

PFEW Pension Compensation Claim - Eligibility FAQs

Who is eligible to claim?

To be eligible you will have been serving on 1 April 2012 and a member of a Police Pension Scheme on that date. You will still have been serving and be a member of a Police Pension Scheme on 1 April 2015. You will not have received full protection in respect of the change of Police Pension Schemes (not have been allowed to remain in the scheme you were in prior to 1 April 2012 for the remainder of your service).

I've only recently become a member, am I eligible?

The PFEW legal funding criteria state that to be eligible for funding in claims such as this, a member must have commenced subscribing to PFEW within six months of joining the police service and remained a subscribing member whilst serving, except for any period of unpaid leave such as a career break or maternity leave or time spent as a Temporary Superintendent.

I have since retired, am I still eligible?

If you are retired and you fit the above criteria and moved to the 2015 Police Pension Scheme prior to retiring, then you are likely to be eligible.

I joined the police service after 1 April 2015, am I eligible?

If you joined the Police Service on or after 1st April 2015, you will have joined the 2015 Pension Scheme and therefore you are not in one of the affected groups.

I opted out of the Police Pension Scheme because of the changes, am I eligible?

Where a member opted to leave the Police Pension Scheme because of the transitional protections, and did not join an alternative pension scheme, it is likely to be difficult to establish a link between the decision to opt out and the discrimination. The member will have elected to put themselves in a worse position by being out of a pension scheme altogether, rather than transferring into the 2015 CARE Scheme. If the member opted to make alternative arrangements to mitigate the loss caused by being moved into the 2015 CARE Scheme and can prove the reason they decided to leave the Police Pension Scheme was because of the transitional provisions, then the member may have grounds to bring a claim. Any such claim may now be out of time and would require evidence of the reason for the member's decision to be considered further.

I joined after 1 April 2012, am I eligible?

Unfortunately for those who joined after the 1st April 2012 are not eligible to claim because all who joined after that date were treated equally (required to move into CARE as of 1st April 2015) so no discrimination occurred.

Eligibility criteria

- ✓ Given your consent to pursue a claim in the Employment Tribunal (ET), you fall into one of the groups affected by the transitional provisions of the 2015 Pension Scheme, which forced members to transfer into the 2015 Scheme either immediately or with tapered protection
- ✓ You started working as a police officer before 1 April 2012
- ✓ Your service ended after 2 April 2015
- ✓ You have contributed to your police pension scheme before 1 April 2012.

Non-eligible criteria

- You were not a serving officer as at 1 April 2012
- You have received full protection and remained in the 1987 and 2006 Scheme, as applicable, then you are not in the affected groups
- You were not a fully subscribing member for the length of your service
- If you joined the Police Service on or after 1 April 2015, you will have joined the 2015 Pension Scheme and therefore you are not in one of the affected groups
- If you have already submitted a claim to the Tribunal about this issue (whether on your own or through legal representation), you cannot pursue another claim about the same issue. This would be considered an abuse of process and there could be cost implications which those individuals would be personally liable for.

What are the next steps for eligible applicants?

Eligible applicants will receive an email from Pennington's lawyers on PFEW's behalf inviting them to join an extranet page where they can follow the progress their claim. If they do not receive this email and they have been informed that they are eligible, please email pensionclaim@polfed.org.