

WASPI

WASPI, (Women Against State Pension Inequality), is a campaigning group representing many of the 3.8 million women born in the 1950s who have been adversely impacted by inadequate notification of increases in their State Pension Age.

Successive Governments did not give the women affected by these changes sufficient notice that their State Pension age would be increasing, meaning that WASPI women have had no time to put in place alternative financial arrangements to see them through to the new State Pension age. Some women have lost as much as £45,000, leaving them in extreme financial difficulty.

WASPI is calling on the Government to implement transitional arrangements to end the huge financial difficulties suffered by this group of women because of the way the changes in the 1995 and 2011 Pension Acts were implemented.



 www.waspi.co.uk

 [@WASPI_Campaign](https://twitter.com/WASPI_Campaign)

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THE CAMPAIGN

Founded by five ordinary women in 2015, the WASPI movement has grown to include over 96,000 supporters and a network of local groups across the UK and internationally. WASPI has been working hard over the past year to bolster political engagement and has secured cross party support from all the major parties, as well as the DUP, Women's Equality, the Greens, Plaid Cymru and several independents.

In addition to its political campaigning, WASPI initially raised £100,000 through CrowdJustice to fund an initial legal campaign to bring maladministration complaints to the Parliamentary Ombudsman. Ongoing legal work is now funded through the membership scheme (see waspi.co.uk). As part of the complaints procedure, WASPI is supporting the women affected to make and pursue complaints initially to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), based on the Government's failure to properly communicate the changes to the State Pension age. The DWP mass action complaint resulted in thousands of letters sent by WASPI women to the DWP. Hundreds of these complaints have now passed through all four stages of the DWP complaints process and have reached the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO). The PHSO commenced a preliminary enquiry and is considering the next steps. WASPI is continuing to urge women to write to the DWP, with more and more letters being sent every day.

Over the coming months, WASPI will continue to work with its partners to ensure fairness for all WASPI women. WASPI's ultimate aim is to secure political support for a bridging pension, and compensation for those affected.



TRADE UNION SUPPORT

Trade union and community support is crucial to ensuring that working women achieve fair transitional arrangements. Women must be treated with respect and dignity, and should not be forced to pay the price of austerity.

In 2017, the TUC Women's Conference adopted a UNISON resolution supporting trade union action for WASPI. The WASPI Campaign appreciate the support it receives from several of the national Unions including UNISON, Unite, GMB and CWU.

Women born in the 1950s deserve better. Working women deserve better. They should not be subjected to the indignity of relying on means tested benefits, pensions credits; employment and job sanctions. Support the WASPI Campaign now. Your help can make a huge difference.

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HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

If you have been affected by State Pension Age changes please get involved with the Campaign and add your voice to the women fighting for justice across the country. You can do this by:

- Becoming a member of WASPI for £25 per year (£15 if in receipt of state benefits). More details can be found online at waspi.co.uk and pressing the 'Join Now' tab.
- Writing a letter of complaint to the Department of Work and Pensions based on the Government's failure to properly communicate the changes to state pension age. More details can be found online at www.waspi.co.uk/2018/09/11/dwp-mass-action-complaint/. You can link up with your nearest WASPI group by finding it on the website here at www.waspi.co.uk/find-a-local-group/
- Lobbying your local MP to support the WASPI campaign. Find a template letter here: www.waspi.co.uk/2017/08/17/how-to-lobby-your-mp/
- Making a donation to enable the WASPI Campaign to continue to fight for 1950s women (further details below).

For all other organisations and individuals who wish to support the campaign please make a donation to enable the WASPI Campaign to continue its vital work.

Suggested membership fees / donations

National Trade Union:	£1,000
Regional Trade Union:	£500
Trade Union Branch:	£200
Individual:	£25
	(£15 if in receipt of state benefits)

Please make your donation by joining us at waspi.co.uk and press the join now tab or make a donation directly to:

Account Name: Women Against State Pension Inequality Ltd
Account Number: 30759118 Sort Code: 09 01 29

Please include your union and branch name in the payment reference.