can contribute to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) the pension which you are receiving from the North Yorkshire Pension Fund (NYPF) may be reduced or suspended. The general rule was that if your LGPS pension plus the pay in your new job exceeded the pay you were receiving when you retired your pension would be reduced.

This requirement was removed from 5 April 2006. The new rule for most people receiving a LGPS pension from the NYPF is that you may take on any type of employment and the pension from the NYPF will not be reduced.

However, the rules regarding the adjustments for anyone who was awarded Compensatory Added Years of service have not changed. If your employer awarded you extra service when you retired, as compensation for retiring early, your pension may be reduced as a result of employment with an employer who offers membership of the LGPS. Therefore, if you were granted extra service when you retired it remains important that you contact the Pension Section if you are taking on work where you can contribute to the LGPS.



# Financial Position of the Fund

## Assets

The following is a summary of the assets held in the Fund as at 31 March 2006, analysed by main asset category, with comparative figures for 31 March 2005:-

Asset category	31 March 2005		31 March 2006	
	£m	% of Fund	£m	% of Fund
UK Equities (ie shares)	352.2	40.1	454.1	39.5
European Equities	125.2	14.2	164.5	14.3
North American Equities	112.4	12.8	142.9	12.4
All other countries Equities	84.0	9.6	107.2	9.3
Emerging Markets Equities	6.0	0.7	9.4	0.8
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>679.8</b>	<b>77.4</b>	<b>878.1</b>	<b>76.3</b>
Fixed Income/Bonds	154.1	17.5	237.0	20.6
Cash & Short Term Assets	45.3	5.1	35.4	3.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>879.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1150.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>



## Investment Performance

As the table above shows, the Fund increased in value by 30% over the year; this is due to a combination of factors including most reassuringly the performance of our fund managers. The 12 month performance was 26.7% which is 1.2% above the Benchmark figure for the same period of 25.5%. The WM Company provides comparative data on all local authority schemes, and this shows that the Fund improved to a ranking of 12th (out of 78) in 2005/06. The increased allocation to Fixed Income / Bonds and the success of the new fund managers appointed to manage them (see page 7) have been major factors in turning the Fund's performance around. In fact, the Fund's ranking in Overseas bonds was 1<sup>st</sup>, and in UK bonds 2<sup>nd</sup> when compared with other local authority schemes for the year.

Top 10 share holdings and their percentage of the Fund as at 31 March 2006 are as follows:

Company	Market Value £000	Percentage of Value of Fund %
1. BP	25,107	2.2
2. HSBC Holdings	19,658	1.7
3. Royal Bank of Scotland Group	19,165	1.7
4. GlaxoSmithKline	18,444	1.6
5. Barclays	11,746	1.0
6. Vodafone Group	10,844	0.9
7. Royal Dutch Shell	9,693	0.8
8. BG Group	7,686	0.7
9. Wolseley	5,928	0.5
10. Anglo American	5,826	0.5
Rest of Equities	134,547	11.6
Total Equities	878,070	76.3
Non Equities	272,458	23.7
<b>Total Fund</b>	<b>1,150,528</b>	<b>100.0</b>

# Financial Position of the Fund (cont)



## Investment Strategy Review

The Pension Fund Committee is continuously looking at ways to improve the performance of the Fund's investments. To this end there have been two major investment strategy reviews.

The first resulted in the appointment of two new global fixed income (ie bond) managers, Credit Agricole Asset Management and European Credit Management, who commenced operations in July 2005. The assets allocated to them were taken at the time from the fixed income part of the global balanced portfolios run by Barclays Global Investors (BGI), Baillie Gifford, Henderson Global Investors and Standard Life Investments, who thereafter became global equity managers for the Fund. Also at this time Henderson's contract was terminated and their equity assets shared between the other three global equity managers.

The second stage of the investment strategy review which concentrated on the management of the Fund's equity holdings has just been completed, resulting in major changes in the way equities will be managed in the future. Instead of the equity managers (ie BGI / Baillie Gifford / Standard Life) each managing a global equity portfolio, the new arrangements (from October 2006), will be:

**BGI** will manage an **overseas equity (ex UK) portfolio** of approximately £250m with an outperformance target relative to the benchmark of 1%.

