



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

Tuesday 20 June 2023  
1pm-2pm

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### Parliamentary attendees

- Lord Balfe (Co-Chair)
- Daisy Cooper MP
- Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP
- Steve McCabe MP
- Helen Whately MP

### Non-parliamentary attendees

- Tina Ahang, Together for Short Lives
- Liam Ashton
- Britt Armstrong-Gash
- Sue Bottomley
- James Cooper, Together for Short Lives
- Martin Edwards, Julia's House Children's Hospice
- Paul Farthing, Shooting Star Children's Hospices
- Andy Fletcher, Together for Short Lives
- David Pastor, Claire House Children's Hospice
- Mark Smith, Naomi House & Jacksplace Hospices for Children and Young Adults

### Summary

- The meeting was held to mark Children's Hospice Week 2023. Children Hospice Week celebrates children's hospice and palliative care services across the UK, and

the seriously ill children and young people they support. This year it took place between 19-25 June 2023.

- The meeting began with a speech from Britt Armstrong-Gash, parent to Zoe. Britt told the APPG about her experience of caring for a seriously ill child and the impact that the care and support provided by Shooting Star Children's Hospice has had on her, Zoe and her family.
- Liam Ashton, a young person who received care at Claire House Children's Hospice, then shared his story and the support the hospice provided him and his family.
- Andy Fletcher, Chief Executive of Together for Short, Lives shared findings of how children's hospices are being funded by the NHS.
- Paul Farthing (Chief Executive, Shooting Star Children's Hospices), Mark Smith (Chief Executive, Naomi House & Jacksplace Hospices for Children and Young Adults) and David Pastor (Chief Executive, Claire House Children's Hospice) about their experience of statutory funding for their services.
- Helen Whately MP, Minister of State for Social Care and Sue Bottomley, National Programme Director, Palliative and End of Life Care at NHS England, spoke about the future of the Children's Hospice Grant beyond 2023/24.
- The minister gave a verbal commitment to NHSE providing £25 million of funding to children's hospices in 2024/25.
- The APPG then had an opportunity to ask questions of speakers and to discuss the issue of children's hospice funding in more detail.