

Due Diligence Statement:
All-Party Parliamentary Group for Care-Experienced Children and Young People

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Summary

1.1. From 16 October 2023 a new rule will come into effect prohibiting APPGs from accepting secretariat services that are either provided or funded by a foreign government.

1.2. This statement is being issued in response to due diligence by the Officers of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Care-Experienced Children and Young People to ascertain whether the ultimate funder of any benefit to the APPG is a foreign government.

1.3. This statement declares that the APPG for Care-Experienced Children and Young People is not provided by or funded by a foreign government.

1.4. This statement will be made publicly available on our website:

<https://becomecharity.org.uk/become-the-movement/appg/>.

2. The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Care-Experienced Children and Young People

2.1. The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Care-Experienced Children and Young People is a cross-party group of MPs and Peers. The purpose of the group is to promote the voice of care-experienced children and young people, in order to promote first-class government policy for children in care and care leavers.

3. The Secretariat

3.1. Become, the national charity for children in care and care leavers in England, acts as the secretariat to the APPG for Care-Experienced Children and Young People.

3.2 Become is the trading name of Become Charity, a registered charity (No. 1010518) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 2700693), registered in London.

4. Questions and Answers

4.1. Who are the individuals forming or working for the secretariat? What other responsibilities do they have, and are they working for, or on behalf of, a foreign government?

4.1.1. Answer: The individuals currently working for the secretariat are the Policy and Public Affairs Manager, Matt Blow, and the Policy and Public Affairs Officer, Simone Connolly. They are paid employees working for Become – the national charity for children in care and care leavers.

4.2. Are the individuals in the secretariat paid, employed, or voluntary? If they are employed or paid, by whom, and who is funding them?

4.2.1. Answer: The individuals in the APPG secretariat are paid employees working for Become – the national charity for children in care and care leavers.

4.3. If the secretariat is provided by a company or group, how is that company or group funded?

4.3.1. Answer: Become is a registered charity. Information about how Become is funded can be found on its charity commission page - [Charity overview, BECOME CHARITY - 1010518, Register of Charities - The Charity Commission](#).

4.4. Is any person involved in the secretariat funded, directly or indirectly, by any foreign government?

4.4.1. Answer: No.

4.5. Does the company, group or individual providing the secretariat, the funding for the secretariat, or other benefit, have a website, or other publicly available online presence? Does this state or imply a link to any foreign government?

4.5.1. Answer: Become's website is available here: <https://becomecharity.org.uk/>. The website implies no links to any foreign governments.

4.6. Does the company, group or individual providing the secretariat appear in press stories, or on other websites or other openly available social media sites, in connection to foreign governments, now or in the past?

4.6.1. Answer: Become has appeared in multiple press stories (several of which can be found here - <https://becomecharity.org.uk/about-become/media-centre/>) and has a public X profile (<https://x.com/Become1992>), along with profiles for other social media platforms (listed later in this document). These have no links or connection with any foreign governments.

4.7. Are they registered in the UK? Do the registered officers of the company tell you anything about its ownership or links to foreign governments?

4.7.1. Answer: Become is the trading name of Become Charity, a registered charity (No. 1010518) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 2700693), registered in London.

5. Publicly Available Sources

5.1. Become Website: <https://becomecharity.org.uk/>

5.2. Become Media Centre web-page: <https://becomecharity.org.uk/about-become/media-centre/>

5.3. Become X/Twitter handle: <https://x.com/Become1992>



5.4. Become LinkedIn profile: <https://uk.linkedin.com/company/become-charity->

5.5. APPG for Care-Experienced Children and Young People:
<https://becomecharity.org.uk/become-the-movement/appg/>

6. Officer Due Diligence

6.1. I the undersigned confirm that due diligence has been undertaken to ensure that a foreign government is not the ultimate funder (of any benefit) of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Care-Experienced Children and Young People secretariat, as required by the House's approval of the Committee on Standards' report on APPGs coming into effect on 16 October 2023.

Date: **20/05/2024**

Officer name – **Lord Watson of Invergowrie, Co-Chair of APPG (signed electronically)**