



All-Party Parliamentary Group for Young Carers and Young Carers



Annual Report 2022-23

www.carers.org/appg

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About the APPG for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers

The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Young Carers and Young Adult Carers brings together Parliamentarians from across the political spectrum who are committed to improving the lives of young carers and young adult carers. The group's mission is to provide a forum for key issues affecting young carers and young adult carers which will be addressed collaboratively by Parliamentarians and other key stakeholders, including young carers and young adult carers.

The APPG was inaugurated on 20th July 2022. It holds regular meetings in Parliament with an ambitious agenda of work and seeks to make the very strongest collective case to central Government as we seek to achieve the best support and services for young carers and young adult carers.

The secretariat for the APPG is provided by the charity Carers Trust.

Officers

The officers for 2022-23 were:

Chair and registered contact: Paul Blomfield MP (Labour)

Vice-Chair: Barbara Keeley MP (Labour)

Vice-Chair: Duncan Baker MP (Conservative)

Vice-Chair: Ed Davey MP (Liberal Democrat)

Officer: Fleur Anderson MP (Labour)

Officer: Gill Furniss MP (Labour)

In addition to the officers, the APPG also has a number of members on its mailing list from across both houses of Parliament:

Afzal Khan MP	Chris Stephens MP	Martyn Day MP
Alistair Carmichael MP	Christina Rees MP	Mary Kelly Foy MP
Andrew Gwynne MP	Christine Jardine MP	Mohammed Yasin MP
Andrew Lewer MP	Colum Eastwood MP	Nickie Aiken MP
Andrew Western MP	Dame Rosie Winterton MP	Paulette Hamilton MP
Ashley Dalton MP	Fabian Hamilton MP	Sally-Ann Hart MP
Baroness Brinton	Florence Eshalomi MP	Sarah Atherton MP
Baroness Lister of Burtersett CBE	George Howarth MP	Sarah Green MP
Baroness Pitkeathley OBE	Jo Gideon MP	Scott Benton MP
Baroness Walmsley	John McDonnell MP	Sir Oliver Heald MP
Caroline Ansell MP	Kate Osborne MP	Sir Robert Buckland MP
Caroline Dinenage MP	Liz Twist MP	Virendra Sharma MP
Caroline Lucas MP	Lord Young of Cookham	Wendy Chamberlain MP
	Marion Fellows MP	

Reporting period

This report covers activity in the reporting year from 20th July 2022 to 19th July 2023.

Chairman's Report

Having been formed in August 2022, this past year has been both a busy and exciting one for the APPG for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers.

Over the course of the year, we have been fortunate enough to hear from a range of young carers, young adult carers and those who support them from across the country. Hearing their voices and experiences first-hand is what has driven the work of the APPG for the year and will continue to do so moving forwards.

We have had a full programme of activities, ranging from a review of the Carers Action Plan, to a parliamentary reception for Young Carers Action Day, to a session bringing together young carers with the Children's Commissioner for England.

Our inquiry into life opportunities for young carers and young adult carers, which we launched in Carers Week, is the first of its kind. It is set to provide invaluable insight into the challenges faced by not only young carers and young adult carers and will set forward recommendations about what the Government and other partners should do to help the life chances of young carers and young adult carers.

I would like to express my thanks to my fellow officers and members for the APPG, who dedicate their time, knowledge and commitment to support our work. I would also like to thank Carers Trust for their continued support for the APPG as the secretariat.

But most of all – I would like to thank all of the young carers and young adult carers who have contributed to our meetings and events over the year, and to our inquiry youth advisors. Your voices have been so powerful and as an APPG we will continue to ensure that we are championing your voices within Parliament.

To any parliamentary colleagues reading this who are not yet part of the APPG for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers, please do consider joining us. The fact that there are still nearly 15,000 children providing over 50 hours of care every single week, and that these young carers are 86% less likely to obtain a degree, and 46% less likely to enter employment shows us just how much more we still all need to do.

Due diligence statement

As chair for the APPG for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers, I confirm that the APPG has been run in line with the rules set out by the Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards. I also confirm that the secretariat is not provided or funded by a foreign government.



