



House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Press Release – For immediate release

**Sarah Champion
Member of Parliament for Rotherham
Wednesday 29th June, 2016**

**Sarah Champion MP joins State Pension Age Campaigners
at Westminster Protest**

Sarah Champion MP joined women from across the country at a demonstration outside the Palace of Westminster in support of women hit by the acceleration of the equalisation of the State Pension Age, a change which began in 1995 and was compounded in 2011.

Campaigners also met their local MPs inside the Palace in order to secure their support for the campaign.

According to the independent House of Commons Library, around 3,550 women in Rotherham, are directly affected by the 2011 Pensions Act and 183 local residents signed an e-petition calling for transitional arrangements, which received almost 200,000 signatures nationwide.

The Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) campaign works to lobby the Government to introduce transitional arrangements for those women affected, many of whom were not notified about the changes, and took early retirement, leaving them without any income at all.

Speaking at the protest, Sarah Champion MP said:

“I am so proud to have joined the WASPI women from Rotherham at today’s protest in Westminster.”

“We must get the best outcome for these women, many of whom have worked hard for decades without taking a penny out of the system and whose retirement plans have now been shattered. I’ve been working with them since the campaign started and I know that they are absolutely determined to achieve pension justice for themselves and for women across the United Kingdom. Never underestimate the power of women coming together to fight for what is right.”

“The Government must work to achieve an equitable outcome that the WASPI women deserve, without delay.”

ENDS

For local information on the campaign, please click on <http://waspi.co.uk/south-yorkshire>