



All-Party Parliamentary Group for Prescribed Drug Dependence

7th June Minutes 2023 – Online APPG meeting

Present: Danny Kruger MP Chair Lord Crisp Vice Chair
 Baroness Meyer Officer Earl of Sandwich Officer
 Sir Oliver Letwin Guest
 Luke Montagu Secretariat James Davies Secretariat
 Anne Guy Secretariat Co-ordinator
 Sarah Stacey Beyond Pills Campaign
 Bogdan Chiva Giurca Beyond Pills Campaign

Apologies Debbie Abrahams MP Officer Baroness Stroud Officer
 Steve Brine MP Officer Baroness Hollins Officer
 Crispin Blunt MP Officer

Item	Description	Who	By When
1	<p>Proposed evolution of the APPG-PDD to the Beyond Pills APPG</p> <p>LM outlined the proposal for the APPG to join forces with the College of Medicine (CoM) Beyond Pills Campaign, and the potential to create a total prevent and treat model for prescribed drug dependence.</p> <p>SS gave some background on the CoM BP campaign and social prescribing (SP), including the role of Dr Michael Dixon, Chair of the CoM. The campaign was formed following the publication of the National Overprescribing Review report in 2022.</p> <p>Behind both the original PDD and BP campaign is a desire for a flexible integrated approach to healthcare and wider de-medicalisation.</p> <p>All agreed that while this may seem a big step, this approach is now advocated by the NHS. It is a key measure in NHS reviews, including the 2019 PHE Review, the 2021 NOR review, which resulted in the appointment of a National Clinical Prescribing Director (Prof Tony Avery), the 2022 Fuller Integrated Primary Care Stocktake Report and the Hewitt Review. The issue now is not to change minds about achieving a better balance between drugs and other non-medical approaches & access, but to shift to implementing what is already the policy, and an APPG can be a rallying point and help the system to change.</p> <p>The meeting clarified that the APPG is for the whole of the UK, and the proposal will be taken forward to the AGM for a formal decision.</p>	DK / Sec	Nov / Dec
2	<p>Mission and objectives</p> <p>A draft mission, objectives and possible priorities for this evolution of</p>		

	the APPG were discussed. Sec to continue to work on. Immediate actions were agreed to respond to the Major Conditions Strategy call for evidence and to develop a consensus statement on de-medicalising approaches to mental health (meeting planned for 16th June)	Sec Sec	27/6 16/6
3	<p>Election manifestos: Initial thoughts of the potential ask centre on the Beyond Pills APPG proposing a shift from the dominant biomedical approach to mental health to a biopsychosocial model of support, rooted in the community. To achieve this, we propose the provision and funding of community-based alternatives to pills for mental health support, including social prescribing integrated with safe deprescribing services, delivered via wellbeing hubs for all (not just U25s). Sec to continue to work on this.</p> <p>Agreed that DK would approach relevant Labour colleagues to become co-chair and to help with inclusion in manifesto. NC flagged the need to encompass physical health too – SP does a lot of work not only for MH (this maybe about degree).</p>	Sec DK Sec	
4	<p>Recruiting a Labour co-chair and additional members DK to approach DA re MCS & being co-chair from the next AGM.</p>	DK	
5	<p>Current media activity Upcoming Panorama – 19th June, 1 hour special, talking to Daily Mail re parallel stories. DK to pick up with a SPAD at DHSC – Sec to pick up with DK afterwards – best possible response would be to commission a helpline</p>	Sec	
6	AOB including date of next meeting – Nov/Dec for launch	Sec	