# NORTH WEST PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

#### June Bulletin 2

# **Benefit cuts**

# Just Treatment rally against the cuts:

https://actionnetwork.org/events/emergency-online-protest-against-disability-cuts/?link\_id=4&can\_id=807d6e9d76caf92027a1758cf9e95796&sourc

# Halt benefit cuts rally - video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTd2U6rKP04

#### PIP survey - organise

https://the.organise.network/surveys/pip-petition-delivery?q%5B15064%5D=%5BAll+of+us+email+the+petition+to+o

# **NHS**

#### NHS – getting care with no money healthwatch blog

https://www.healthwatch.co.uk/blog/2025-06-12/whats-it-getting-care-when-you-dont-have-much-money?utm source=ACTIVE+-+202108170

#### NHS – corridor treatment – survey – age uk

https://campaigns.ageuk.org.uk/page/172328/survey/1?ea.tracking.id=Email1&utm\_mediu m=email&utm\_campaign=campaigns\_neune Bulletin 2 draft

# NHS – Just treatment video on request to meet Wes Streeting

https://www.facebook.com/reel/1379720689911432

#### NHS - trumps trade deal survey - organise

https://the.organise.network/surveys/protect-nhs-from-trump-tactics

**Share your stories:** Just Treatment - Whether your loved one passed away while waiting in A&E, didn't get the ambulance they needed in time, or was failed by an under-resourced hospital—your voice matters. If you're ready to speak out, please share your story today.

**Survey from Organise** – re Wes Streeting handing out work to private companies:

https://the.organise.network/surveys/2615

**Survey from Organise:** US pharma hiking up prices:

# https://the.organise.network/surveys/stop-trumps-nhs-takeover-survey

**WASPI update:** We're pleased to share important news. A 'costs capping order' for our legal case has now been agreed with the Government and approved by the Court – a development that secures the future of our High Court legal challenge. What is a costs capping order – and why does it matter? A costs capping order allows public interest cases to go forward when they would otherwise be unaffordable or create unacceptable financial risk. We still need to pay our lawyers, court fees, and all other expenses involved in running this complex case. And if we win, the amount we can claim back from the Government is limited. Further, the cap we agreed with the Government in negotiations was £40,000 lower than what we considered was an appropriate sum, so we will need to adjust our own fundraising 'stretch' target upwards accordingly. But the costs capping order also protects us against having to pay all of the Government's costs, which could easily be hundreds of thousands. This is crucial. Without this order, WASPI faced a serious risk: if our case failed, we could have been liable for a Government legal bill far higher than we could afford – far exceeding what we could realistically fundraise and putting WASPI at risk of insolvency. So today's news is a major milestone. How did we get here? Many months ago – well before our judicial review was filed – WASPI's lawyers wrote to the Government proposing a costs capping arrangement, in line with the clear public interest in this case, and its complexity. Our request was flatly refused by the Government Legal Department. Despite the Government's resistance, we pushed ahead and applied directly to the Court. Our application included four detailed witness statements and hundreds of pages of supporting documents explaining why protection was needed to allow our case to be fairly heard. A court hearing to determine this issue had been scheduled for today, Monday 23 June. But we can announce today that the Government has given way at the eleventh hour, and agreed to a costs cap. That means we can keep the legal fight going without the risk of having to pay an eyewatering bill for Government lawyers' time. Why do legal cases like this cost so much? The case involves multiple parties – the Secretary of State, the Ombudsman, WASPI and other affected complainants. The case law is dense and disputed. And most of all, the judicial review is hugely complex, involving highly expert, forensic examination of: the conduct of the PHSO's investigation; the PHSO's decisions and the basis on which they were taken; the Government's response to her findings and the basis on which Ministers took their decisions; and – most importantly of all – the wider treatment of millions of women affected by state pension age changes. Our legal team has already filed thousands of pages of material for the Court to consider. All these factors increase the time needed to present the case properly, and so lawyers' fees on both sides. What now? Does WASPI still need to fundraise? Today's news is a massive step forward. Our case will now go ahead later this year – and we can face it without the risk of bankruptcy. But we do still need your ongoing support to pay our own legal bills. This is the fight of our lives. The risk may be capped. But the costs are real. Please help us finish what we started. Donate if you can - and spread the word. Together, we CAN win justice for WASPI women!

#### **Events:**

A Blackburn and District Trades Union Council circular - Follow this link to our You Tube channel:

http://youtube.com/post/UgkxMjHhZHxmUSKcgYzGe9J64qxZoJNpS Uv?si=EyMpQIH PmxlX Lgi to see the "trailer" for "Censoring Palestine" the documentary we shall be watching at our next "film night" on Thursday 26th June 7pm in the Hornby Lecture Theatre, Blackburn Library For your free ticket: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-platform-films-documentary-censoring-palestine-tickets-1381675531709?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl Join us as we watch, with guest speaker Granville Williams, from the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom (North) Just e-mail secretary@bdtuc.co.uk if you don't want to receive these circulars