

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
POLICE PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1978

No.19 of 1978

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Police Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance 1978 amends the Police Pensions Ordinance 1958 (the Principal Ordinance) so that pensioners under that Ordinance may be paid increased benefits analogous to those now available under Commonwealth legislation relating to superannuation.

The Principal Ordinance provides pension benefits for a small number of former members of the Australian Capital Territory Police Force and their widows who do not have an entitlement to pensions under the Superannuation Acts. It has been the practice to maintain parity as between the benefits available under the Principal Ordinance and the superannuation legislation. Whenever benefits have been increased under superannuation legislation corresponding amendments have been made to the Principal Ordinance. The Superannuation Act 1976 and the Superannuation Amendment Act 1976 increased benefits available to pensioners under the Superannuation legislation with effect from 1 July 1976 and so it was necessary to increase pensions under the Principal Ordinance from that date.

Accordingly the benefits payable under the Principal Ordinance have been liberalised as follows with effect from 1 July 1976:

- . the annual rate of a widow's pension is increased from 62½% to 67% of the pension payable under the Ordinance to her husband if he had not died;
- . a new provision is included which sets out a formula for the increase of pensions. This formula is linked to movements in the Consumer Price Index and is to be applied to the whole of the pension and not, as was previously the case for the formula for the increase of pensions, to the Commonwealth's contribution only.

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