

All Party Parliamentary Group on Ending Homelessness



Annual General Meeting

Meeting Minutes

26 May 2022, 3.30-4.00pm, Portcullis House, Room O

Attendees:

Bob Blackman MP, APPG Co-Chair

Lord Best, APPG Vice-Chair

Rachel Hopkins MP

Jamie Wallis MP

Imran Hussain MP

Parliamentary staff:

Harriet Shoosmith, Office of Bob Blackman MP

Thomas Wilford, Office of Robert Jenrick MP

Daniel Ward, Office of Florence Eshalomi MP

Katriona Maguire, Office of Ben Everitt MP

Other:

Jasmine Basran, Crisis

Serena Smith, Crisis

Welcome and apologies	
Bob Blackman MP	Bob Blackman MP (BB) opened the AGM by introducing himself and welcoming attendees.
Election of Chair and Co-Chair	
Overview	<p>Lord Best (LB) nominated BB for re-election as Co-Chair of the APPG, All parliamentary members present agreed that Bob should be re-elected as Co-Chair.</p> <p>BB nominated Florence Eshalomi MP (FE) as Co-Chair. All parliamentary members present agreed that Florence should be elected as Co-Chair.</p>
Action	Serena Smith (SS) to note election of Bob Blackman MP and Florence Eshalomi MP as Co-Chairs.
Election of Vice-Chairs	
Overview	<p>BB noted that MPs seeking re-election as Vice-Chairs of the group included: Lord Best, Stephens Timms MP, Nickie Aiken MP, Ben Everitt MP, Jason McCartney MP, Ian Byrne MP, Sally-Ann Hart MP, and Baroness Healy of Richmond Hill. It was agreed that all should be re-elected as Vice-Chairs.</p> <p>Baroness Thornton was also nominated and elected as Vice-Chairs of the Group.</p>
Action	SS to note election result
Secretariat appointment	
Overview	It was agreed that Crisis would continue providing Secretariat to the APPG.
Bob Blackman MP	<p>BB then outlined the achievement of the APPG through the A Safe Home campaign, and the amendment to the Domestic Abuse Bill which gives survivors of domestic abuse automatic priority need status when applying for housing assistance from their local authority.</p> <p>BB also outlined that the APPG held an informal meeting on exempt accommodation in October 2021, with a call for the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Select Committee to open an inquiry into this type of accommodation. He noted the select committee has since launched an investigation as a result. BB also outlines that he is 6th place in the Private Members Bill Ballot and is considering a law to tackle the issues in the exempt accommodation sector highlighted by the APPG.</p> <p>BB gave an overview of the recent inquiry launched by the APPG into whether the Government is on track to meet its manifesto commitment to end homelessness, highlighting the importance of this inquiry and its timely manner. The first inquiry session was held on 24th May from 5 – 6pm, and included detailed testimony from people with direct experience of homelessness.</p> <p>BB also informed attendees that the next inquiry session which is to be held 21st June, 11.30am to 12.30pm in Parliament.</p>

Jasmine Basran, representing APPG Secretariat	Jasmine Basran (JB) gave thanks to BB and LB and everyone in attendance for their continuous support of the APPG, and also echoed the importance of the APPG's work in driving forward change in law, policies and practice to end homelessness, and the intent behind the current inquiry to do the same.
Bob Blackman MP	BB thanked everyone for attending, thanked Crisis for providing Secretariat and closed the meeting.
Actions and deadlines	Secretariat to register AGM result, and send around minutes to attendees and Co-Chairs.