**Baillie Gifford** will manage a **global (ie inc UK) equity portfolio** of £270m with a more aggressive target of +2%.

**Standard Life** will manage a **UK equity portfolio** of about £255m with a similarly aggressive target of +2%.

The thinking behind these changes is that each of the equity managers will now be focussed on what the Fund assesses to be their strongest areas of experience and consistent performance.

A **Global Tactical Asset Allocation** portfolio of £44m is also out to tender. This portfolio will be in the form of an overlay fund, whereby the effect of imbalances between the actual overall asset allocation at a point in time and the optimum asset allocation, which are caused by differences over time in the relative performance of the various markets, can be corrected without interfering with the day to day activities of the three principal equity managers. The new manager is expected to start working for the Fund from 1 January 2007.

## Change of Custodian

In parallel with the investment strategy review, the global custodian, JP Morgan Worldwide Security Services, has been changed. This followed a tender process where 7 institutions applied, of which 3 were interviewed and after due diligence, ABN-AMRO Mellon Global Securities Services were appointed. They started working for the Fund from 1 July 2006. The main services provided are custodianship of the Fund's assets, including settlement of trades and collection of income, investment accounting and performance measurement (ie of the fund managers).

## Solvency

The solvency position of the Fund is monitored by the Pension Fund Committee on a quarterly basis and at 31 March 2006 stood at 69%, an improvement from the position at 31 March 2005 of 61%. The general strengthening in the stock market, and the Fund's good investment performance, as measured against the market, have accounted for this easing of the solvency position. However, the continuing volatility of the investment markets and in particular the relative movements as between the value of equities (= the assets of the Fund) and bonds (matching the liabilities of the Fund) are such that the Pension Fund Committee will continue to monitor these movements on an ongoing basis. If these day to day fluctuations develop into longer term trends, then the Committee may well have to reconsider the optimum asset allocation model which underpins the investment strategy, and ultimately the type of investment managers required.



# Glossary of Investment Terms

## Actuary

A professional who advises on financial issues relating to risk, probabilities and mortality (life expectancy), most frequently in relation to the financing of pension schemes. In particular the Actuary will value the assets held by the Fund and the current and potential liabilities i.e. the pension benefits to be paid out.

## Assets

Anything which has a monetary value such as investments (of which there are various types, known as classes, including equities and bonds) and cash.

## Asset allocation

The proportion of investments held in different categories of assets such as cash, equities and bonds. Asset allocation affects both risk and return and is the central concept in investment management for a pension fund.

## Balanced Management

Where an investment manager is given broad discretion (within certain limits) to invest pension fund monies in all the main asset classes.

## Benchmark

A measure against which performance is assessed. The benchmark may take the form of a 'market index' where performance is measured by comparison with a particular market (e.g. MSCI World Equity Index) or where the measurement is against an average established by reference to the performance of a peer group or league table.

## Bonds

A type of investment where cash is exchanged for a certificate of debt issued by a government or company, promising regular payment on a specified date or range of dates, usually involving a final lump sum capital payment at the time the bond is given up by the investor. This type of investment usually involves the full repayment of the initial amount invested. Bonds issued by the UK government are known as 'gilts'. The asset class of bonds is split into categories relating to the country or countries where the bond was issued.

## Custodian

An organisation which is responsible, on behalf of a pension fund, for the safe-keeping of the fund's assets, collecting income from investments and settling investment transactions. This role is independent from that of a manager investing the pension fund's assets.

## Equities

A commonly used term for ordinary shares. The asset class of equities is split into categories relating to the country or countries where the relevant companies offering the 'share in ownership' are based e.g. UK, European or North American.

## Fixed Income

A type of investment where the timing and amount of future interest is specified and fixed at the time of issue. i.e. a particular type of bond.

## Liabilities

The pension benefits and other payments to be paid out of the pension fund either in the short-term or in the future in relation to all of the pension fund's pension scheme members.

## Market Value

The value of an asset or group of assets as determined by the market price at a particular point in time.

