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For immediate release

AYRSHIRE WASPI CAMPAIGNERS PRESENT PETITION TO CORRI WILSON MP

Ayrshire WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality) organiser Johann Hobson has presented a petition to local MP Corri Wilson today.

The newly formed local group have collected hundreds of signatures in support of the national WASPI campaign against changes to pensions that are having an unfair impact on women born on the 1950s.

The UK Government has accelerated the process of equalisation of pension ages for men and women, which means that women born in the 1950s have lost thousands in pension payments without having sufficient time to plan for the changes. The petition calls on the House of Commons to urge the UK Government to make fair transitional arrangements for all women who have unfairly borne the burden of this increase to the State Pension age.

Corri Wilson, MP for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock has been supporting the campaign, and has been working with some of the 5,000 women in her constituency to lobby government ministers and to help set up the local campaign group.

Speaking on the issue, she said:

“Ayrshire’s WASPI campaigners have every right to be upset and angry with the UK Government on this issue. It is a long-held principle that when pension changes occur people should be given the right amount of time to adjust their pension plans.

“Pension plans are made over decades and for the UK Government to accelerate these changes without making the time available for people to change their retirement plans is grossly unfair.

“Millions of women are affected by this across the UK with several thousand of that number being right here in Ayrshire. The Government has the money in the National Insurance Fund to put this right. I will continue to urge them to do so.”

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