



South West Police
Compassionate Fund

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PUBLIC NOTICE – JOINING THE FUND DURING RETIREMENT – OFFER CLOSING 31/01/2022

Dear colleagues

In 2016, the Trustees of the Compassionate Fund realised that many retired officers had failed to ensure their membership to the Fund continued by way of regular monthly donations from their police pension.

To address this problem, a decision was made to make a temporary offer to retired officers – inviting them to join or rejoin the fund during their retirement.

This communication challenge has now been minimised by our updated membership database systems and administration protocols, and in most cases*, we are notified of an impending retirement by way of monthly salary donations – or absence of a planned donation.

* We still advise that all members are responsible for ensuring their membership continues during retirement. Please, contact us for instructions and advice in setting up contributions from police pension.

On Monday the 18th of October 2021 the Trustees have taken the decision that the Fund will be permanently closing the temporary offer to pensioners to join during retirement if contiguous membership was not maintained from service into retirement.

On the 1st of February 2022 we will then revert to the situation where officers will have to join at the beginning or during their service and then continue with membership during their retirement to retain membership rights.

The decision to now close this temporary offer was taken to protect the Fund, for our existing members, future members, and their families.

Without the loyal support we receive from regular donations from salaries and pensions the Fund would not be able to carry out its primary charitable purpose of grant making to members and their families who are in need.

It is therefore timely that we now give notice, [a final chance in effect] for pensioners to join before the 31st of January 2022. If you require further information or an application form, please contact us – details listed above. All applications to join the fund are granted at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members for their continued support of this vital welfare charity and I sincerely hope that if you were a member of the fund during your service, you take time to consider rejoining us before the closure date.

Yours faithfully

Sara Westcott
Chief Executive Officer