



Gambling Related Harm APPG

Minutes – GRH APPG AGM

Date: Thursday 9th April 2020

Time: 2pm

Location: Zoom

Chair: Carolyn Harris MP

Members Present

- Carolyn Harris MP
- Rt Hon. Stephen Timms MP
- Rt Hon. Lord Foster of Bath
- Ronnie Cowan MP
- Kate Green MP
- Rt Hon. Sir Ian Duncan Smith MP (Joined at 2:06pm)
- Sammy Wilson MP (Joined at 2:06pm)
- Richard Holden MP (Joined at 2:08pm)

External Guests

- Interel - Secretariat
- Jo Lloyd – Office of Carolyn Harris

Minutes – Private Meeting of the APPG

- Carolyn Harris MP opened the meeting and welcomed members to the first virtual discussion of the APPG for Gambling Related Harm.
- She, provided a recent update on the Groups activity in the early part of the coronavirus crisis, including outreach to the Betting and Gaming Council about their lockdown action plan, which promoted an “unprofessional” response, but no “formal” response.
- Ronnie Cowan MP asked about the volume of gambling advertising.
- Lord Foster suggested that the APPG seek a virtual meeting with the Gambling Commission.
- The Group agreed to seek a virtual meeting with the Gambling Commission and Michael Dugher and Brigid Simmons from the BGC to a virtual meeting with the APPG.
- A discussion on the merits of a virtual meeting or a face to face meeting (post lockdown) followed. The APPG also discussed the tone of the BGC’s replies to Twitter engagement with Carolyn Harris MP.
- Lord Foster also suggested that the APPG send on it’s evidence base to the Lords Gambling Industry Committee – which it agreed to do.
- The Group also decided to seek virtual meetings with the Minister and officials from DCMS.
- The Group agreed to continue to cooperate closely to monitor the actions of the industry during the current public health situation.
- Meeting closed at 2:42pm.