



Meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Children Who Need Palliative Care

Wednesday 23 June 2021
1pm-2:30pm

Attendees

- Caroline Ansell MP
- Peter Dowd MP
- Dr Caroline Johnson MP
- Siobhain McDonagh MP
- Rt Hon Stephen Timms MP
- Baroness Masham
- Baroness Finlay
- Baroness Brinton

Summary

- The meeting marked Children's Hospice Week 2021 and gave MPs and Peers an opportunity to hear about new data from Together for Short Lives and to discuss how government can improve access to 24/7 children's palliative care in England.
- Together for Short Lives presented new data on how children's hospices across England are being funded both charitably and by the state.
- The APPG heard how the services children's hospices provide to seriously ill children and their families have been affected by the pandemic.
- The meeting was also an important opportunity to learn what the APPG and Together for Short Lives have found from their joint work to map children's palliative care services across England – and, in particular, children and families' access to end of life care and symptom management at home, out of hours and at weekends.
- MPs and peers had a chance to discuss the findings – and to consider what policy action the APPG should recommend that ministers take to secure 24/7 access to community-based children's palliative care.