

All-Party Parliamentary Group for Looked After Children and Care Leavers

Chair: Craig Whittaker MP

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Looked After Children and Care Leavers on Wednesday 10th December 2014

Room Q, Portcullis House

Present: Craig Whittaker MP, Nigel Adams MP, Jeremy Lefroy MP, Chloë Cockett, The Who Cares? Trust (minutes), Victoria Hull, The Who Cares? Trust

Apologies: Julian Brazier MP, Lisa Nandy MP

1) Election of Officers

- a) Craig Whittaker MP was re-elected as Chair of the group.
- b) The Earl of Listowel was re-elected as Vice Chair.
- c) Bill Esterson was re-elected as Vice Chair.
- d) Jessica Lee MP was re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer of the group.
- e) All the officers were elected unanimously.
- f) All members of the group were left un-amended.

Action: CC to amend the register and CW to sign before the end of December 2014.

2) Future work programme

- a) Dates of future meetings:
 - i) The dates for the next year were agreed and are as follows (dates that fall in the next parliament are suggestions, should the group re-form in June):

Wednesday 21st January

Wednesday 25th March

Wednesday 1st July

Wednesday 15th October (young person's led session)

Wednesday 9th December

- b) Themes of future meetings

- i) The agreed themes for the calendar year are:

(1) Contact with siblings (July)

(2) Involving children and young people in care planning (March)

(3) Staying Put in Foster Care (December)

- ii) January's meeting will be part of the seminar series on emotional wellbeing and mental health, and the meeting in October will be led by young people.

3) Update on Eventbrite booking process

- i) CC said that the new process was going well, but two weeks can be quite short notice. From March, it was agreed that spaces would be released four weeks in advance of the meeting date.

4) Funding

- i) The balance sheet was discussed briefly. Craig Whittaker asked for an officers meeting with The Who Cares? Trust to be arranged in January 2015.

Action: CC to arrange meeting.

5) Changes to rules for APPG

- i) CC outlined the following main rule changes:
 - a. Quorum will be 5 from the new parliament. APPGs must have 5 members attending two meetings a year, including the AGM.
 - b. Reports must have specific wording on the front of reports, and there will be a new portcullis logo for APPGs to use from the start of the next parliament.
 - c. There are stricter rules around funding.
- ii) It was suggested that members are encouraged to attend particular meetings of the year to ensure that the quorum is reached. A suggestion was the young person's meeting, as well as the AGM.

6) AOB

- iii) There was no AOB.

The meeting was closed.