

All-Party Parliamentary Group on

Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME)

# **Biomedical Research and Funding**

Meeting minutes

3 March 2020, 1 pm, PCH Room Q

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#### **Attendees**

Angus MacNeil MP (representative) Carol Monaghan MP

Caroline Nokes MP

Edward Davey MP (representative)

Ellie Reeves MP (representative)

Fleur Anderson MP

Jacob Young MP

James Davies MP

Jason McCartney MP

Jim Shannon MP

Kate Green MP (representative)

Laurence Robertson MP

Liz Twist MP (representative)

Mark Tami MP

Michael Tomlinson MP (representative)

Neale Hanvey MP

Sally-Ann Hart MP

Sharon Hodgson MP (representative)

Siobhan Baillie MP

Scott Mann MP

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#### 1. Welcome

The meeting began at 1 pm and Carol Monaghan MP, Chair of the ME APPG, welcomed all attendees, explained the meeting purpose and introduced the guest speakers.

The aim of the meeting was to hear from experts in the area of ME biomedical research and funding and use their contributions to produce a report paper on key issues impacting ME sufferers.

### 2. Presentations

- a. Professor Julia Newton, Newcastle University
- b. Professor Chris Ponting, University of Edinburgh
- c. Dr Eliana Lacerda, UK ME Biobank

#### 3. Q&A Discussion

There were a number of topics covered: genetic biomarkers, the stigma associated with ME, learning and research collaboration with specialists of other illnesses (e.g. MS, rheumatoid arthritis and other fatigue-related illnesses), barriers to MRC funding and the possible impact of coronavirus.

#### 4. AOB and Close

Carol Monaghan MP thanked speakers for their insights and suggestions.

## 5. Next Meeting

The next meeting has been provisionally booked for 29/04/2020.

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