



Australian Government

Comcare

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Jurisdictional Policy Advice No. 2008/12 *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* Superannuation pensions – December 2008 Update

Background

1. The employer funded portion of superannuation schemes may be subject to adjustment at frequent intervals. These adjustments to pensions are likely to affect the weekly amount of compensation payable to ex-employees under sections 20 and 21A of the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*.
2. The employer funded portion of all Commonwealth Government superannuation scheme pensions is adjusted twice a year. Adjustments may also be made regularly to pensions paid under other superannuation schemes, which may affect the weekly amount of compensation payable to ex-employees.
3. The following information applies to pensions paid by ARIA (the Australian Reward Investment Alliance), which is the administering authority for the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS). It also applies to pensions paid by the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme (DFRDB) and the Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme (MSBS).
 - ARIA, the DFRDB and Military Super have advised that the Government funded portion of their respective pension benefits payable will increase by **2.7%**.
 - This increase is effective from 18 December 2008 with it being paid on pension payday 31 December 2008.

Policy Advice

4. Determining authorities must regularly ensure that ex-employees who are being paid benefits under section 20 and s21A are being paid their correct 'amount of compensation' weekly benefit. This requires determining authorities to regularly verify the current 'superannuation amount' under s20 and 'superannuation amount in relation to the pension' under s21A.

Commonwealth Schemes

5. For ex-employees paid by the ARIA schemes, DFRDB and Military Super, this information can be found on the Comcare website (Statutory Rates/Table 4) which will be updated with the relevant details.

Other Schemes

6. For ex-employees under other superannuation schemes, the determining authority will need to regularly verify the 'superannuation amount' under s20 and 'superannuation amount in relation to the pension' under s21A with the relevant schemes administrators.
7. Enquiries about the application of this policy advice may be made by contacting the SRC Policy Section by telephone on 1300 366 979 or email: SRC.policy@comcare.gov.au.

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