



APPGAP AGM

Monday 13 September 2021, 2:40pm

In attendance:

Rachael Maskell MP
Lord Russell of Liverpool
Edward Timpson MP
Bill Esterson MP
Tim Loughton MP
Katharine Slocombe (secretariat)
Rebecca Patterson (secretariat)
Natalie Mills (secretariat)
Alison Woodhead (secretariat)

Apologies:

Peter Gibson MP

Welcome and Overview – Rachael Maskell MP (Chair)

Rachael Maskell: APPGAP has held two inquiries so far; one on the ASF and we were pleased to hear about the extension of the fund soon after that. Today we are launching our report on our second inquiry, *Strengthening Families*, which will feed into the Children's Social Care Review. Very timely to also be feeding into the spending review.

Having good engagement is what this APPG is aiming to do and also to see fruit from our labours.

Voting:

Officers and Chair put to a vote. All members present voted unanimously for the following elected officers and the Chair:

Chair: Rachael Maskell MP (Labour Co-op)
Officers: Lord Russell of Liverpool (Crossbench)
Bill Esterson MP (Labour)
Edward Timpson MP (Conservative)
Tim Loughton MP (Conservative)
Peter Gibson MP (Conservative)

Discussion of future activities of the APPG which included:

- Bringing together other APPGs who work in overlapping areas, including the APPG for Kinship Care and APPG for Looked After Children and Care Leavers.
- Looking at groups of children who wait the longest – sibling groups, older children, this inquiry looked at Black and minority ethnic children, but we could also look at disabled children.

Bill Esterson: Restarting the APPG for FASD. Significant overlap with adoption.

Edward Timpson: Supportive of suggestion to gather together APPGs with similar interest. We need to do a full audit to make sure we don't miss any APPGs out.

Could also do some work on Regional Adoption Agencies – doing a temperature check and feeding back what is and isn't working. Assessing the impact of devolution on adopted children. Structural inquiry to understand whether it is working for families and children.

Lord Russell of Liverpool: could do a similar exercise with the devolved administrations. The nations are often good locations for testing ideas.

Rachael Maskell: Thanks to the Secretariat, Adoption UK and Home for Good.

End of AGM.