## Ordinary Shares

This refers to the share in the ownership of a company that gives the holder of the share the right to regularly receive payments of distributed profits or 'dividends' and to vote at general meetings of the company.

## Overlay Fund

The use of an investment management technique to exploit short-term relative movements in markets with the aim of generating substantial returns, where the underlying assets are managed by other managers.

## Portfolio

A block of assets managed by a fund manager, to an agreed performance specification, on behalf of an investor (eg the pension fund).

## Return

The increase in the value of an investment over a period of time, usually expressed as a percentage of the value of the investment at the start of the period e.g. 10% over the year.

## Risk

The likelihood of receiving an expected level of return from an investment and the possible extent of the difference if the expected return is not achieved. It is possible to achieve a return of more than predicted but the downside of risk is achieving less than the predicted return. Levels of risk are associated with the prospect of achieving a predicted outcome from high risk to no risk. Different asset classes are linked to levels of risk and therefore the consistency (or otherwise) with which a predicted outcome can be achieved.

## Shares

See *ordinary shares*

## Solvency

The ratio of the value of the assets compared to the net present value of the liabilities (as calculated by the Actuary) which indicates the financial standing of the Fund. This is expressed as a percentage e.g. solvency of 69% means that the valued assets will cover 69% of the liabilities as determined at a particular point in time. The level of solvency should not be confused with the cashflow of the fund and the ability to pay the pensions of existing pensioners at the current time.

# Moving abroad or just moving



## Moving Abroad

Some of you may be planning to live abroad to enjoy your retirement even more.

If you do we can pay your pension into your new overseas bank account. We have a facility which can be set up through the Bank of Scotland called the Transcontinental Automated Payment System (TAPS) which can be used to make payments into a bank account in a number of countries. There is a fee for each transaction and you will need to check whether your local bank charges a fee for conversion to local currency. If you would like to compare this system to any other payment method please contact the Payroll Section. Contact details can be found below or on Page 11.

## Changing Address

If you are changing address please send notification in writing, quoting your employee reference, to the Payroll Section at the following address:

Payroll Section  
Central Finance Business Unit  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
North Yorkshire DL7 8AL  
Email: [payroll@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:payroll@northyorks.gov.uk)



## National Fraud Initiative 2006

As part of the annual audit of the Pension Fund's accounts the County Council is legally obliged to take part in an anti-fraud exercise organised by the Audit Commission.

The initiative involves sending details of all payments made by the Pension Fund in the year to date to the Audit Commission in October 2006 so that they can be compared to information supplied by other public bodies. This will be used to help confirm that the pension paid to you is correct and also to check whether pensioners claiming Housing Benefit have declared all their income correctly.

This is part of a much wider initiative covering most public sector employees and pensioners as well as records for housing benefits, student loans, creditor payments and blue badge parking permits. All information exchanged is treated in strict confidence and the processing complies with the Data Protection Act.

**You do not need to do anything.**

If you have any concerns on this matter please contact Ian Smithson from the Internal Audit Service on extension 2739 at County Hall (01609 780780).

## Life Certificates

### What are these?

In addition to the National Fraud Initiative exercise which is carried out we are also required to check on whether the payments we are making to pensioners are still valid through a process called Life Certificates. The life certificates are sent out to pensioners asking them to declare that they are still alive and entitled to their pension payments. It may sound absurd but unfortunately there is evidence that pension payments do continue to be paid out after a pensioner has died where those involved do not notify the pension fund of the death of the pensioner.

### Who receives one of these?

This additional check is made on pensioners living abroad. For the purposes of this exercise 'abroad' also means anyone living in Scotland as the National Fraud Initiative does not include Scotland.

### What do you need to do?

If you are living outside England or Wales you will receive a Life Certificate towards the end of 2006. **Please complete this form. If you do not complete and return this form your pension payments will be stopped until we receive the form.** If you have difficulty in completing the form please contact the Pensions Section yourself or ask a friend or family member to do so.

# Retired Member Organisation



The Northallerton Area Retired Local Government Officers Social Club was formed a number of years ago to provide coach trips, theatre trips and other social functions for members and for guests where possible.