Paul Blomfield MP

Chair, APPG for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers

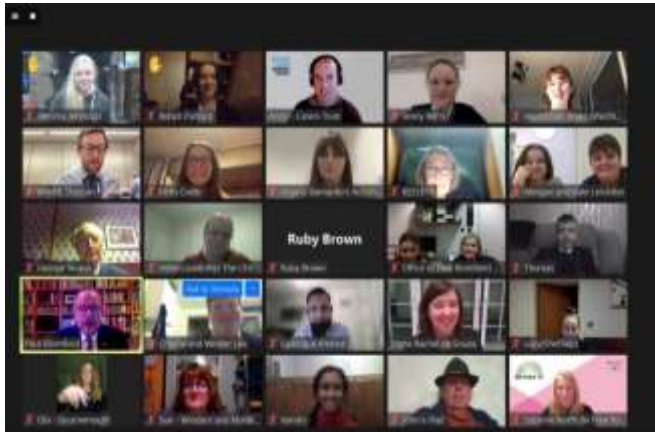


APPG activities 2022-23

The APPG for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers has held six meetings/events in the 2022-23 reporting year.

20th July 2022 – This was the inaugural meeting of the APPG for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers.

Our Officers were elected, and Carers Trust were appointed as the Secretariat.



24th January 2023

At our first substantive meeting, we heard from the Children’s Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza.

The Children’s Commissioner talked about the experiences of young carers in the work of her office, and also heard from young carers in attendance directly about a wide range of issues.

Young Carers Action Day 2023 – For Young Carers Action Day in March we held a Parliamentary reception to mark the launch of Carers Trust’s latest young carers and young adult carers report, ‘Being a Young Carer is not a choice; it’s just what we do’.

MPs and Peers from across both houses attended to hear from young carers and sign the pledge for young carers and young adult carers.

We were joined by the Minister for Social Care, Helen Whately, as well as the Shadow Minister for Children and Early Years, Helen Hayes, who both pledged their support for young carers.

Paul Blomfield MP (Chair) and Duncan Baker (Vice-Chair) also joined a group of young carers from across England and Carers Trust to hand in an open letter to the Prime Minister calling for more support for young carers.



April 2023 – At our April meeting we focused on the Carers Action Plan and the extent to which it had made a difference in relation to young carers and young adult carers. The session also focused on what is required in any future national Carers Strategy. Our chair, Paul Blomfield presented a report from our APPG into a wider review being undertaken by the APPG for Carers.



Carers Week 2023

To mark Carers Week in June, the APPG organised an MP drop-in for parliamentarians who had not yet signed the pledge for young carers and young adult carers.

We were delighted to be joined by more than 30 MPs and Peers who came in to pledge their support and speak with four young adult carers who joined us to share their experiences.

Carers Week also saw the launch of our inquiry into life opportunities for young carers and young adult carers. The inquiry is being led by Vice-Chair, Duncan Baker MP and supported by 11 youth advisors from across the country.

This is the first parliamentary inquiry specifically focused on young carers and young adult carers. It will examine both the short and long-term impact of caring responsibilities on young carers.



We also issued a response to the release of the school census data which showed that 79% of schools reported having zero young carers - a significant and concerning under-representation and one which we are raising with the Schools Minister.

Looking ahead to 2023-24

The APPG already has plans for another busy programme for the coming year. In the Autumn, we are looking to meet with the Schools Minister to discuss the results of the school census and how to improve support for young carers in school.

Our Chair, Paul Blomfield MP will be supporting the first Young Carers Futures conference in Manchester in October.

Our first inquiry report will be published in Parliament in November, and we have invited the Children's Minister, Shadow Children's Minister and Children's Commissioner for England to attend.

We will also be marking Young Carers Action Day, taking place on Wednesday 13th March 2024.

Income and expenditure statement – 20th July 2022 to 19th July 2023

£

A. <u>Balance brought forward from previous year:</u>	N/A
B. <u>Income received during the year:</u>	
i. Membership subscriptions (parliamentarians)	0
ii. Monetary donations (including external subscriptions and sponsorship)	3235.30 (Carers Trust – events)
iii. Trading income	0
iv. Interest received	0
v. Other (please explain)	0
TOTAL income	3235.30
C. <u>Expenditure during the year:</u>	
i. Employment costs (salaries, NI, pensions costs)	0
ii. Costs of contractors and freelance staff	0
iii. Visits and events (UK)	3235.30
iv. Visits and events (abroad)	0
v. Cost of generating income	0
vi. Office and communications costs	0
vii. Other (please explain)	0
TOTAL expenditure	3235.30
D. <u>Balance carried forward (A+ total B-total C)</u>	0
E. <u>Value of benefits in kind received from each source during the reporting year (in bands of up to £1,500; £1,501-£3,000; £3,001 to £4,500; £4,501 to £6,000 etc)</u> Please itemise according to the source and band	4501-6000: Secretariat support (Carers Trust)