

# Minutes

## All Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer

### AGM & Chairs meeting

Tuesday 11 February 2020, 1.00-2.00pm, Grimond Room, House of Commons.  
Chaired by Tonia Antoniazzi MP, APPGC Chair

#### Attendees:

Tonia Antoniazzi MP  
Henry Smith MP  
Nicola Richards MP  
Grahame Morris MP  
Gerald Jones MP  
Amy Callaghan MP  
Baroness Walmsley  
Lord Rennard  
Baroness Masham  
Christina Rees MP  
Rupa Huq MP

#### Other:

Bethan Roberts, Office of Tonia Antoniazzi MP  
Jack Mayorcas, Office of Sharon Hodgson MP  
Alex Moore, Office of Nicola Richards MP  
Leceia Gordon-Mackenzie, Prostate Cancer UK  
Aileen Rice-Jones, Bloodwise  
Andy McGuinness, Secretariat  
Olly Parker, Secretariat  
Rebekka Smiddy, Secretariat  
Emma Stevenson, Secretariat

#### Apologies:

Baroness Finlay  
Mark Pritchard MP  
Andrew Gwynne MP  
Baroness Hooper  
Ian Liddell-Grainger MP  
Kerry McCarthy MP  
Stuart Andrew MP  
James Brokenshire MP

Stephen Barclay MP  
Baroness Cumberlege  
Dan Jarvis MP  
Jane Hunt MP  
Christian Wakeford MP  
Bob Seely MP  
David Simmonds MP  
Bambos Charalambous MP

<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Welcome and apologies</b></p> <p>Tonia Antoniazzi welcomed attendees and formally thanked the former Chair, Nic Dakin, and the Members of the APPGC for their work and support to the group in 2019.</p>	<b>5 mins</b>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Election of Officers</b></p> <p>The following MPs/Peers were elected as Officers and Tonia Antoniazzi was elected Chair with no objections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tonia Antoniazzi (Chair)</li> <li>• Lord Rennard (Treasurer)</li> <li>• Baroness Masham (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Baroness Walmsley (Vice Chair)</li> </ul>	<b>10 mins</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Baron (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Mark Pritchard (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Amy Callaghan (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Nicola Richards (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Christina Rees (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Baroness Finlay (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Henry Smith (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Grahame Morris (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Rupa Huq (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Colleen Fletcher (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• Baroness Morgan (Vice Chair)</li> </ul> <p>As a point of information, the Chair notified the group that her brother works for Macmillan Cancer Support within their Wales office.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Members</b></p> <p>The following MPs/Peers who were not present have said they would definitely like to be Members of the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrew Gwynne</li> <li>• Baroness Hooper</li> <li>• Sir George Howarth</li> <li>• Jack Lopresti</li> <li>• Chris Matheson</li> <li>• Kerry McCarthy</li> <li>• Daniel Zeichner</li> <li>• Sharon Hodgson</li> <li>• Bambos Charalambous</li> <li>• Lady Thornton</li> <li>• Christian Wakeford</li> </ul> <p>All other Members will be contacted and asked if they would like to remain Members of the group.</p>	
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Minutes from AGM – 29 April 2019</b></p> <p>Minutes were agreed by the group.</p>	<b>5 mins</b>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Accounts 2019</b></p> <p>Baroness Masham thanked the Secretariat for their assistance. She then handed over to Ollly Parker.</p> <p>Ollly Parker thanked Baroness Masham for her support in her role as Treasurer for the past year.</p>	<b>10 mins</b>

	<p>The Secretariat provided an overview of the APPG on Cancer accounts for the previous reporting year 2019 and summarised the Explanatory Note.</p> <p>The Secretariat outlined the reasons for the healthy balance in the APPG bank account – most notably, due to not having the financial challenge of organising the Britain Against Cancer Conference in 2019. It was restated that the group would not be holding the conference in the future.</p> <p>Baroness Walmsley asked for clarification about the cost of organising the conference. The Secretariat provided a response but offered to provide all Members with further details on request.</p> <p>The 2019 accounts were formally agreed by the group.</p>	
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Agree Purpose of Group</b></p> <p>The Chair lead a discussion about the purpose of the APPG.</p> <p>The registered purpose is: <i>To keep cancer on the political agenda, monitor implementation of government initiatives, provide briefings to parliamentarians, and ensure policy-making is evidence-based and patient-centred.</i></p> <p>This purpose was formally agreed by the group.</p>	
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>APPGC Workplan 2020</b></p> <p>The Secretariat outlined the APPGC’s proposed priorities for 2020 and introduced the workplan for this year.</p> <p>In order to deliver the biggest impact as a group, the APPGC will focus its activity on the following three priorities over the course of 2020. This does not mean the APPGC will not engage in activity that supports additional policy areas, reactive work, or campaigns beyond these three areas, however our proactive influencing activity will be dictated by these priorities.</p> <p><b>1. The cancer workforce</b> Current pressures on the cancer workforce are the single biggest issue raised by the cancer sector as a whole. In 2020 the APPGC will continue to campaign on workforce issues to ensure the cancer workforce is fit for the future</p>	

