



Left
Behind
Neighbourhoods

All-Party Parliamentary Group for 'left behind' neighbourhoods

Extraordinary General Meeting – held online by Zoom

2.30 pm, Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Minutes of the Meeting

Present:

Paul Howell MP, Dame Diana Johnson MP DBE, Nicola Richards MP, Jack Brereton MP, Ian Levy MP, Emma Lewell-Buck MP, Jonathan Gullis MP, Mick Whitley MP

In attendance:

Parliamentary staff; Local Trust staff, secretariat to the APPG

The APPG co-chairs Paul Howell MP and Dame Diana Johnson DBE MP opened the EGM, thanking the members present and noting the apologies of members unable to attend.

1. Agreement of minutes of the September 2020 EGM of the APPG (draft minutes previously circulated)

Decision: the minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the EGM.

2. Recap of the APPG's work programme to date

The co-chairs began a discussion of the APPG's work programme, noting the five evidence sessions and two reports produced by the APPG since it was established in June 2020. Emphasis was given on the need to ensure maximum exposure for APPG reports, and for the APPG to seek opportunities to generate publicity for its work.

3. Future APPG research and work programme

Members discussed the draft work programme that had been previously circulated, and in addition to the shortlist of themes suggested a future focus on children and young people, the upskilling agenda, and diversity and cohesion. The co-chairs asked members to feedback on the proposals, in order for the APPG's secretariat to put together the APPG's forward programme.

Members discussed the planning around a visit by the APPG to a 'left behind' neighbourhood, with a steer given for visits to Stoke on Trent, Telford, and to the North East and Yorkshire and the Humber, when circumstances permit.

4. Parliamentary action in support of a Community Wealth Fund

Members discussed opportunities in Parliament for raising the deep-seated issues facing 'left behind' neighbourhoods, including a back bench business debate.

5. AOB

A suggestion was made to invite Hilary Cottam to speak to the APPG.