

Liverpool City Region All Party Parliamentary Group

Inaugural meeting

Tuesday 21st January, 12:30 to 13:00 in the Thatcher Room, Portcullis House

NON-VERBATIM MINUTES

Parliamentarians in attendance

Alison McGovern, MP for Wirral South
George Howarth, MP for Knowsley
Margaret Greenwood, MP for Wirral West
Conor McGinn, MP for St Helens North
Paula Barker, MP for Liverpool Wavertree
Mike Amesbury, MP for Weaver Valley
Mick Whitley, MP for Birkenhead
Derek Twigg, MP for Halton
Ian Byrne, MP for West Darby
Lord Alton of Liverpool

Others

Steve Rotheram, Metro Mayor, Liverpool city Region
Rich Durber, Political Advisor to the Metro Mayor
Steve Barwick, DevoConnect, Secretariat to APPG
Gill Morris, DevoConnect, Secretariat to APPG
Dean Butterworth, Liverpool Housing Providers
Ciaran Tully, National Housing Federation NW
Fiona Stanton, Northern Powerhouse Partnership

Apologies

Lord Heseltine
Lord Hunt of the Wirral
Baroness Newlove
Baroness Chalker
Kim Johnson MP
Dan Carden MP
Angela Eagle MP

1. Welcome and introductions

Alison McGovern MP welcomed all attendees and informed them that the Group was set up in the last Parliament and had held meetings in Westminster and in Liverpool itself on transport, culture and the local industrial strategy as well as being a useful forum to know about LCRCA/Mayoral priorities and issues.

The purpose of the APPG when initially established in 2018 was adopted for use in the new Parliamentary session: "to bring MPs and Peers of all parties together with key leaders, including the Liverpool City Region Metro Mayor and those in local government, the private sector and social enterprise, to help maximise future investment in the wider Liverpool City Region for the benefit of all its local communities."

2. Election of officers

George Howarth MP briefly took the Chair to ask if there were any nominations for Chair of the Group other than Alison McGovern MP? None were made and she was duly elected.

Ms McGovern reported that all previous officers of the Group had indicated they would be willing to be an officer again. These were:

- **Vice Chair** Lord Heseltine, Non-affiliated
- **Vice Chair** Lord Alton of Liverpool, Crossbench
- **Vice Chair** Ms Marie Rimmer, Labour
- **Secretary** Conor McGinn, Labour
- **Treasurer** Lord Hunt of Wirral, Conservative

She then invited any other Parliamentarian present to nominate someone for an officer role or volunteer themselves. It was agreed that all other Parliamentarians present would become Vice Chairs and could Chair future meetings if Ms McGovern were not available.

3. Topics for future meetings

Ms McGovern invited attendees to suggest topics for future meetings. These mentioned were:

- Update on trains - performance and also potential for new stations with Network rail a key speaker
- Health and social care integration
- Cultural developments including – potentially - Shakespeare in the North, Dead Pigeon Gallery and Get it Loud in libraries
- Climate change/just transition to net zero
- Social housing (also low carbon design)

Steve Barwick for the Secretariat said that before the General Election there had been an agreement to hold a meeting on the city region's housing challenges and solutions – potentially with speakers from Liverpool City Region and Liverpool Housing Providers as well as the Minister. This would allow a focus on social housing issues.

4. Update on LCR CA priorities

Steve Rotheram, Metro Mayor of Liverpool City Region, addressed the meeting setting out his three priorities in 2020. These are:

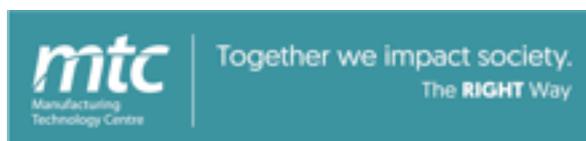
- a) A fair and inclusive economy – which gives hope and aspiration through a young persons’ guarantee of ‘wraparound’ support
- b) An integrated transport system with properly functioning ‘tap-in, tap-out’ smart ticketing NB the CA will be the largest landowner in Merseyside when MerseyRail devolved fully
- c) A green industrial revolution – including support for the Mersey Tidal project (which attendees agreed to have site visit about).

It was proposed that MPs seek a Backbench debate on Liverpool City Region’s priorities, ideally in March after the Budget, and Alison McGovern MP agreed to seek to co-ordinate and arrange.

5. Meeting closed

It was agreed that the next meeting would be in March – date/venue will be confirmed by Secretariat in due course.

The Liverpool City Region All-Party Parliamentary Group is sponsored by Liverpool Housing Providers, uber and



The Secretariat of the Liverpool City Region All-Party Parliamentary Group is provided by DevoConnect who can be contacted by email lcrappg@devoconnect.co.uk and the Group is on twitter @LCRAPPG