

**Notices of Motion**  
**Flintshire County Council - 14 November 2017**

**Councillor Aaron Shotton:**

**Make Fair Transitional State Pension Arrangements for Women born in the 1950s**

Hundreds of thousands of women had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Acts of 1995 and 2011 with little or no personal notification of the changes. Some women had less than two years notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age. Some women have had no notice at all.

Many women born in the 1950s are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren, or suffer discrimination in the workplace and therefore struggle to find employment.

Women born in this decade are suffering financially. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60. It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - But that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with insufficient time to make alternative arrangements.

**Resolution:**

“That this Council recognises and supports the recent formation of a local Flintshire WASPI (Women against State Pension Inequality) Group and that we as a Council resolve to take action to call upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born in the 1950s affected by the changes to the SPA (State Pension Age) and, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the SPA with lack of appropriate notification”.

**An End to UK Government Austerity**

This Council calls upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to end the UK Government's policy of austerity in his Budget, due to be presented to Parliament on the 22nd November. This Council believes that after seven years of austerity, as a political and economic strategy, it is completely discredited and has inflicted untold damage on our public services and communities across Flintshire and the UK.

This Council believes that the public sector in Flintshire and across the UK can no longer endure the significant year-on-year reductions in funding. Welsh funding has reduced by 7% in real terms since 2010, equating to a staggering £1.2bn.

It is time for the UK Government to recognise the value of public services by delivering the funding levels required to meet rising demand for services.

This Council agrees to:

- Continue to campaign over the coming weeks to communicate the need for an end to austerity.
- Continue to be open about the scale of the financial challenges that the Council faces in the short and medium term if austerity is not ended, and the damage this could do to our local communities and services.
- Request that the Leader of the Council writes to Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary State for Wales to request an end to austerity and for fair funding be delivered to Wales, particularly to enable the council to meet increasing need pressures in Education and Social Care.