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State pension POLL: Should Rishi Sunak reinstate the triple lock this year?

AS THE cost of living continues to rise, campaigners have urged the Chancellor to reconsider his decision to scrap the triple lock that protects state pensions. Do you think he should? Vote in our poll.

By [REBECCA SPENCER](#)

16:29, Wed, Feb 2, 2022 | [UPDATED: 16:29, Wed, Feb 2, 2022](#)



Rishi Sunak grilled on plans for pensioners in Commons



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Rishi Sunak's decision to scrap the triple lock this year means that instead of the state pension rising by the rate of earnings at 8.3 percent, it will rise with inflation at 3.1 percent. If the triple lock had stayed in place, pensions would have received an extra £12 per week, but Mr Sunak felt that the Treasury could not afford the rise in pay-outs at a time when working-age Britons were being asked to pay increased National Insurance contributions.

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The soaring cost of living has sparked campaigner demands to reinstate the triple lock to protect the elderly from staggering costs. Former pensions minister Baroness Ros Altmann is leading a House of Lords campaign to get the Government to reintroduce the triple lock on pensions this year.

She said: "Pensioners should not be used as a cash machine to pay for spending elsewhere, such as a lower bank levy or alcohol duty, especially as we face a cost of living crisis. I believe the Government needs to think again because this will certainly not be enough to protect pensioners against rising living costs."

Ms Altmann added: "Society has a duty to look after its elderly citizens. Even increasing pensions by five percent would still save around £3billion and protect pensioners in line with earnings."

"Taking away proper protection for one year may seem alright if you believe the myth that pensioners are all pretty well off, but in the real world there are already over two million pensioners in poverty and the UK state pension is the lowest in the developed world."

