

Sent via email



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Dear Luke

Fair Transitional State Pension Arrangements for 1950s Women

At a full Council meeting held on 22 November 2021, a Motion on Notice was agreed which aims to build on the cross-party support previously shown by Plymouth City Council for the campaign for Fair Transitional State Pension Arrangements for 1950s Women (Waspi).

Approximately 3.8 million women born in the 1950s have been affected by the mismanagement of increases to the State Pension age (Spa), of whom about 8,500 women living in Plymouth have been affected. Many of these now face financial hardship as a result of changes which were implemented as a result of the 1995 and 2011 Pension Act.

Stage one of the recent Parliamentary Ombudsman's investigation into the way the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) communicated changes to women's State Pension age and related issues, explored if there was maladministration in DWP's communication of changes to women's State Pension age. This stage of the investigation found that in 2005, DWP failed to make a reasonable decision about targeting information to the women affected by these changes, which amounted to maladministration. The investigation also found that in 2006, DWP proposed writing to women individually to tell them about the changes to State Pension age, but it failed to act promptly which also amounted to maladministration.

I ask that you kindly write to The Rt Hon Thérèse Coffey MP, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and ask that the Government acknowledges and responds to the initial stage one findings of the investigation.

OFFICIAL

I am sure that you share our concerns about this issue, and the ongoing detrimental impact on affected women in Plymouth.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Kelly', with a long, sweeping vertical stroke extending downwards from the end of the signature.

Cllr Nick Kelly
Leader of Plymouth City Council