

**ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ON POLITICAL LITERACY Minutes For 9th Meeting on 24.04.2023**

**Attended on 24.04.2023 (Parliamentarians):** Lord Iain McNicol (co-Chair), Kim Leadbeater MP (co-Chair), Philip Dunne MP (co-Chair and registered contact), Lord Chris Rennard (co Vice-Chair), Debbie Abrahams MP, Lord David Blunkett

**Apologies from those who could not attend (Parliamentarians):** Simon Fell MP (Co-Chair), Tracey Crouch MP, Nickie Aiken MP (Co Vice-Chair), Cat Smith MP, Owen Thompson MP, Caroline Lucas MP, Helen Hayes MP, Afzal Khan MP, Kate Green MP, Rachel Hopkins MP, Andrew Bowie MP, Christian Wakeford MP, Julie Marson MP, Tim Loughton MP, Lord Simon Woolley, Ben Bradley MP, Lord Andrew Lansley, Ruth Jones MP, Marion Fellows MP, Flick Drummond MP

**Attended on 24.04.2023 (Secretariat):** Matteo Bergamini, CEO (Shout Out UK), Shima Langan, Public Policy Coordinator (Shout Out UK), Sarah Bannon, Digital Growth Lead (Shout Out UK), Fantine Descard, Intern (Shout Out UK)

**Welcome: Updates from members on new projects/publications/related activities**

1. Lord Iain McNicol opens up the meeting, thanking all the parliamentarians for attending this Annual General Meeting to elect officers for the coming year. He introduced Matteo, the CEO and Founder of Shout Out UK (SOUK), to discuss the activities that SOUK has been involved in since the last meeting and their plans for the APPG in the coming year.
2. Matteo Bergamini thanks Lord Iain for the introduction and briefly explained the work that SOUK was involved in. He informs everyone that SOUK has recently launched phase two of the Voter ID public awareness campaign, in partnership with the Greater London Authority (GLA). He says the campaign fits into the work of the APPG as it will include updating political literacy resources and informing Londoners about the changes brought about by the Elections Act (2022).
3. Matteo then moves on to share his insights and thoughts for the APPG and its aims moving forward. He suggests improving the skillset amongst teaching staff, to which Kim asks him to clarify the initial goals of the APPG and how this has been achieved in the past two years.
4. Matteo thanks Kim for her question. He shares how the aim of the APPG is to highlight the cross party support for political literacy. He explains that the group so far has been able to go to the Department of Education (DfE) to share insights from the APPG, including the findings from the Missing Link report by Dr James Weinberg. He explains that the DfE are now looking to understanding what good CPD looks like. He points to this being one of the main aims for the APPG this year.
5. Lord Blunkett adds that citizenship education and PSHE are complimentary, but not the same. He points to how Oak Academy, the organisation responsible for producing teachers with lessons and resources, has gone to the Association of

Citizenship Teaching (ACT) to help produce resources for the citizenship module. He suggests exploring this avenue to see if these materials can be intertwined with political literacy teaching.

6. Lord Blunkett discusses how important it is to influence the chief inspector of Ofsted, as they are responsible for reporting on the quality of education in schools. He affirms the importance of getting in contact with the chief inspector, or inviting them to an upcoming APPG meeting, in order to push Ofsted and Ofqual to make political literacy a priority within schools.
7. Lord Blunkett explains that the current chief inspector will step down in June but that the APPG should consider reaching out to the succeeding inspector. Matteo agrees with Lord Blunkett and suggests exploring this route.
8. Kim concurs and suggests this could bring about real curricular change. She then asks if the APPG on Political Literacy aims to bring curricular change or societal change. Matteo says that the initial aim was curricular.
9. Debbie mentions a summer school programme that she runs in her constituency, in which young people come to her office and find out about the functions of parliament. She says this has helped her develop different community development approaches to making politics more accessible. Kim says this is a great example of how political literacy can bring societal change. She explains how she would like to see how this fits into the APPG. Debbie agrees.
10. Lord Iain thanks everyone for their ideas and begins the voting process for officers. Lord Iain is elected as co-Chair, alongside Kim Leadbeater and Philip Dunne. Lord Rennard, Simon Fell and Nickie Aiken are put forward as vice-Chairs. Lord Iain concludes the voting process and makes his closing remarks.