



All Party Parliamentary Group on Religious Education

Annual General Meeting

Monday 8th July, 2013

Portcullis House, Committee Room T, 4 pm – 4:30 pm

PRESENT

MEMBERS - Stephen Lloyd (Chair), Mary Glindon (Vice-Chair), Annette Brooke (Member), Sir Peter Bottomley (Member)

SECRETARIAT - Benjamin Waldmann, Sarah Smalley

OTHERS – Jonathon Ward (assistant to Stephen Lloyd MP)

APOLOGIES - Fiona Bruce MP, Mike Crockart MP, Baroness Brinton – fellow officers of the Group

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All officers agreed to stand again. Mary Glindon nominated Stephen as chair, seconded by Annette Brooke. Stephen nominated Mary Glindon, Fiona Bruce, Mike Crockart and Baroness Brinton as vice chairs. All were elected unopposed.

2. DISCUSSION OF ONGOING APPG ACTIVITY

Parliamentary questions - Stephen and Mary would both ask written questions within the next couple of days e.g. Could the Secretary of State confirm that he meant the statements on RE made to the Church of England Seminar at Lambeth on 3 July?

The next Education Questions session was on 9 September (deadline 3 Sept) and Stephen would put down a question on RE. If the SoS prevaricated, another adjournment debate could be initiated.

3. APPG PROGRAMME FOR 2013-14

Stephen suggested a short inquiry into the contribution made by RE to good community relations. Rather than collecting evidence and producing a report, he proposed a series of three evidence gathering sessions whose outcome would be a slate of 'ten top tips' for best practice.

Launch of RE Review - This was likely to take place at the end of September and would therefore coincide with party conference recess. Stephen would be happy to send a

supporting letter on behalf of the APPG if the REC sent him some suggested text. Media coverage would be important.

Progress update on APPG report - It was agreed that movement towards meeting any of the recommendations in 'RE: the Truth Unmasked' would be helpful in recording progress and helping to raise morale. Stephen happy to produce a column for the next APPG on RE Update.

4. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting then terminated.

Feedback on the minutes – please contact Benjamin Waldmann at Benjamin@pbpoliticalconsulting.com