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before 00:01 hrs on 2 June 2008

From the Ombudsman **Ann Abraham**

This document is issued in advance on the strict understanding that no approach is made to any organisation or person about its contents before the time of publication.

30 May 2008



Dear Member

**EQUITABLE LIFE**

I am writing concerning my investigation into the prudential regulation of The Equitable Life Assurance Society during the period prior to 1 December 2001.

When I wrote to you last about this investigation, on 24 April 2008, I said that I would set the publication date for my final report once I had considered the responses to my revised draft report that I received from the parties to the complaints (and from any other interested parties). I also said that I would write to you before the end of May 2008 to inform you when I intended to publish my report.

I have received and considered the responses to my revised draft report. I have decided to publish my report during the week commencing 14 July 2008.

The exact publication day is dependent on a number of factors, including the printing timetable. I will therefore only be able to announce the exact day on which my report will be published a short time before that week.

I recognise that many Members have constituents who have been affected by the subject matter of my investigation. We have written direct today to all those individuals whose interest in the investigation we have registered to provide them with a copy of this letter.

As you will know, the law requires that I conduct all investigations in private. I hope that you and your constituents will understand, therefore, that we will be unable to answer any questions about the content of my report before it is published.

I will send you a copy of my report, which I intend to lay before both Houses of Parliament, as it is published. We will also at that time send a copy of the report to those of your constituents whose cases are registered with us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ann Abraham'.

Ann Abraham  
Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman



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