



PACAC (Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee)

House of Commons · London SW1A 0AA

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Rob Behrens CBE
Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman
By email only

14th December 2022

Dear Rob,

Update to PACAC on the investigation into changes to women's state pension age

As you will be aware, during our evidence session on 29th November, members of the Committee raised the PHSO's ongoing investigation into DWP's communication of changes to women's state pension age and queried timings for a final report. Following that discussion, we were pleased to hear that the second stage had been completed and would like to thank your team for providing the Committee with this update and making the information publicly available on your website.

Since your team wrote to us, however, we have received reports that women affected by the changes are expected to receive minimal, if any, financial compensation. It was our understanding, as the deputy Ombudsman set out in the evidence session, that financial remedies would not be determined until the third stage of the investigation had been completed and reported in early 2023.

I would therefore be grateful if you could clarify:

- whether any decisions around financial remedies have been taken or communicated to those affected;
- whether there have been any changes in the expected timeline for the final report; and
- whether there have been any changes in who will be eligible for compensation.

A response would be appreciated by Monday 16th January.

William Wragg MP
Chair, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee
(approved by the Chair remotely)