



## Craig Whittaker MP

CALDER VALLEY

[www.craigwhittakermp.co.uk](http://www.craigwhittakermp.co.uk)

### WASPI

Thank you for contacting me again about the state pension age.

I understand that the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) wrote to all women affected by the 2011 changes, using the address details they have registered with HMRC. This involved sending more than 5 million letters between January 2012 and November 2013. All those affected by the 1995 changes were also written to between April 2009 and March 2011. The 10 year standard of notice was introduced in 2015 as part of a review into future pension age changes.

Additionally, a Government leaflet on the changes was issued in July 1995, entitled *Equality in State Pension Age: A Summary of Changes*. The DWP ran an information campaign in 2004 informing people of the upcoming equalisation in State Pension age, and this campaign included advertising in the press and women's magazines, and developing an interactive online State Pension age calculator via the Pension Service website. A 2004 DWP report found even at that time 73 per cent of people aged 45 to 54 were already aware of the 1995 changes, following these campaigns.

Since 1995 State Pension estimates have been available on request from the DWP which make the 1995 changes clear. Since April 2000 more than 11.5 million personalised statements have been issued, and the Department continues to encourage people to request statements.

I hope this reassures you of the DWP's commitment to ensuring those affected were properly informed. Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

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Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP