WASPI SCOTLAND

MINUTES OF MEETING FEB 22 2017, HOLYROOD, EDINBURGH.

ATTENDEES,

MSP's

Richard Leonard, Sandra White, Clare Haughey, Alison Johnstone, Gail Ross, Iain Gray, Stewart Stevenson, (Chair)- Jackie Baillie.

WASPI,

Anne Houghton, Andrea Gregory, Kate Stewart, Johann Hobson, Ann Fraser, Melia Dayley, Morag Duncan, Lesley Blacklaw, Marina Shaw, Joan Fraser, Jane Rolling, Lucinda Quinn, Lilian Cameron, Susan Fallon, Jane Cowley, Susan Beevers, Morag Bain, Heather Dennis, Linda Carmichael, Rosie Dickson, Elizabeth Mc Quarrie, Anne Potter,-(Secretariat).

APOLOGIES

n/a

1- Welcome

Jackie welcomed all to this first Cross Party Group meeting.

Each attendee provided their name & a little information regarding their personal situation regarding WASPI.

2- Background of WASPI.

It was explained that the WASPI campaign was attempting to raise the profile of those 2.6million 1950's women from across the UK who had been adversely affected by the 1995 & 2011 pensions acts resulting in up to 6 years delay in receiving state pension with a loss of income of up to £40 odd thousands. Jackie confirmed that as a result of a meeting in Dec 2016 with Rosie Dickson, Anne Potter, Kezia Dugdale & herself it was suggested that it might be appropriate to embark on the Cross Party Group forum in Holyrood in order to gain support across the various political parties within Scotland, since at that juncture in Dec 2016 the SNP & Greens had already been very supportive & it was the WASPI aim to obtain support from all parties, particularly the Tories, Labour & Lib Dems. The reduced Scottish Life expectancy was also highlighted as a concern, as was the effect of this loss of income on the Scottish economy.

3-WASPI Aims & objectives

Several points raised regarding the aims & objectives, with the emphasis on attempting to achieve a transitional arrangement for all affected women & a reminder that WASPI do not ask for the reversal of the 1995 or 2011 acts.

4-Appointments

Jackie appointed Richard Leonard & Sandra White as Co conveners, with Anne Potter as Secretariat.

5-Way Forward.

All in attendance agreed the meeting had been very worthwhile.

Next meeting to be arranged since all criteria for the group had been met.