Anyone interested in joining or if you would like further information, please contact:

Mrs Marjorie Stratford (Secretary)  
11 Normanby Road  
Northallerton  
DL7 8RT  
Tel: 01609 770333

# Unison Retired Members Organisation

## Scarborough Branch

Contact: John Wainwright - tel. 01723 354183

## Harrogate Branch

Contact: Ken Pullan - tel. 01423 863237

## Hambleton & Richmondshire Branch

Contact: Sheila Crosby - tel. 01642 700815

## Selby Branch

Contact: Sheila Crosby (on behalf of the Selby Retired Members Secretary) - tel. 01642 700815

## York Branch

Contact: Herbert Hamilton-Smith - tel. 01904 791964

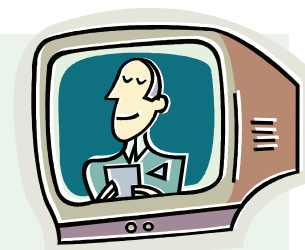
## Craven Branch

Contact: Tom Foster - tel. 01524 858657

Anyone wanting more information or wanting to join should contact the relevant secretary.

The current life membership fee is £15.00

# Free Television Licences for people aged 75 and over



If you're **aged 75 or over**, you are entitled to a **free television licence**.

The Government will pay for your television licence if you are aged 75 or over and have a television. The scheme is run by TV Licensing.

Find more information about free TV licences on the TV Licensing website at:

[www.tvlicensing.co.uk/information/agedover74s.jsp](http://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/information/agedover74s.jsp)

You can also phone the TV Licensing information helpline on **0845 603 6999**. The line is open from 8.00am to 9.00pm, Monday to Friday, and 8.30am to 2.00pm on Saturday. You can also find details on Ceefax.

## Contact Details:

### Payroll Section

The team dealing with your regular pension payment is provided by the North Yorkshire County Council Payroll Section on behalf of the North Yorkshire Pension Fund. Should you have any queries such as:

- incorrect tax codes
- change of bank details
- pension not being paid

you should contact the Payroll Section as follows:

Payroll Section  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
North Yorkshire DL7 8AL

or email: [payroll@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:payroll@northyorks.gov.uk)

**You can also contact the Payroll Officers directly by telephoning 01609 53 followed by their extension number as follows:**

The first letter of your last name	Payroll Officer	Extension
A—B	Karen Stokes	2957
C—F	Sarah Tippling	3138
G—I	Nigel Copland	2960
J—M	Stuart Jackson	2966
N—R	John Richardson	2959
S—T	Laila Hird	2969
U—Z	Paul Coverdale	2955

### Pensions Section

Should you wish to speak to a member of the Pensions Section, please contact one of the following Senior Pensions Officers:

Peter Hymer: 01609 532691  
Caroline Park: 01609 532698  
Suzanne Berry: 01609 532567



## COMPETITION

**Are you a whiz with a camera? Then read on ...**

We would like to replace the picture shown on the front of the Pensions Focus newsletter. Do you have a digital photograph of a North Yorkshire landscape or a North Yorkshire landmark that you have taken yourself? If so, why not enter our competition to have your picture used on the front of the newsletter and win a £20 National Gardens gift voucher (which can be used at various garden centres).



Your digital picture must not include people and you must have taken it yourself. It must be a minimum resolution of 300dpi and in a JPG format.

Please email your digital picture including your full name, address and contact telephone number to [jo.wade@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:jo.wade@northyorks.gov.uk). Only one photograph per person will be accepted. All submissions must be made by 31 January 2007.

### Next Edition

You can expect to receive the next issue of Pensions Focus in March 2007. All future publications will be issued annually in March.

Don't forget that you can view previous copies of the Pensions Focus Newsletter on our web pages at:

[www.nynet.org.uk/pensionfund/](http://www.nynet.org.uk/pensionfund/)

**Visit the North Yorkshire Pension Fund website ...**

[www.nynet.org.uk/pensionfund/](http://www.nynet.org.uk/pensionfund/)