



Craig Whittaker MP

CALDER VALLEY

www.craigwhittakermp.co.uk

Parental Bereavement (Leave and Pay) Bill

Thank you for contacting me about parental bereavement leave and pay.

I strongly agree with all those who want parents to feel properly supported by their employer when they go through the deeply distressing ordeal of losing a child. While I expect employers to be compassionate and flexible at such a difficult time, I very much welcome the fact that the Government is backing the Parental Bereavement (Leave and Pay) Bill. The Bill would go significantly further than most other countries in guaranteeing the rights of bereaved parents in the workplace.

As you may be aware, the Bill, introduced by Kevin Hollinrake MP, would give legal force to the right of bereaved parents to leave from day one of the bereavement. Employees with a minimum of 26 weeks' continuous service would be eligible for statutory parental bereavement pay. Under the proposed measures, for the first time, employed parents who lose a child under the age of 18 would have the right to two weeks' paid leave to allow them time to grieve.

By supporting this Bill the Government is honouring its manifesto commitment to introduce a new entitlement for parental bereavement leave.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Whittaker'.

Craig Whittaker MP