



**Sure Start Children's Centres All Party  
Parliamentary Group**



**Inaugural AGM Minutes**

**5 – 6pm, Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> of March, 2010**

**Room 0, Portcullis House**

**Present:**

Hilary Armstrong MP (arrived at the close of the meeting)  
Annette Brooke MP  
Caroline Flint MP  
Baroness Howe  
Veronica King (Day Care Trust)  
Anne Longfield (4Children)  
Claire McCarthy (4Children)  
Kate Mulley (Action for Children)  
Oliver Parsons (4Children)  
Jacqui Smith MP  
Ryan Shorthouse on behalf of Maria Miller MP  
Dari Taylor MP  
Eleanor Thompson (4Children)

**1) Election of officers**

Annette Brooke was elected chair – proposed by Caroline Flint and seconded by Jacqui Smith

Caroline Flint was elected Vice Chair - proposed by Annette Brooke and seconded by Jacqui Smith

Maria Miller was elected Vice Chair proposed by Annette Brooke and seconded by Caroline Flint

**2) Getting 20 MPs/Lords signed up**

A short discussion was held about the procedure for registering the group and the number needed. It was confirmed that we have about 20 people signed up and that we would register the group in the next 28 days. It was agreed everyone would ask other colleagues who might be interested to join as well.

**3) Update on shout out for a sure start campaign**

Anne Longfield gave an overview of the campaign, reported on the campaign launch, the website and social media presence and about building the

campaign up. Claire McCarthy talked about the importance of engaging the workforce in the campaign.

#### **4) Priorities for the group**

A discussion then took place about the issues and priorities for the group. Areas identified for discussion included how to improve centres' outreach systems and attract more disadvantaged families; how to ensure local services were 'joined up', how to address possible funding stream cuts; the governance of centres, the importance of the link with health services.

#### **5) Mission Statement**

It was agreed that 4Children would put together a draft mission statement to be circulated for comment.

#### **6) Next meeting**

The group agreed to meet again after the general election.