	<p>and can meet the changing needs of people affected by cancer. In particular, this activity will be focused on scrutinising the publication of the final NHS People Plan and making the case for workforce funding to be adequately addressed within the Comprehensive Spending Review.</p> <p><b>2. Personalisation – ensuring commitments in the Long-Term Plan</b></p> <p>The NHS Long Term Plan published in January 2019 has some specific and ambitious cancer targets including that every person diagnosed with cancer has a personalised care plan by 2021. There will be a key role for the APPGC to play in holding the Government and NHS to account on the delivery of the commitments on cancer included in the plan.</p> <p><b>3. Addressing the wider needs of people living with and beyond cancer (financial cost of cancer, mental health)</b></p> <p>Whilst more people are living or surviving cancer than ever before, many experience a range of physical and emotional issues even after treatment has ended. Alongside this, cancer brings with it a real risk of financial hardship due to reduced income and increased costs. In 2020 the APPGC will campaign to ensure the holistic needs of cancer patients are recognised and addressed through the health and benefits systems.</p> <p>The Secretariat repeated the group’s previous intention to organise a lobby day around the workforce priority.</p> <p>The APPGC understand that this work plan is only indicative and is likely to shift following further consultation with Officers and stakeholders in response to the external environment.</p> <p>These priorities were agreed upon by the Officers and echoed by other attendees.</p>	
	<p><b>APPGC Priorities</b></p> <p>The Chair then lead a discussion about the APPGC’s priorities.</p> <p><b>Tonia Antoniazzi</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggested that she would like the group to explore global cancer treatments and help spread that knowledge throughout Parliament.</li> </ul>	

- Tonia suggested that Members could act as Parliamentary cancer representatives to feedback what strategies health services in other countries are taking to address cancer outcomes, and communicate this to the Government and the four UK health systems.

**Grahame Morris**

- Said he was keen to tackle cancer outcomes, and for the group to do a piece of work on 'commissioning arrangements' in relation to access and availability of treatments across the UK.
- The group agreed that this could be a good course of action.

**Amy Callaghan**

- Highlighted the need for an assessment of the mental health impact of cancer.

**Baroness Walmsley**

- Echoed this course of action.
- She suggested that the group could conduct a survey of cancer treatment units, to assess what mental health support is available.
- The Secretariat shared that Macmillan Cancer Support are currently conducting research to map the cancer journey and what mental and emotional support is offered.

**Christina Rees**

- Informed the group of her position as Chair of the APPG on Sepsis.
- She highlighted the work the APPG are doing to looking post-sepsis trauma.
- Christina suggested that the group should look into secondary cancer, in relation to mental health and treatment availability (in areas such as South Wales).

**Tonia Antoniazzi**

- Echoed the potential for the group to look into geographical barriers for treatments such as radiotherapy.

**Baroness Masham**

- Seconded the idea for the group prioritise looking into mental health outcomes.
- She echoes Tonia's suggestion for an internationalist approach.

	<p><b>Updates from Chairs and Officers</b></p> <p>The Chair invited the Officers and Chairs to share updates on their activities and opportunities for joint working.</p> <p><b>Henry Smith, Chair of APPG on Blood Cancer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group will continue an inquiry into genomic medicine.</li> <li>• They will be preparing to give evidence for the 16 March.</li> <li>• Henry invited all Members to join the group.</li> </ul> <p><b>Grahame Morris, Vice Chair of APPG for Radiotherapy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recently compiled a report looking into gaps in access to radiotherapy services in rural areas.</li> <li>• Held a 'Radiotherapy4Life' Parliamentary reception a few weeks ago, to highlight the group's campaign to make radiotherapy journeys shorter.</li> <li>• The group will continue to lobby the Government to replace old and poor-quality radiotherapy machines, where the need is greatest.</li> <li>• Grahame said the group have met with Ministers Jo Churchill and Edward Argar to discuss these concerns.</li> <li>• Grahame invited all Members to attend his report launch event in Parliament that evening.</li> </ul> <p><b>Jack Mayorcas, on behalf of Sharon Hodgson, Chair of APPG on Ovarian Cancer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members were invited to the group's 'Teal Heroes' event at 10am on 11 March. This is the APPG's inaugural meeting for Members only.</li> <li>• There were 10 MP heroes the year of the launch, with over 30 last year.</li> <li>• The group are hoping for the number to grow this year.</li> <li>• Tonia Antoniazzi said she is planning on attending the meeting.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Tonia Antoniazzi notified the group about her upcoming fundraising activities and invited them to join her.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moonwalk (uniting against breast cancer)</li> <li>• Macmillan Mighty Hike in her constituency of Gower &amp; other fundraising challenges in 2020</li> </ul>	

	<p>Andy McGuinness shared James Brokenshire's suggestion for the group to do a piece of work on the workforce. This was welcomed by the group.</p> <p>Baroness Masham suggested that the group should organise a meeting with minister Jo Churchill.</p> <p>The Chair and Secretariat agreed to follow up with Jo Churchill to discuss the potential for quarterly meetings which was a commitment the APPGC had secured within the last Parliament.</p>	
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