

WASPI MANIFESTO WATCH



 <p>The Conservative manifesto did not mention WASPI, 1950s born women, or women affected by changes to the State Pension age.</p> <p>In response, WASPI said:</p> <p><i>“WASPI is deeply disappointed by the Conservative Party’s manifesto, which fails to recognise the gross injustice caused to the millions of WASPI women.</i></p> <p><i>“We have met with a number of Conservative MPs who are supportive of WASPI but this has not transitioned into any concrete pledges by the party.</i></p> <p><i>“What is more concerning is that Boris Johnson appears to be backtracking in his support for WASPI women. Just a few months ago, when questioned on WASPI, he said he would ‘commit to doing everything I possibly can to sorting out’ the issue.</i></p> <p><i>“As a campaign, we are calling for a bridging pension to provide an income from age 60 to the new State Pension age, combined with compensation for those women affected who have already reached their new State Pension age.</i></p> <p><i>“We would like to see a firm commitment from the Conservative Party on a clear solution for WASPI women as this manifesto is simply not good enough.</i></p> <p><i>“WASPI will continue to engage with the Conservatives on this significant matter and will work with them to understand what support they plan to offer the millions of 1950s women at the earliest opportunity.”</i></p>	 <p>The Labour Party has pledged £58 billion in the first five years of a Labour Government to compensate 1950s born women.</p> <p>In response, WASPI said:</p> <p><i>“WASPI is pleased to see a commitment from the Labour Party to address the financial injustice faced by 3.8 million 1950s born women who did not receive fair notice of changes to their State Pension age.</i></p> <p><i>“We await the detail with interest and urge the party to develop a clear framework that outlines how and when this would be implemented. We look forward to engaging with Labour to design this system of compensation and ensure that we achieve the best and fairest outcome for all 1950s born women at the earliest opportunity.</i></p> <p><i>“WASPI always endeavours to keep our members and supporters informed and we have been working with all political parties to raise awareness of this issue for four years. Women affected by these changes are suffering now and a solution must be imminent.</i></p> <p><i>“WASPI women represent approximately 8% of the electorate and we hope to see similar announcements reflected in upcoming campaign pledges from all political parties ahead of the general election.”</i></p>	 <p>The Liberal Democrats have pledged to ensure 1950s born women receive compensation for governments’ failure to inform them of changes to their State Pension age, in line with the parliamentary ombudsman’s recommendations. They also said they would address inequalities in pensions law for same-sex couples.</p> <p>In response, WASPI said:</p> <p><i>“WASPI welcomes the Liberal Democrats’ commitment to compensate 1950s born women, especially their pledge to respect the Parliamentary Ombudsman’s recommendations.</i></p> <p><i>Maladministration has been the crux of WASPI’s campaign, and we have pursued action through the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) who are currently deciding whether to continue investigating the complaints they have received following the unsuccessful judicial review. WASPI is also pleased to see a commitment to addressing pension inequalities in same-sex couples as WASPI women in same-sex relationships have been doubly discriminated against resulting in tens of thousands of pounds being lost due to changes to their State Pension age.”</i></p>	 <p>The Green Party has pledged to introduce a Universal Basic Income, which 1950s born women would be first to receive, and to raise the State Pension to £178 a week. They also said they would look into “addressing this injustice.”</p> <p>In response, WASPI said:</p> <p><i>“WASPI welcomes the initiative taken by the Green Party to make provisions to compensate 1950s born women for the increase to their State Pension age without adequate notice. It is only by creative thinking and a strong political commitment that this wrong can be put right and we expect other political parties to make similar commitments in their manifestos.”</i></p>	 <p>The Scottish National Party promised to continue supporting WASPI and standing up for women affected by changes to the State Pension age.</p> <p>In response, WASPI said:</p> <p><i>“WASPI is pleased with the SNP’s ongoing support and looks forward to continued collaboration with the party in pursuit of justice and compensation for 1950s-born women.”</i></p>	 <p>The Brexit Party pledged to review the position of women who have been affected by changes to the State Pension age.</p> <p>In response, WASPI said:</p> <p><i>“WASPI welcomes the intention to address the injustice experienced by millions of women and we are pleased to see this has been recognised by The Brexit Party.”</i></p>
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