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**Age Concern**



**PPI report on disabled people:**

- Only half economically active
- Median earnings 10% less
- Less likely to be making regular private pension contributions
- Less than half as likely to work after 60
- Costs of disability – may not be covered by benefits



## Disability is not random

- Around 2% working age people become disabled each year
- People in poorest fifth 2½ times more likely to become disabled than those in richest fifth
- Onset related to indicators of disadvantage eg, lower educational qualifications, low status job, low income household
- These factors will affect ability to retain work



## Diversity

- Range of disability and impairments
- Severity
  - > 84% with least complex impairments keep job
  - > less than half with multiple impairments keep job
- Different levels of formal and informal support at work
- Different coping strategies



## Costs of disability

- Extra costs of disability – may not be covered by benefits
- Pensions may not be priority
- Worry about future so don't tie up money
- Implications for household income – if partner becomes carer – their earnings and pensions may be affected
- Disposable income after retirement reduced by disability costs



## Policy Implications

- Reduce health inequalities
- Support those who wish to work eg Pathways to work
- More to support job retention
- Changes in employer's attitudes and practice



## Policy implications pensions and benefits

- Flexible private pensions
- Need for decent state basic pension
- S2P – needs to be flexible and provide adequate pension
- Disability benefits related to need not age