

Minutes for the 2017 AGM of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on HIV & AIDS

Date: Wednesday 5 May, 13.15-14.00, Room P, Portcullis House

Attendance:

Stephen Doughty MP (Labour)	The Baroness Barker (Liberal Democrats)
James Dudderidge MP (Conservative)	Baroness Gould of Potternewton (Labour)
Mike Freer MP (Conservative)	Baroness Masham of Ilton (Crossbench)
Catherine McKinnell MP (Labour)	The Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated)
Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP (Labour)	
Iain Stewart MP (Conservative)	
Dr Paul Williams MP (Labour)	

The APPG would like to thank Mike Freer for his contribution to the APPG as its Chair for the past two years. During his tenure, the APPG has continued to expand its membership to reflect the diversity of issues that affect people living with HIV across the UK and internationally and has had four of the recommendations from its most recent report *The HIV Puzzle*, adopted by the Government. Mike has also been heavily involved discussions with the Government about the availability and commissioning of PrEP in England and this work will continue into the new Parliament.

The APPG would also like to thank Stuart Andrew MP for his work as Vice-Chair of the Group. Stuart has chaired a number of meetings concerning aspects of HIV policy, particularly as they relate to testing and has been at the forefront of driving new membership from neighbouring constituencies.

In addition to others in and outside of Parliament, this year the work of the APPG has led to the Government reaffirming its financial contribution to the Global Fund and RSE was made compulsory in all secondary schools. The APPG is enormously grateful for their hard work, leadership and support during this time.

Election of Officers

The Group confirmed the election of a new executive for the Group, the results are as follows:

Chair: Stephen Doughty MP (Labour)

Vice-Chairs:

Lord Black of Brentwood (Conservative)
Baroness Barker (Liberal Democrat)
Baroness Gould of Potternewton (Labour)
Baroness Masham of Ilton (Crossbench)
Iain Stewart MP (Conservative)

Approval of financial statement

The Group approved the financial statement for the APPG's 2016/17 financial year. The Chair signed the financial statement to be submitted along with the Group's registration form.

Update on current work

The call for evidence for the ongoing APPG inquiry on key populations and women and girls in middle-income and transitioning countries has been extended on a case-by-case basis for those organisations that have expressed an interest in submitting evidence. The Policy Advisor will be collating the evidence and will circulate a brief for members summarising submissions.

Oral evidence and overseas trip dates will be announced over the Summer recess.

The Policy Advisor also outlined the Group's plans and upcoming invitations to the end of 2017 including a drop-in session for new members before the Summer recess with a provisional date of Tuesday 18 July recommended. The Policy Advisor also outlined proposed plans for World AIDS Day.

Future Business

The APPG rules also require two formal meetings of the Group a year so this drop-in session will be advertised on the APPG notice to ensure that this is able to go ahead.

Policy Advisor to update DFID with new executive members for Family Planning Summit invite

Baroness Gould and Stephen Doughty MP agreed to support applications for additional Group funding.

Note of thanks

The APPG would like to thank Graham Jones MP for hosting the Policy Advisor for the past 18 months

End of AGM

Appendix 1: Annual report of the APPG on HIV & AIDS 2016/17

Key successes in 2016/17

- A new £10 million pilot assessing the efficacy and acceptability of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
- Extension of the public health ringfence to 2019
- New local delivery models for effective commissioning to be piloted by Public Health England
- Public Health England to encourage the development of lead integrated commissioning in each local authority
- Further clarity on the status of those that participated in the PROUD study
- Statutory RSE in all secondary and primary schools

2016

The APPG in Parliament

Much of the work since the last AGM in July 2016 was in the drafting and publishing of *The HIV Puzzle: Piecing together HIV care since the Health and Social Care Act* which sought to understand the impact of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 on HIV services from prevention through to long-term disease management and health ageing. Key achievements from this report include a commitment from the Government to fund PrEP. This was announced shortly before the formal launch of the APPG's report. This decision has led NHS England to commit a further £10 million to commissioning PrEP as part of its annual prioritisation process for specialised treatments and announce the beginning of an expanded PrEP trial in Summer 2017. The report was complemented by a Westminster Hall debate, led by Mike Freer MP, on the report's recommendations. As a consequence of this, the then Minister for Public Health announced an extension of the public health ringfence to 2019 and the creation of pilot sites to understand how integrated services could be provided for people living with HIV.

