

**East Midlands All-Party Parliamentary Group**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**5<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

**Attendance**

**MPs**

Amanda Solloway (Derby North)  
John Mann (Bassetlaw)  
Nigel Mills (Amber Valley)  
Chris Heaton-Harris (Daventry)  
Chris Leslie (Nottingham East)  
Alberto Costa (South Leicestershire)  
Robert Jennick (Newark)

**Council Leaders**

Roger Blaney (Newark and Sherwood District Council)  
Jon Collins (Nottingham City Council)  
Alan Rhodes (Nottinghamshire District Council)

**Others**

Chris Hobson (East Midlands Chambers of Commerce)  
Rowena Limb (Cities and Local Growth Unit, BIS)  
Stuart Young (East Midlands Councils)  
Narinder Pooni (Office of Alberto Costa, MP)  
Elise Peek (Office of Nicky Morgan, MP)  
Samantha Rizk (Office of Robert Jennick, MP)

**Notes**

**1. Introductions**

1.1 Chris Heaton-Harris and Chris Leslie welcomed members to the AGM of the East Midlands APPG, highlighted the objectives and opportunities of the APPG and potential issues for collective action.

**2. Election of Officers**

2.1 Chris Heaton-Harris and Chris Leslie were unanimously elected as co-chairs of the East Midlands APPG.

2.2 Nigel Mills was elected, and Liz Kendell subsequently confirmed, as co-secretaries of the East Midlands APPG.

### **3. Proposed Focus of Activity for 2016-17**

- 3.1 Stuart Young gave a brief presentation of some of the key priorities for the East Midlands (attached).
- 3.2 Devolution and Combined Authorities of increasing significance; with an important role for MPs in supporting progress.
- 3.3 APPG Members agreed that there should be a focus on a limited number of significant issues for the region, and learn from previous successes, e.g. MML, A453, and A46.
- 3.4 Council leaders highlighted the existing agreement (by all 45 councils in the region) of 5 regional transport investment priorities. Further schemes to be included in pipeline, e.g. bring forward the eastern leg of HS2.
- 3.5 APPG Members agreed that health, education and skills, and national lottery funding are priority issues for the region and should be included on future agendas.

### **4. Agreed Next Steps**

- 4.1 Future meetings to be scheduled around key moment including Budgets, spending reviews and regional announcements, e.g. Midlands Engine.
- 4.2 MPs to host a 'showcase' event where key regional strengths and priorities are presented in Westminster.
- 4.3 Alongside business and council leaders; MPs, through the APPG, have an important role to play in supporting a wider collaborative approach that includes regional representatives from Health, Further Education and Higher Education sectors.
- 4.4 To support way forward, an additional meeting to be arranged for **2pm Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016** to consider proposals and a regional briefing that includes:
  - Regional profile; including its 'offer' ref UK economic growth, with evidence base.
  - 5 key challenges.
  - 5 key regional successes.
  - 5 key priorities as the basis for EM APPG work.

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