**Compensating WASPI women**

Dear [MP NAME],

I am writing following the Government’s decision to ignore the Parliamentary Ombudsman’s instruction to compensate women affected by the DWP’s failure to communicate State Pension age changes.

I am absolutely devastated and I feel betrayed. For years, senior Labour representatives and even the Prime Minister himself pledged to deliver fair compensation to those impacted. They have now made a political choice to break that promise and to ignore the findings of an independent watchdog.

Why have ministers accepted maladministration and apologised for the Government’s failings, yet refused to compensate WASPI women for the injustice caused?

The DWP got it wrong, and they cannot simply adopt a ‘pick and mix’ approach to which elements of an independent ombudsman’s conclusions they find convenient.

The Government failed to properly inform women of the changes and many were plunged into poverty as a result. The Ombudsman himself concluded just 43 per cent of people knew that planned changes to the State Pension age changes would affect them personally.

Quoting other statistics around a sense that future changes could happen, but that not necessarily that it would affect them individually, is both a distraction and misleading.

Furthermore, in recent months, all pensioners losing their Winter Fuel Allowance have been written to directly. Why does the Government not feel this would not have made a difference for WASPI women?

If the Government is really determined to fight for women and pensioners, they should follow the calls of dozens of their own MPs and follow the orders of the independent watchdog, no matter how politically inconvenient its findings might be.

Given the Ombudsman instructed Parliament to urgently deliver justice to those affected, MPs now have a vital role to convey these concerns directly to ministers in the weeks ahead.

**Therefore, will you write to the Prime Minister and Work and Pensions Secretary, urgently asking them to rethink their position and to give MPs an opportunity to vote on this in Parliament?**

MPs were given just 45 minutes notice of the Government’s announcement. The Government has had their say and now all MPs should have theirs – WASPI women are not going away.

Yours sincerely,

[Please include your full name, postal address and telephone number to show you are a constituent]