

# Matthews – An overview of deceased member provisions



# Legislation

Awards on death: Schedule one, Part 5



Death grant



**Death grant for limited period**



**Death grant for extended limited period**



**Additional death grant**



Post-retirement death grant

# Death grant for limited period

## The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) Order 2014

- 1 April 2014

### Eligibility criteria

- Employed as a retained firefighter on or after 1st July 2000; and
- Continued in such employment until they died before 6th April 2006

### Who qualifies?

1. Spouse or civil partner (not cohabitating partners)
2. A child of the deceased

### What did the process look like?

- FRAs to identify eligible cases using reasonable endeavours
- Application to be submitted by beneficiary to FRA before 31 March 2015

### What was payable?

- An amount equal to 2.5 x pensionable pay which the deceased received in their last year of service.

# Death grant for extended limited period

## The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) Order 2023

- 1 October 2023
- Extension of what was included in 2014 to included individuals with service for revised in-scope dates

### Eligibility criteria

- Employed as a retained firefighter on or after **7<sup>th</sup> April 2000**; and
- Continued in such employment until they died before 6th April 2006

### Who qualifies?

1. Spouse or civil partner (not cohabitating partners)
2. A child of the deceased

### What did the process look like?

- FRAs to identify eligible cases using reasonable endeavours
- Application to be submitted by eligible beneficiary to FRA before 31 March 2025

### What was payable?

- An amount equal to 2.5 x pensionable pay which the deceased received in their last year of service.
- **An 'additional death grant' of 0.1 of pensionable pay for every complete year the deceased was employed before 7 April 2000.**

# Additional death grant

## The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) Order 2023

- 1 October 2023
- New consideration for second options exercise

### Eligibility criteria

- First took up employment as a retained firefighter before 1 July 2000;
- Elected to join the scheme as a Special 'Member' under the first options exercise, and
- Dies before 31 March 2025 without making an election under the second options exercise

### Who qualifies?

1. Spouse or civil partner (not cohabitating partners)
2. A child of the deceased

### What did the process look like?

- FRAs to identify eligible cases using reasonable endeavours
- Application to be submitted by eligible beneficiary to FRA before 31 March 2025

### What was payable?

- An amount equal to 0.1 of pensionable pay for every complete year the deceased was employed before 7 April 2000.

# Summary

## **Death grant for extended limited period**

- Served as a retained FF on or after 7 April 2000 and at date of death
- Died before 6 April 2006
- Therefore, never had opportunity to join as a Special member

## **Additional death grant**

- Joined as a Special member under first options exercise
- Has service before 7 April 2000
- Dies before making a choice under second options exercise (\*31 March 2025)

# Scenario one

## Facts of the case

- Wrote to eligible beneficiary (spouse) in first options exercise (eligible individual already deceased and died pre-April 2006).
- Widow did not elect for death grant.
- Eligible individual has pre-July 2000 service.

## Entitlement

- Eligible for death grant
  - An amount equal to 2.5 x pensionable pay which the deceased received in their last year of service. Plus,
  - An 'additional death grant' of 0.1 of pensionable pay for every complete year the deceased was employed before 7 April 2000.

## Scenario two

### Facts of the case

- Eligible individual left service between 7 April 2000 and 30 June 2000
- Died after leaving employment, but *before* April 2006

### Entitlement

- Nothing
  - To be eligible for a death grant the eligible individual must have died in service



## Scenario three

### Facts of the case

- Eligible individual died before 6 April 2006 whilst serving as a retained firefighter
- At date of death, they were divorced and had no eligible children

### Entitlement

- Nothing
  - Although they meet the criteria for a death grant as they do not have an eligible beneficiary nothing is payable.

# Scenario four

## Facts of the case

- Joined in first options exercise (when alive)
- Has subsequently died before election under second options exercise
- Member had pre-July 2000 service.
- Member was not married or in a civil partnership at time of death, but does have a child

## Entitlement

- Eligible beneficiary entitled to additional death grant
  - An amount equal to 0.1 of pensionable pay for every complete year the deceased was employed before 7 April 2000

# Scenario five

## Facts of the case

- Wrote to individuals in first options exercise, at which point they were alive – No responses received.
- They subsequently died (one in 2018 and one in 2021).
- They have pre-July 2000 service.

## Entitlement

- Nothing currently under the regulations
  - To be eligible for a death grant the individual had to die in service before 6 April 2006
  - To be eligible for an additional death grant the individual had to join under the first options exercise

# Possible future amendments?

## Survivor benefits

- Individuals who didn't join during 2014 Options exercise and have pre-July 2000 service but have died before making an election under the 2023 Options exercise
- Individuals who didn't join during the 2014 Options exercise (as didn't get an opportunity to) and would have been eligible to elect under the 2023 Options exercise, however, are now deceased
- [FPS Bulletin 75 – November 2023](#)

## Pension payments

- Individuals who would have received special pension/additional special pension payments but died before making an election under the 2014 or 2023 Options exercises.

# What else is missing?



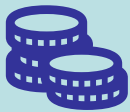
# IN OTHER NEWS





## IC-RSS rollout

Interest on arrears  
Timetabling  
Comms to members



## Year end

Levy – 11 March  
Matthews benefit calculator – 21 March  
Legal fees – TBC before 31 March



## Next coffee morning

Tuesday 19 March @ 10am  
GAD  
•Outputs  
•Individual cases  
•Feedback from the sector

# Disclaimer

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**Thank you for listening!**

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