

Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service Pension Discretions Policy

Discretion	Regulation	Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority (DFRS) Published Discretion
Whether, how much, and in what circumstances to contribute to a shared cost APC scheme	R16(2)(e) & R16(4)(d)	Policy is for the Chief Fire Officer or Chief Executive to consider a shared cost APC in exceptional circumstances, where a person opts to pay for the break after 30 days up to a period of 12 months, from the end of the break. If the person opts to pay an APC to buy extra pension the shared cost option does not apply.
Whether all or some benefits can be paid if an employee reduces their hours or grade (flexible retirement)	R30(6) & TP11(2)	Policy is that all pension benefits can be paid.
Whether to waive, in whole or in part, actuarial reduction on benefits paid on flexible retirement	R30(8)	Policy is to not waive the actuarial reduction for routine flexible retirements.
Whether to waive, in whole or in part, actuarial reduction on benefits which a member voluntarily draws before normal pension age	R30(8)	Policy is to not to waive any actuarial reduction on benefits which a member voluntarily draws before normal pension age.
Whether to waive any actuarial reduction on pre and/or post April 2014 benefits paid early on compassionate grounds	TP3(1), TPSch 2, paras 2(1) and 2(2), B30(5) and B30A(5)	Policy is to continue to take cases to the Chief Fire Officer or Chief Executive in order for it to consider whether an actuarial reduction is appropriate.
Whether to "switch on" the 85 year rule for a member voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60.	TPSch 2, paras 1(2) and 2(2)	Policy is to not to switch on the 85 year rule for a member voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60.
Whether to grant additional pension to an active member or within 6 months of ceasing to be an active member by reason of redundancy or business efficiency (by up to £6,500 p.a.)	R31	Policy is to not to grant any additional pension to an active member or within six months of ceasing to be an active member by reason of redundancy or business efficiency.
Whether, for a member leaving on the grounds of redundancy or business efficiency on or before 31st March 2014, to augment membership (by up to 10 years). The resolution to do so would have to be made within 6 months of the date of leaving. Hence this discretion is spent entirely after 30th September 2014.	B12	Policy is not to grant any augmentation to a member leaving on the grounds of redundancy or business efficiency.

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Whether to grant application for early payment of deferred benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60	B30(2)	Policy is to only grant application for the early release of deferred benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60 where there is no cost to the council.
Whether to waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to deferred benefits paid early under B30	B30(5)	Policy is to continue to take cases to the Chief Fire Officer or Chief Executive in order for it to consider whether an actuarial reduction is appropriate.
Whether to grant an application for early payment of a suspended tier 3 ill health pension on or after age 55 and before age 60	B30A(3)	Policy is to grant an application for early payment of a suspended tier three ill health pension on or after age 55 and before age 60, where there is no cost to the council.
Whether to waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to benefits paid early under B30A	B30A(5)	Policy is to continue to take cases to the Chief Fire Officer or Chief Executive in order for it to consider whether an actuarial reduction is appropriate.
Grant application from a post 31.3.98. / pre 1.4.08. leaver or from a councillor for early payment of benefits on or after age 50/55 and before age 60 (see Note below)	31(2)	Policy is to grant an application from a post 31 March 1998/pre 1 April 2008 leaver or from a councillor for early payment of benefits on or after age 50/55 and before age 60, where there is no cost to the council.
Waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to benefits paid early for a post 31.3.98. / pre 1.4.08. leaver or a councillor leaver	31(5)	Policy is to continue to take cases to the Chief Fire Officer or Chief Executive in order for it to consider whether an actuarial reduction is appropriate.
Councillor optants out and pre 1.4.08. employee optants out only to get benefits paid from NRD if employer agrees	31(7A)	Policy is to allow councillor optants out and pre 1 April 2008 employee optant outs to only get benefits paid from normal retirement date (NRD).