In the Lords, there were a number of debates related to HIV. The Lords debated the possibility of elimination of HIV transmission in the UK in September, where members raised concerns about the commissioning of PrEP, and barriers to treatment in the UK and overseas as part of Parliament's activities around World AIDS Day.

Events

In July, the APPG co-hosted an event with the APPG on Malaria and NTDs and Global Tuberculosis in support of the Global Fund replenishment and met with Baroness Verma to discuss this further in a roundtable setting. We were pleased to see the Government commit £1.1 billion to the Global Fund 2017-19 towards the end of last year and will be using some of the Group's inquiry work to understand how that money can be most effectively spent.

Towards the end of 2016, the APPG again co-hosted the launch of the Department of Health's HIV Innovation Fund in November 2016. The fund is part of Public Health England's National HIV Prevention Programme and provided £600,000 to thirteen local projects starting in 2016/17. This

represents an increase of £100,000 in Department of Health funding for the Fund, with nearly twice the number of applicants receiving funding compared with 2015.

To commemorate World AIDS Day, the APPG attended the STOPAIDS World AIDS Day Conference in New Zealand House to support the 'refueling of the fire' of the international community's response to AIDS globally and the UK's role within it. We also welcomed the Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust to Parliament to offer HIV tests to parliamentarians as part of awareness raising for National HIV Testing Week and World AIDS Day. The APPG's report *The HIV Puzzle* was launched in the River Room as part of a joint event with the Halve It campaign and APPG members were also invited to speak as part of THT's World AIDS Day programme in Parliament.

2017

Events

2017 began with a co-hosted event on ageing and HIV with the Terrence Higgins Trust to launch their report on the impact of ageing for people living with HIV. The report highlights a number of key areas where civil society, Government and healthcare professionals can work with older people living with HIV to ensure they are supported physically and emotionally including the provision of better training for GPs to ensure they understand HIV and its interaction with ageing and ensuring that social care providers give staff continued professional development around HIV to challenge stigma and ensure high-quality care.

The APPG also welcomed the National AIDS Trust to Parliament to co-host the launch of their reports on HIV support services and commissioning across the UK. The reports outlined the variety of HIV-specific and generic support services that are required to ensure that people living with HIV are empowered to live healthy and secure lives.

From an international perspective, the APPG also celebrated the tenth anniversary of the STOPAIDS Speaker Tour in Parliament and welcomed young people living with HIV in the UK and from around the world to share their stories and experiences with members and civil society groups. The APPG also welcomed over 60 young campaigners from Youth STOPAIDS to meet with parliamentarians to discuss the continued prioritization of HIV globally and to remind members that *It Ain't Over*. The APPG also welcomed the World Health Organization to Parliament to discuss the rising rates of HIV drug resistance and the impact that this could have on individual and public health, as well as the impact that resistance can have on countries' abilities to meet the UNAIDS 90:90:90 target and the elimination of AIDS by 2030.

The APPG in Parliament

In the Commons, Mike Freer MP spoke in the chamber about the need for greater awareness of HIV in the teaching of health and sex education to pupils, noting the success of previous public health campaigns and the need to promote peer support for young people to highlight the benefits of preventing onward transmission. This adjournment debate was followed closely by the Government's announcement on statutory reproductive and sexual education (RSE) in all



primary and secondary schools. As mentioned in relation to *The HIV Puzzle*, Mike Freer MP also led a Westminster Hall debate on the report with announcements on an extension of the public health ringfence and the creation of integrated service pilot sites. In the run-up to the purdah period, the APPG also supported Virendra Sharma MP's application to the backbench business committee for a debate on global R&D for combatting infectious diseases which focused on HIV & AIDS, malaria, neglected tropical diseases and tuberculosis.

HIV was also raised as an issue for debate as part of the Lords' debate on the future of the Commonwealth in light of the 2018 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) being held in the United Kingdom.