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NEW BETRAYAL OF WASPI WOMEN

Report says most victims of botched state pension age hike should only get up to £2,950 — but ministers won't even commit to that

By **Jessica Beard**
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A LANDMARK ruling for millions of women hit by state pension age increases sparked outrage last night amid claims they have been 'betrayed'.

Campaigners blasted the 'insulting' compensation proposals that will leave those affected thousands out of pocket, if they get anything at all.

In a long-awaited report, the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman said millions of women were failed by the Government and could be owed up to £10.5 billion in payouts.

Ministers faced demands to ensure that proper compensation is paid to the 'Waspi' (Women Against State Pension Inequality) women born in the 1950s who were not told about changes to their state pension age, and that they get an apology.

The recommendation the women be given between £1,000 and £2,950 fell far short of the £10,000 campaigners were calling for.

But No 10 last night refused to commit to any payouts. The Department for Work and Pensions indicated it would 'refuse to comply' and Labour, whose responsibility it may be after the general election, said time was needed to reflect on the report.

The ruling was initially hailed as a major victory for the long-fought Waspi campaign

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