



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Tel 020 7219 4196

Fax 020 7219 2325

T McFarlane Esq
Fire Brigades Union
158 Muller Road
Horfield Bristol
BS7 9RE

30th October 2012

Dear Mr McFarlane

Thank you for your letter dated 24th October 2012, which I did read before last night's vote on public services pensions.

I can understand your concerns and those of your members. My father was a retained fire fighter and almost lost his life on service, so I have every admiration for the work your members do. I'm therefore pleased that fire fighters will continue to have a lower retirement age than many people and that is only right.

The Bill last night, though, was only opposed by a very small number of MPs. I think that there is a general recognition that pensions and pension schemes need to change for everyone, including MPs, and that is what the legislation is about. For far too many years, governments of all colours failed to tackle this issue and that is why it has reached such an urgent point.

It is, though, important that we get this matter right and I am very grateful to you for writing to me expressing your views.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely
Laurence Robertson

Laurence Robertson M.P.

Constituency Office:

22 High Street, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire GL20 5AL

Tel: 01684 291640 Fax: 01684 291759 Email: laurence.robertson.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.laurencerobertsonmp.com