



## All Party Parliamentary Group on M.E.

**Chair** Sir Peter Bottomley MP  
**Co-Chair** Countess of Mar  
**Vice-Chair** Mark Tami MP  
**Secretary** Jacob Rees-Mogg MP

### Notes from the All-Party Parliamentary Group on M.E. meeting, Wednesday 11 May 2016, 2-2.30pm, Room A, 1 Parliament Street

#### **Present**

##### *Parliamentarians*

Chaired by the Countess of Mar (CM) - Chair

##### *Secretariat*

Sonya Chowdhury, Action for M.E.

Declan Mullaney, Action for M.E./Whitehouse Consultancy

Dr Charles Shepherd, ME Association

##### *Organisations*

Mary-Jane Willows, Association of Young People with M.E.

Janice Kent, reMEMber

Bill Kent, reMEMber

Hannah Clifton, ME Trust

Dr Gareth Tuckwell, ME Trust

#### **1. Welcome by the Chair**

CM welcomed all to the meeting and apologies were noted for those who were unable to attend. CM thanked the Secretariat for the effort that had been put in to the preceding MP drop-in session, which all agreed had been a success.

#### **2. Appointment of new officer – Daniel Zeichner as Secretary**

Although Daniel intended to attend the meeting, he was unable due to a last minute conflicting appointment. It was agreed he would be appointed at the next meeting.

#### **3. Income and expenditure reporting requirements**

CM noted the requirement for the Group to report income and expenditure, and it was declared the Group had not exceeded the mandatory declaration limits.

#### **4. Social Care Inquiry**

SC provided an update on the progress of the social care inquiry. The policy roundtable discussion on 19 April was a success, with 16 attendees. Feedback was very positive and participants had been engaged with follow-up activity.

A final report with recommendations would now be drafted. SC proposed delaying publication until all members had a chance to provide feedback, including parliamentarians who were members of the APPG. It was noted that The 25% ME Group also wished to contribute to the final report.

SC encouraged charity members to submit further recommendations so that the whole group could then decide on what should feature in final recommendations. It was stressed that the final report should be a collaboration, which would give greater visibility.

SC had already been in contact with one of the policy roundtable discussion attendees who had offered to co-author the report.

It was suggested that the APPG should now focus its attention on health policy, as the inquiry had spent a lot of time looking at social care.

#### **6. Date of next meeting**

No date was confirmed for the next meeting, however it was agreed that following summer parliamentary recess would be the most appropriate time.

CM noted that having the same room booked over concurrent dates each month would provide continuity and boost attendance. CM also suggested that a programme of speakers be lined up for future meetings.

#### **7. Any other business**

MJW took the opportunity to thank Action for M.E. for their effort in driving the work of the APPG, and it was agreed the APPG had been invigorated to carry forward new work.