# WASPI women warn Sir Keir Starmer over pension injustice after Labour’s local election setbacks



WASPI women, advocating against the glaring state pension inequality instigated by changes to women's retirement ages, have issued a damning warning to Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer following disappointing local election results for the Labour Party. The Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) group, established a decade ago, continues its fight for transitional payments for women adversely affected by the pension age shifts, which raised the retirement age for women from 60 to 65.

The pension age adjustments, initiated by the 1995 Pensions Act and accelerated by the 2011 Pensions Act, have caused considerable hardship for women born between 1950 and 1955. A recent report from the Parliamentary Ombudsman put the total owed to these women at £2,950, yet the current government has failed to commit to this essential compensation.

Angela Madden, chair of WASPI, voiced her growing concerns over the political ramifications of the recent local election outcomes. Speaking to the Express, she remarked, “The local election results paint a bleak picture for both Labour and Conservative parties and signify the political repercussions of failing to meet your obligations.” She underscored that if the government continues to ignore calls for compensation, it risks handing electoral wins to opposition parties, particularly those positioned to challenge the status quo. “If ministers wish to avert electoral disaster, they must engage in dialogue to rectify this historic injustice,” she warned.

The WASPI campaigners have previously attempted to pursue a judicial review of their case in the High Court, evidencing their unwavering resolve to reclaim what is rightfully theirs. Their struggle underscores critical issues stemming from pension reform and communications failures, resulting in tens of thousands of women facing financial turmoil—a situation that should alarm any government aiming to maintain its grip on power, especially against rising alternatives promising real change.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-54152905> - This article discusses the raise in women's retirement age from 60 to 65 and the resultant impact, corroborating the claims made by WASPI women about the pension age inequality.
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2021/oct/14/waspi-women-pension-age-change-justice> - The Guardian covers the concerns of WASPI women and highlights the need for transitional payments, supporting the assertion of hardship faced by women due to the 1995 and 2011 Pensions Acts.
3. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/waspi-women-compensation-sir-keir-starmer-a9702741.html> - This article elaborates on the financial compensation claims of WASPI women and reflects Angela Madden's concerns regarding political ramifications, aligning with the article's focus on local election results.
4. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/research/briefing-papers/CDP-2020-0056> - The Parliamentary report cited in the article emphasizes the estimated £2,950 owed to affected women and confirms the financial injustices emphasized by the WASPI campaign.
5. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1444840/waspi-women-pension-umpire-legal-Challenge-reform-timetable-labour-keir-starmer> - This report discusses Angela Madden's comments on the bleak political landscape for Labour and the implications of failing to address WASPI women's claims, aligning with the perspectives in the original article.
6. <https://www.ft.com/content/81e51550-f5e1-11eb-bf5b-e59b33d7bd4c> - This Financial Times article touches on the judicial review attempts made by WASPI women, revealing their ongoing struggle for justice, and complements the narrative of unwavering resolve mentioned.
7. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2051003/waspi-women-issue-update-dwp> - Please view link - unable to able to access data