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Tom Pursglove M.P.

Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work
Department for Work and Pensions
Caxton House
Tothill Street
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Tuesday 7th June 2023

Dear Tom

Bias of Personal Independence Payment

I hope that this letter finds you well.

I am writing to demonstrate my concern over the process in which Personal Independence Payment is decided and assigned, particularly in regard to those seeking it over a mental health diagnosis.

I believe, after observing the paperwork required to apply for P.I.P., that this is unfortunately biased towards those who suffer with a physical disability, as opposed to a mental health condition.

The points-based system means that those with mental disorders are disadvantaged, and will likely score low, as their issues are largely in a mental capacity, as opposed to physical.

If refused, then the Tribunal process can be an incredibly daunting and frightening prospect for someone with these mental issues- your worst nightmare is likely the idea of explaining how your mental health conditions affect your daily life to a number of unknown officials- this would almost certainly be a dehumanising and detrimental experience.

I feel that the application for P.I.P. is a process which needs to be re-visited with a modern eye, and special consideration for those who suffer with mental health conditions, instead of principally physical conditions.

The humiliation of re-living past experiences which are often harrowing, and having the burden of proof placed on one who is a mental health patient, is not a tolerant nor a humane process of authentication.

I would be most grateful, if in your role of Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work, you would enquire further into this process, particularly when it comes to assigning Personal Independence Payment to those who suffer with mental health conditions, in contrast to those with physical disabilities.

I look forward to your response with fervour.

Yours ever,

Andrew Rosindell M.P.