From the Chair

22 November 2018

WASPI Glasgow and Lanarkshire

To the Chair of WASPI Glasgow and Lanarkshire,

You may recall that the Work and Pensions Committee recommended two years ago that women affected by changes to the state pension age (SPA) should be able to draw their state pension early, at an actuarially neutral rate.

I have sought the Minister’s view on this proposal and also asked whether Government had any other plans to mitigate the consequences of changes to the SPA for affected women. I also wrote to Angela Madden, Chair of WASPI, to ask whether WASPI would be in a position to accept this proposal. She said that WASPI would not be able to accept such a proposal because “an actuarially reduced pension for life would push already disadvantaged women into a retirement of poverty with an increased reliance on benefits”.

I am aware that there are discussions in Scotland where some groups wish to organise themselves separately from the main WASPI Group. I would therefore be interested to know whether your view on the Committee’s proposal differs to that expressed by Angela Madden on behalf of WASPI?

Best wishes and I look forward to hearing from you,

Rt Hon Frank Field MP
Chair, Work and Pensions Committee