

APPG on Poverty AGM: Minutes

Wednesday 26th May, 2021 at 12pm

Zoom

Attendees: Kevin Hollinrake MP (Chair), Baroness Ruth Lister, Beth Winter MP, David Linden MP, Craig Mackinlay MP, Dr Wanda Wyporska (Co-Secretariat, The Equality Trust), Sara Ogilvie (Co-Secretariat, CPAG), Lizzie Flew (Co-Secretariat, CPAG), and Zhané Edwards (Co-Secretariat, CPAG).

Apologies: Stephen Crabb MP and Robert Halfon MP.

1. Welcome and introduction by Chair Kevin Hollinrake MP

2. Election of Officers

Parliamentarians were re-elected into the following roles:

- Kevin Hollinrake MP - Co-Chair
- Baroness Ruth Lister - Co-Chair

Elected in absentia:

- Afzal Khan MP - Vice-Chair
- Lyn Brown MP - Vice-Chair
- Tony Lloyd MP - Vice-Chair

Parliamentarians were newly elected to the APPG into the following roles:

- Beth Winter MP - Vice-Chair
- David Linden MP - Vice-Chair

3. Income and expenditure statement

The income and expenditure statement was approved.

4. Discussion of APPG's work programme for 2021

a) In-work poverty

- Beth suggested gathering qualitative data through mapping out the experiences of in-work poverty and hearing personal stories.
- Ruth recommended the APPG still do work on in-work poverty despite no mention of an Employment Bill in the Queen's Speech.
- It was proposed that the APPG should run an evidence session in two parts: first hearing from people with experience of in-work poverty and third sector organisations and second hearing from employers in Autumn 2021.
 - The APPG will publish an invite for short submissions with a maximum word limit of 500 words.

➤ **ACTION - Zhané to find dates for the two evidence sessions**

- Wanda mentioned Tomorrow's Company's recent work on in-work poverty and how employers can help to find better ways to make work pay.
 - You can read the report [here](#).
- Beth urged the APPG to do work around encouraging the four-day week, Real Living Wage and different ways of working.

b) £20 uplift

- Ruth recommended the APPG rehash the work carried out by the APPG at the beginning of the year with additions from the Covid Realities project about the impact of the £20 uplift.
- Wanda proposed doing work on the percentage loss to UC to make it more relevant to the wider public.
- Beth suggested writing an open letter to be published in the national press.
 - Wanda added that the piece would be powerful to be from the APPG and advised APPG members to do op-eds in local and regional press.
 - Wanda also said to ensure other parliamentarians sign the letter.

➤ **ACTION - Zhané to draft a template**

c) Local Welfare Assistance Schemes (LWAS)

- It was agreed that in addition to co-hosting the report launch for CPAG's Ending the Need for Food Banks project with the APPG for Ending the Need for Food Banks, the APPG would hold a meeting to see what work is being done on LWAS by other organisations.

5. AOB

- Ruth queried over how the APPG could be better publicised to increase membership.
 - **ACTION - Ruth and Kevin to reach out to party members**
 - **ACTION - Ruth to speak with Baroness Stroud**
 - **ACTION - Zhané to make spreadsheet to avoid invite replications**

Meeting closed at 12:40