

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Statement from Jim Gray, Northumbria Police Federation Chairman - Police Pay

Even after the submission of overwhelming evidence by the Police Federation of England & Wales (PFEW) to justify our request for a significant pay increase this year, as you will know, we have been deemed to be one of the public services not worthy to receive any pay award.

A meeting of PFEW's National Council, where all of the 43 local branches were represented, took place yesterday (22/7/21); I represented the Federated Ranks of Northumbria Police.

During the meeting, there was overwhelming support for our formal withdrawal from the 'Police Remuneration Review Body' process; I supported our withdrawal. It is clear that that body is not an independent one, with its ability to consider pay increases controlled by the Home Secretary, who, this year, instructed them not to even consider a pay award for Police Officers with an income of £24,000 or above. This lack of independence is in stark contrast to the independent pay body which decides upon the pay of MPs, which has consistently awarded them significant year on year pay increases.

So, whilst Police Officers in England & Wales have been on the frontline, responsible for policing this pandemic, continuing to fight crime, continuing to police every type of protest imaginable, continuing to run to danger, continuing to put themselves in harm's way, continuing to be assaulted, continuing to protect the vulnerable, continuing to professionally bear the vilification from those with their own ideological agendas, and continuing to suffer the anti-Police narrative clearly prevalent in the mainstream media, what 'real' support have we received from this Government? At best, what I see from those politicians, including our Home Secretary, is that they say they appreciate us and readily offer 'warm words', but I see nothing else, apart from yet another real terms wage cut. We will now campaign for a truly independent pay award mechanism for Police Officers

In addition, Police Officers, the ones who, day in and day out, are in and out of every public and private space imaginable, potentially interacting, face to face, with anyone and everyone, unable to 'socially distance', often in confrontational and violent situations, and the ones charged with having to engage, encourage, educate, and enforce Covid legislation, were not even given any kind of appropriate priority for the vaccination - it absolutely beggars belief!

Considering all of that, it is clear to me that we are held in utter contempt by this Government and that is why I support PFEW's position that we currently have no confidence in the Home Secretary.

Police Officers are currently being treated appallingly - they deserve far better from this Government.

For the National Police Federation statement regarding pay, please see the below link:

[National Federation Statement re Pay](#)

PHYSIOTHERAPY & COUNSELLING SERVICES FOR GROUP INSURANCE MEMBERS

We are delighted to confirm that our **Physiotherapy, Chiropractic and Counselling** services continue to be delivered at the Federation Office.

If you are a member of the [Group Insurance Scheme](#) and wish to book a Physiotherapy, Chiropractic or Counselling appointment, please ring the Federation Office Reception on **0191 4373766** or email norpolfedreception@polfed.org

If you are not already a subscribing member of our Group Insurance Scheme, this is a comprehensive scheme offering **Life Insurance, Personal Accident Cover, Half Pay Sickness Cover, Worldwide Travel Insurance, Legal Expenses Cover, UK/European Motor Breakdown cover, plus access to a 24 Hour Counselling Helpline & Support Service.** [Click here to read the full Scheme Benefits.](#)

If you are not yet a member and wish to join, [please click here for an application form](#) which should be completed and returned to the info@norpolfed.org.uk for processing. **Please note that applications are welcomed from both Police Officers and Police Staff.**

Top Up Life Insurance for Group Insurance Scheme Members

Did you know that, if you are a member of our Group Insurance Scheme, you can top up your own life cover and that of your Spouse/Partner if you also pay the additional subscription for Member and Partner membership. The life cover element within our [Group Insurance Scheme](#) is currently **£120,000**, and Spouse/Partner life cover (available as an optional extra) is **£60,000**. There are 3 easy options to increase this cover, as follows:

- **£7.15 per month providing an additional £50,000 cover**
- **£9.65 per month providing an additional £75,000 cover**
- **£12.21 per month providing an additional £100,000 cover**

[Click here for Serving Officer Top Up Life Application](#)

[Click here for Partner Top Up Life Application](#)

Completed application forms should be sent to info@norpolfed.org.uk in the first instance for onward transmission to our insurers. Subject to their approval, we will then confirm your cover by email.

