

GLEND A JACKSON M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Paul Braithwaite
Equitable Members Action Group
42 Bartholomew Villas
Kentish Town
London
NW5 2LL

Our Ref: BRAI01008/

08 September 2009

Dear Paul Braithwaite

Thank you for contacting me regarding Equitable Life. I will not be joining the All Party Group nor signing the EDM as I am in agreement with the Government's response to the Ombudsman's report. She specifically requested an apology from the Government, and the establishment of a compensation scheme to assess individual cases and provide compensation where appropriate. This the Government has agreed to do. I can understand the justifiable anger being experienced by claimants over the length of time that Sir John Chadwick's team is taking to report. The Government might have said we do not see this in the same way as the Ombudsman sees this, but out of respect for the constitutional office which she holds, we will accept her findings of maladministration and injustice. This is a question of style rather than content. In my view, the Government has both apologised and set in place the scheme for remedy, while in my view exercising its responsibility to future public policy and claims upon the public purse. I will refer your concerns to the relevant minister, however my position on the matter has not, and will not change.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenda Jackson'.

GLEND A JACKSON MP