

Your pension

With our new 'Fund Focus' publication (sent to you last December) covering most of the items featured in our previous newsletter, 'Pensioners' News', this document outlines some extra information you need to know about your pension.

Pension increases are applied in April, and in line with the rules of the Unilever UK Pension Fund ('the Fund'), we use the RPI figure at 1 March each year. (This is the January figure, which is then published in February.) As a result, the fall in the RPI over recent months has had an effect on the level of pension increase this year. (The increase is then scaled down for pensioners who have been retired for less than a year.)

You may remember that we wrote to you in March 2007 about changes to the Fund. **If you were already receiving your pension on 31 December 2007, you are not affected by these changes.** Among these was a change to the way pension increases may apply to pension you built up after 1 January 2008 (we give you a recap of the details below). This year, however, due to the

level of the increase, the change will have no effect, and the same increase will apply to your entire pension.

We will send you a statement shortly before your April payment, showing your new monthly pension amount. Please note that any increase to the GMP element of your pension will be paid by the State along with your basic State pension. ('GMP' stands for Guaranteed Minimum Pension. Because the Fund is contracted out of the State Second Pension scheme, a minimum level of pension set by the Government applies to any benefits you built up in the Fund before 6 April 1997. This is your GMP.)

This year's pension increase, which applies from 1 April 2009, will be:

0.1%

Pension increase change

If you retired after 1 January 2008, parts of your pension may receive different increases in some years. It depends on the contribution level you chose to pay 1 January 2008.

- If you chose to pay the 7% contribution level from 1 January 2008, your pension in payment built up after 1 January 2008 will increase by inflation up to 3%.
- If you chose to pay the 8.5% contribution level from 1 January 2008, your pension in

payment built up after 1 January 2008 will increase by inflation up to 5%.

So, the change comes into effect in years when inflation rises above 3%.

Please remember that if you were already receiving your pension on 31 December 2007, the changes do not affect you. Your pension will continue to receive increases in line with inflation up to 5%.



Unilever

The Unilever State Benefits helpline

01494 729796

The Unilever State Benefits helpline exists to help you find out if you are entitled to claim extra benefits from the State, such as Pension Credit, Council Tax Benefit and Attendance Allowance. If you have any queries relating to State benefits, or are unsure if you or your family qualify for any extra benefits from the State, call our confidential helpline for advice. Thousands of Unilever pensioners have discovered that they are entitled to extra State benefits through calling the helpline.

Getting in touch

For questions about your pension payments, or to tell us about changes to your personal details (especially a change of address or bank):

Unilever Pensions Team
Hewitt Associates Outsourcing Ltd
6 More London Place
London SE1 2DA

Freephone:
0800 028 0051
(from within the UK)

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(from outside the UK)

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01372 757953

For information about the Unilever UK Pensioners Association or Regional Groups:

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UUKPF website:
www.uukpf.co.uk

Contacting the tax office

Unilever UK Pensions Tax Office
(ref. 951/V)
HM Inspector of Taxes
Chapel Wharf Area
Trinity Bridge House
2 Dearmans Place
Salford M3 5BS

Tel: 0845 300 0627

HM Revenue & Customs website:
www.hmrc.gov.uk

By designing this document as a single sheet (which fits into a smaller envelope), we have cut down significantly on the amount of paper we use.