CSPA
CIVIL SERVICE PENSIONERS' ALLIANCE

Liverpool & District Group

November 2026 Newsletter



Editors Update

Dear all,

Welcome to all new and current members. The committee hopes everyone is well. It is with deep regret that we must announce that Ken Roberts has died. Ken, a personal friend of our Chair, Mike Stankiewicz has been ill for some time and whilst in the past he always supported the Group meetings, he has unfortunately not been able to attend for some time. He will be sorely missed.

Please remember to notify HQ if you want these newsletters received by post, HQ are attempting to cut costs by issuing them by email unless requested to send them by post, so if you have an email address and are willing to receive the Newsletter by email then please contact them. The HQ contact is below.

Also, if you also wish to receive regional and other local updates, such as Group Circulars then please send your email address to Harry Brett, our treasurer, at h_brett@sky.com. And he will put you on his email list for future communications.

You will always continue to receive The Pensioner Magazine by post, on a quarterly basis.

I will get on with Recent and Future meetings.

Sue Munro, Newsletter Editor.

Email: smunro8601@outlook.com (please note change of email address)

Change of Address/Details

CSPA HQ print and circulate this newsletter for us, so if there are any address or membership changes, please contact CSPA Membership Enquiries by phone, email or post.

Freepost RTRX-RKUY-SELT
Civil Service Pensioners' Alliance,
160 Falcon Road
London SW11 2LN

Tel: 020 8688 8418
Email: enquiries@cspa.co.uk

Location of Meetings

Our Group meetings are held at the Lime Street Central Restaurant/Pub, on Lime Street, not far from the Station. Meetings will start at 1 pm (NEW START TIME).

It has easy access – all on one floor, even the toilets.

Coffee/tea and alcohol are available as well as snacks/meals, all members are welcome. Future meeting dates are below.

Recent events

Monday 28 September 2026 – Group Meeting which was called to mandate our delegate Sue Munro on any of the motions before the AGM, that any members felt strongly about. Members also commented about the Boat Trip from Chester in June, saying how enjoyable it was. It was suggested that we look at the possibility of a similar trip around Albert Dock, which also includes a meal. Watch for further information if you would like to join us, probably in June 2027.

We had 3 motions that were debated at conference. The first two were passed but the third was rejected, on the grounds that, conference felt it was unfair to other low-income people, that the motion called for an increase in the personal tax allowance for pensioners only. There had already been motions from other Groups calling for an increase in the personal tax allowance for everybody.

Our motions were as follows: -

1)This AGM thinks that it is fundamentally unfair that those who reached state pension age before 2016 do not receive the full uplift of their pension entitlement under the triple lock agreement. The current practice of only increasing any additional state pension paid (formerly known as SERPS) being uplifted by CPI further disadvantages them over those who reached state pension age after 2016 and receive a larger pension, which is wholly increased by the triple lock agreement. The current weekly difference is £60 per week and growing annually.

It therefore demands that the EC make representations to the Government on this matter.

2) This AGM is of the view that, with the demand for mandatory eye testing for those over 70 years of age likely to become law, this is likely to mean that some pensioners who are currently driving will lose their licences. It therefore asks the EC to ensure that the Government is made aware of the need to improve transport systems, especially in rural areas, to ensure that older people can still access activities outside the home.

3) Further to AGM Motion A25, which was passed at last year's conference and which demanded that the personal tax threshold should be increased in 2026. As this did not happen, it now demands that the EC argue for an additional allowance for state pensioners only, on the basis that their income is fixed and, as such, they have no way to offset any increase in the cost of living.

Future events

Monday 19th October 2026 – Group Meeting @ 1 pm – Conference Report.
Monday 7th December 2026 – Group Christmas Lunch @ 1 pm (If you would like to attend the Christmas lunch then please let Harry know as soon as possible)
Monday 4th January 2027 – Group Meeting

We hope you will come to our meetings; all members are very welcome.

There is still a high level of concern over Capita's performance with very little progress being made on reducing the number of open cases, with new cases being added, and even though some from the backlog are being completed the overall cases awaiting attention are still concerningly high. It is encouraging that the thrust from everyone seems to bring the administration of pensions, back in-house. This cannot however be a short-term aim, as the expertise in the civil service needs to be built up again.

Most of the other Group Circulars released lately have been to do with the AGM, which took place on 6th and 7th October at Chesford Grange, Kenilworth. The AGM was well attended with about 30 Groups and the 2 Branches represented. I will not give you a full report of the Conference, as this will appear in the next issue of the Pensioner. Motion A14 criticised Capita but also criticised the EC for its lack of action and communication to the members. This was unanimously defeated, as it was the view of Conference that the EC, but especially the officers and office staff had performed to a high level, keeping members aware and dealing with cases sensitively and efficiently.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to wish all members, a peaceful and merry Christmas and a happy New Year.



SUE MUNRO
Secretary
07790 933326

HARRY BRETT
Treasurer
07999 874864