



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MC23-015722

Mr Patrick Edwards
President
British Pensions in Australia Inc.
membership@bpia.org.au

Dear Mr Edwards

Thank you for your letter of 10 March 2023 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, regarding the United Kingdom's policy of freezing the rate of state pensions. I have been asked to respond on the Prime Minister's behalf.

The Prime Minister greatly appreciates your organisation's significant concern regarding this issue. The Australian Government acknowledges the non-indexation of UK pensions is an important ongoing issue for British pensioners living in Australia. Australia's long-standing position is that the United Kingdom's policy of indexing its pensions in some countries but not others, including Australia, is unfair and inequitable.

The UK Government has stated it has no plans to change its policy on indexation. **While only the UK Government can resolve this issue, the Australian Government has and will continue to raise the issue with relevant counterparts at appropriate opportunities.**

Thank you again for continuing to raise this issue and advocating on behalf of your members.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ash Collingburn'.

Ash Collingburn DSM
Assistant Secretary
17 March 2023