



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Social Services**

MC21-000964

Thank you for your letter of 28 January 2021 to the Minister for Families and Social Services, Senator the Hon Anne Ruston, concerning non-indexation of British Pensions in Australia. The Minister has asked the department to reply.

Thank you for bringing to the department's attention the commitment from the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK), the Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP to a meeting with the End Frozen Pensions campaign and the appropriate UK Government Minister.

The Australian Government appreciates this is an important ongoing issue for UK pensioners living in Australia and its longstanding position is the UK's policy of not indexing pensions paid to people in Australia (and other Commonwealth countries) is unfair. All UK pensioners paid their contributions under the same rules and should be paid their pensions under equal conditions, no matter where they choose to live.

The Government has made multiple representations to the UK Government on this issue including a submission in August 2020 to the Inquiry by the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Frozen British Pensions to reiterate its position. While the UK Government's response to date suggest there is no prospect of change in the foreseeable future, the Government will continue to raise this issue at appropriate opportunities with relevant UK Government counterparts.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Andrew Seebach', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Andrew Seebach  
Branch Manager  
Department of Social Services

1 March 2021