

## All-Party Parliamentary Group for Ending Homelessness

**Annual General Meeting, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025, 1 – 2pm, Room B, 1 Parliament Street**

### **Parliamentary Attendees**

- Derek Twigg MP (Labour, Widnes and Halewood) – Independent Chair
- Paula Barker MP (Labour, Liverpool Wavertree)
- Lorraine Beavers MP (Labour, Blackpool North and Fleetwood)
- Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle (Green Party)
- Lord Best (Crossbench)
- Bob Blackman MP (Conservative, Harrow East)
- Emily Darlington MP (Labour, Milton Keynes Central)
- Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour)
- Alison McGovern MP (Liverpool, Birkenhead)
- Rachel Maskell MP (Labour, York Central)
- Rachel Hopkins MP (Labour, Luton South and South Bedfordshire)
- Baroness Penn (Conservative)
- Bruno Dunda, Office of Lord Best (Crossbench)
- Theo Jones, Office of David Smith MP (Labour, North Northumberland)
- Sasha Newman-Court, Office of Emily Darlington MP (Labour, Milton Keynes Central)

### **External attendees**

- Dr Francesca Albanese, Executive Director of Policy and Social Change, Crisis
- Matt Bold, Senior Campaigns and Public Affairs Officer, Crisis
- Jasmine Basran, Head of Policy and Campaigns, Crisis
- Dr Alice Dore, Research and Evaluation Manager, Crisis
- Pete Naya, Public Affairs Consultant to Crisis, The Public Affairs Company
- Rosie Perkins, Campaigns Manager, Crisis

### **Welcome**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Ending Homelessness (APPGEH) was opened and chaired by the Independent Chair, **Derek Twigg MP**, and the meeting was declared quorate.

### **Election of Officers**

Overview	Members re-elected <b>Paula Barker MP</b> and <b>Bob Blackman MP</b> as co-chairs, and re-appointed <b>Emily Darlington MP</b> and <b>David Smith MP</b> as vice-chairs.
Action Points	Secretariat to record election results
<b>Supporting Documents</b>	
Overview	The Income and Expenditure Statement, Annual Report and Due Diligence Statement were confirmed as received by the Co-Chairs
Action Points	Secretariat to place these documents on the APPG website
<b>Confirmation of Secretariat</b>	
Overview	Parliamentary attendees also agreed that <b>Crisis</b> would continue as Secretariat. Formal businesses of the AGM concluded by <b>Derek Twigg</b> .
Action Points	Crisis to continue as Secretariat
<b>Recap of Year</b>	
	<p><b>Paula Barker MP</b> provided an overview of the APPG's work over the past year, highlighting the publication of the Group's major report <i>Homes, Support, Prevention – Our Foundations for Ending Homelessness</i>.</p> <p>She reflected on the extensive evidence-gathering that informed the report, the three core pillars it identifies for an effective homelessness strategy, and the engagement secured across Parliament and Government.</p> <p>She emphasised the Group's intention to maintain momentum ahead of the publication of the Government's forthcoming Ending Homelessness strategy.</p>
Action Points	None
<b>Presentation of Homelessness Monitor</b>	
	<p><b>Dr Francesca Albanese</b> and <b>Dr Alice Dore</b> from <b>Crisis</b> then presented early findings from <i>The Homelessness Monitor: England 2025</i>.</p> <p>They outlined rising statutory homelessness, worsening prevention and relief outcomes, and a significant increase in "core homelessness", now estimated at just under 300,000 households.</p>

	<p>Their modelling showed that homelessness is projected to rise further under a “business as usual” scenario but could be substantially reduced through measures including scaling Housing First, indexing Local Housing Allowance (LHA) so it remains in line with market rents over a long-term period, increasing social housing supply, and targeted welfare reforms.</p> <p>They also summarised findings from their local authority survey, which highlighted rising presentations from people with complex needs, insufficient access to floating support to help people maintain their tenancies, and strong demand for a genuinely cross-Government homelessness strategy.</p>
Action Points	None
<b>Presentation by Homelessness Minister Alison McGovern MP</b>	
	<p><b>Alison McGovern MP, Minister for Local Government and Homelessness</b>, then addressed the APPG.</p> <p>She emphasised the urgency of publishing the Government’s homelessness strategy and confirmed her intention to publish it before the end of the year, noting that a detailed action plan and cross-Government accountability structures would be essential.</p> <p>She highlighted the increasing public concern about rough sleeping and children in temporary accommodation, reiterated that prevention would be central to the strategy, and highlighted recent departmental engagement with around 35 organisations across the homelessness sector, commenting on the importance of working closely with the third sector.</p> <p>She also confirmed the Government’s intention to publish its response to the Supported Housing Regulation consultation shortly.</p> <p>During the following discussion and Q&amp;A with the Minister, parliamentary attendees raised key issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The alignment of the homelessness strategy with wider housing strategy and social housing supply.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of local authorities in providing tenancy and housing-related support.</li> <li>• The role bringing more empty homes back into use could play in supporting housing supply.</li> <li>• The importance of furnished tenancies for victims of domestic abuse.</li> <li>• The inflexibility of Housing Revenue Account rules.</li> <li>• The widening gap between LHA rates and private rents.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Minister</b> responded by emphasising ongoing work to increase social housing delivery, the need for closer alignment between homelessness, housing and wider social policy, and the value of integrating the homelessness, child poverty and violence against women and girls strategies.</p> <p>On LHA, the Minister agreed that the situation was already severe but could not comment on any potential policy changes ahead of the Budget. However, she did stress that it was unsustainable to expect the social security system to keep pace with an increasingly unaffordable housing market, and that delivering both “<i>bricks and benefits</i>” would be essential to addressing homelessness effectively.</p>
Action Points	<b>APPG to meet with Minister again after the publication of the Cross Government Strategy for Ending Homelessness</b>
<b>A.O.B.</b>	
Overview	No A.O.B. was raised