

**APPG on Social Integration, Minutes for Annual General Meeting, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022,  
11am-11.15am – Room U, Portcullis House**

DATE: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022

TIME: 10.00am – 10.30am

VENUE: Portcullis House, Room U

CHAIR: Peter Gibson MP

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Minutes taken by: Jake Puddle

**Present (Parliamentarians):**

- Peter Gibson MP
- Sir Peter Bottomley MP
- Virendra Sharma MP
- Paul Blomfield MP
- Alicia Kearns MP
- Lord Nat Wei (arrived after AGM)

**Present (Others):**

- Sunder Katwala – Director of British Future
- Heather Rolfe – Director of Research, British Future
- Jake Puddle – Researcher, British Future

**Apologies of absence:**

Kim Leadbeater MP, Rupa Huq MP, Anne McLaughlin MP, Jo Gideon MP, Stuart McDonald MP, Seema Malhotra MP, Gavin Robinson MP, Wera Hobhouse MP, Holly Lynch MP, Naz Shah MP, Kate Green MP, Rushanara Ali MP, Debbie Abrahams MP, Gagan Mohindra MP, Flick Drummond MP, Lord Taylor of Warwick, Robbie Moore MP, Jill Mortimer MP

**1. Welcome**

Peter Gibson signalled the start of the AGM, confirming the formal meeting at quorate and welcomed everybody and outlined the purpose of the meeting.

Peter outlined that the majority of previous Officers and Vice Chairs had indicated that they would like to be re-elected for their positions. Kim Leadbeater MP would like to stand for election as a Vice Chair of the group, while Jo Gideon MP would like to stand for election as an Officer.

**2. Election of Vice Chairs and Officers to the group**

Peter asked all parliamentarians present to vote to elect officers. Did they agree to elect the following Officers, Vice Chairs and Chair (Please say aye).

- Re-election of Peter Gibson MP as Chair
- Election of Kim Leadbeater MP as Vice Chair (in absentia)

- iii. Re-election of Virendra Sharma MP as Vice Chair
- iv. Re-election of Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Dr Rupa Huq MP as Vice-Chairs (in absentia)
- v. Election of Jo Gideon MP as Officer (in absentia)
- vi. Re-election of Anne McLaughlin MP and Stuart McDonald MP as Officers (in absentia)

2.2. The vote was counted by administrators in attendance.

2.3. It was moved unanimously that all Officers, Chair and Vice Chairs would be elected to the APPG.

### **3. AGM – Approval of the Income and Expenditure Statement for 2021/2022**

3.1. Peter told the group that he had reviewed the Income and Expenditure Statement and that it was available to all the other members to view upon request now. He summarised its content of British Future's in-kind support.

3.2. Vote - Peter asked parliamentarians to approve the statement.

3.3. The vote was counted. It was moved unanimously that the statement was approved.

3.4 Peter signalled the closure of the AGM. He thanked those in attendance for joining for the vote.

### **4. Briefing on the Ukraine, Hong Kong and Afghanistan Welcoming Programmes**

4.1 Peter Gibson introduced British Future's Director, Sunder Katwala, to summarise a briefing paper on the three major UK Welcoming Programmes: for new arrivals from Hong Kong, Ukraine and Afghanistan. Peter also shared a briefing paper with attendees that had been prepared in collaboration with the secretariat.

4.2 Sunder spoke on the potential for policymakers to explore synergies between the three welcoming programmes – to help avoid duplication, and to build a smarter infrastructure for welcoming large flows of new arrivals to the UK, ensuring that they find housing, support with ESOL and assistance finding employment.

4.3 Peter Gibson MP and Paul Blomfield MP suggested that the APPG could convene an evidence session on 'what works', bringing together social integration practitioners to share their experiences of integrating new arrivals from the three welcoming programmes into UK communities. It was also felt members would be interested in a session focusing on how policymakers can improve ESOL services for migrants and refugees arriving through the three welcoming schemes. Peter Gibson MP agreed to follow this up with British Future to arrange a meeting of the APPG in future.



**End of meeting.**