

17 December 1984

MR BUTLER

THE LATE KENNETH WHITTY

You were worried about the Treasury's calculations of the capitalised value of Mrs Whitty's future income. The Treasury have assured me that all the figures have been discounted, and all are based on 1984 prices. The calculations therefore set like against like.

Your other question concerned Mrs Whitty's age. She was 51 when her husband died. The 24 years of income from widow's benefit is based on actuarial figures for life expectancy.

We will obviously be facing similar issues with the widow of Sidney Morris. As there are no dependent children, first indications are of a much more modest award

The Treasury are considering how this can be made more generous.

David Willetts
DAVID WILLETTS

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