Group Insurance Scheme Motor Breakdown Insurance

Due to increased demand and Covid issues, the RAC have adapted their process of reporting breakdowns for Summer 2021. Please click the below link which will take you to our website where more information is provided on the home page:

[Northumbria Police Federation Website](#)

Group Insurance Scheme Travel Insurance

Our travel insurance providers, Millstream, have provided a travel bulletin which outlines some of the most common queries that officers may have. To read their latest bulleting, please [Click here](#). The full scheme policy, which outlines the cover in more detail, can be found [here](#). **Please check the FCDO travel advice page for the country that you are visiting. If the FCDO is advising against all but essential travel, you would not be covered under our travel insurance.**

The Northern Police Healthcare Scheme

[The Northern Police Healthcare Scheme](#), administered from the Federation Office, is a self-financing Trust, offering private medical treatment to subscribing members and their families. With subscriptions from **only £16 a month (including free Police Treatment Centre membership)** the Scheme makes private healthcare affordable to all. For full details of the scheme, including prices and an application form, [please click here](#). Any completed application forms should be sent to healthcare@npf.polfed.org.

Pre-Retirement Courses

We are in the process of organising dates for 1 day Pre-Retirement courses for the remainder of 2021, these courses will be delivered by Carss Financial Partners. If you are interested in attending a course, please email info@norpolfed.org.uk with your retirement date. Once we have further dates confirmed, we will contact those officers who have registered an interest.

Police Money Matters Pre-Retirement Seminars

In addition to our Pre-Retirement course, our members can also access *free Pre Retirement Financial Advice Seminars*, which are delivered by [Police Money Matters \(PMM\)](#) who have an excellent reputation within the Police Family throughout the UK. Dates of the seminars in 2021 are as follows:

Wednesday 15th September 2021 – Seminar – 10.30am to 12.30pm (meet from 10.00am). The Badger, Street Houses, Ponteland Rd, Ponteland, Newcastle upon Tyne NE20 9BT

Wednesday 17th November 2021 – Seminar – 10.30am to 12.30pm (meet from 10.00am). The Grey Horse, Front Street, East Boldon NE36 0SJ

If you wish to attend one of these seminars, please email info@norpolfed.org.uk.

Lookers Volkswagen - Personal Contract Hire Offers

We are pleased to announce that we are still working with [Lookers Volkswagen](#) to provide our members and their immediate families with *exclusive* offers on Volkswagen personal contract hire vehicles. Offers are only available through [Lookers Volkswagen Scotswood Road](#) . [Click here for full details](#).

Police Federation – Perkjam Discounts

Members of the Police Federation are able to sign up for a range of discounts through Perkjam. If you would like to sign up please [click here](#).

FEDERATION SURGERIES

Due to ongoing Coronavirus implications, we are still unable to hold our usual monthly surgeries at the Federation Office. We have therefore approached our service providers who have agreed to offer telephone contact should any members require advice or assistance with any of the following issues in the interim period:

Family Law

Holmes Family Law solicitors offer a bespoke, specialist legal service to Northumbria Police Federation Members and their families advising on all aspects of Family Law. They offer a free and comprehensive initial hour long appointment. Please ring **0191 500 9337** or **01670 707338** or email lily@holmesfamilylaw.co.uk

Financial Advice (including Covid-19 related financial issues), Mortgages / Investment Services / Wills / Estate Planning

Carss Financial Services offer mortgage, insurance, investment, power of attorney and estate planning advice. They can also give advice and guidance in relation to the furlough process or other financial issues relating to the Covid-19 situation. Please ring Steve Carss on **07775 575445** or email info.cfp@btconnect.com

Additional Wills & Estate Planning

Taylor–Hall are a ‘Whole of Market’ broker with 30 years of industry experience and technical excellence. They are there to support their clients throughout every stage of their life. Please ring Mark Hall on **07885 041245** or email mark@taylor-hall.co.uk

Holiday Lodge Windermere – Spring 2022 Dates now available

There is still limited availability for our [Holiday Lodge in Windermere](#), at specially reduced prices for members of our Group Insurance Scheme.. [Please click here to check availability and to submit a booking enquiry](#).

The Old Byre, Wandylaw, Northumberland

The Old Byre (sleeps 5) is a three bedroomed stone-built barn conversion located less than half a mile from the A1, is within easy reach of Alnwick, Berwick and Edinburgh. It is available for hire at *substantially* discounted prices by members of our Group Insurance Scheme.

[Click here for full details, prices and to access the online booking calendar](#)

The Stables and Wandylaw Cottage

Members of our Healthcare Scheme can book a break in one of our two luxury barn conversions in Wandylaw, Chathill, Northumberland at *very competitive prices*. [Click here for full details, prices and to access the online booking calendar.](#)

Know Your Rights

Not all officers are aware of their basic entitlements under [Police Regulations](#) and we are keen to spread awareness of these and the support available to our members. [Click here to read a Quick Reference Guide re your main Terms and Conditions.](#) If you have any specific queries, please contact your local Federation Representative(s), details of which can be found on the Force's intranet within the Staff Associations section.

Jim

Jim Gray
Chairman

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