



**SENATOR DAVID POCOCK**  
Senator for the ACT

24 August 2023

Her Excellency Vicki Treadell CMG, VMO  
British High Commissioner to Australia  
Commonwealth Avenue  
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

Your Excellency,

I write to you on behalf of several community members that I represent in the Australian Capital Territory concerning the treatment of the UK State Pension for Australian residents.

As I understand, there are around 200,000 people living in Australia who receive the UK State Pension. I understand that it is a contributory scheme and that it is paid regardless of a person's nationality or where they reside.

It has been raised with me that the UK State Pension is adjusted annually for inflation, but not for people residing in Australia and other select countries. By contrast, I understand that the pension is adjusted annually for those living in the US and in some Caribbean countries.

I seek your assistance in understanding why the pension seems to be selectively indexed each year depending on where a person resides. As you will know, our nation is currently in the grips of a cost of living crisis, and there are many pensioners in my community rightfully concerned that their pensions are not keeping up with the cost of living.

I look forward to your earliest response.

Sincerely,

**Senator David Pocock**