



All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Visitor Economy

Chairs: Nigel Huddleston MP & Margaret Ritchie MP

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Date and Time: 23 November 2016, 16:00

Location: Macmillan Room, Portcullis House

Theme: Hospitality & Tourism Apprenticeships and Skills Report Launch

Present (Parliamentarians): Margaret Ritchie MP (Co-Chair), Nigel Huddleston MP (Co-Chair), Albert Owen MP, Alan Mak MP, Hannah Bardell MP, Steve Double MP, Scott Mann MP, Tom Elliott MP, Mark Williams MP, Michael Tomlinson MP, John Penrose MP, Martin Vickers MP, Mark Durkan MP, Lord Glasgow, Lord Empey

Non-Parliamentarians present: Ufi Ibrahim – British Hospitality Association (Secretariat), Vernon Hunte – British Hospitality Association (Secretariat), Louise Doyle – British Hospitality Association (Secretariat), Stephanie Wybourn - British Hospitality Association (Secretariat), Ian Lindsley – Campaign to Cut Tourism VAT, David Felton – Campaign to Cut Tourism VAT, Sara Williams - Campaign to Cut Tourism VAT, Hannah Lane - Campaign to Cut Tourism VAT, Chris Knutsen – Campaign to Cut Tourism VAT, Timothy Jenkins – Visit Britain, , Haf Davies – assistant to Kevin Brennan MP, Karen Lumley MP’s assistant, Andrew Evans – St Bride’s Hotel, Annette Allmark – People 1st, Bobbie Davies – Westminster Advisors, Brian McKeown – Department for Work and Pensions, Dee Smith – Springboard, Emma Gaymer – Surrey University, Genevieve Bach – Compass Group, Giles Smith – Civil Service, Giovanni Andrew – Jurys Inn, Heike Becker – Hyatt Hotels, Liam Ferguson – Hyatt Hotels, Jan Marshall – Marriott Hotels, Joanne Meredith – The Ritz, Louis Smith – Lancaster London, Louise Routh – Springboard, Mary Doogan – Grange Hotels, Michelle Dawson - Battersea Power Station Development Company, Natalie Penge – Civil Service, Richard Prescott – Whitbread PLC, Sam Coulstock – Umbrella Training, Sarah Nerys-Judge – Hyatt Hotels, Serena von der Heyde – Georgian House Hotel, Tara Tewarie – Tottenham Hotspur, Tony Sophocles - Association of Licensed Multiple Retailers, Wendy Bartlett – Bartlett Mitchell, Andy Townsend – Legacy Hotels, Anne Pierce MBE – Springboard, Deirdre Wells - UKInbound

Introduction from Co-Chair Margaret Ritchie MP

Margaret Ritchie MP welcomed everyone to the event. She detailed how this was the first inquiry the APPG has undertaken and thanked those that provided written and oral evidence for this project. Margaret detailed the issues raised, such as shortcomings in the school curriculum, particularly in terms of foreign languages and a skills shortage in terms of chefs and sommeliers. She also raised the point that the report has come up with 13 recommendations based on the evidence, such as the greater use of role models in the industry.

Speech from Co-Chair Nigel Huddleston MP

Nigel welcomed everyone and thanked the various people that helped the APPG to produce the report, including those from the British Hospitality Association and the Campaign to Cut Tourism VAT. He said that despite being the UK’s 4th largest industry, hospitality and tourism industry is not

well represented in Parliament and that the APPG will continue to work to address this underrepresentation.

Speech from Vernon Hunte, British Hospitality Association

Vernon Hunte thanked those in attendance and for the Parliamentarians who are a part of the APPG for their continued support, especially in this very busy year. Vernon said there were many other projects for the APPG in the pipeline and reiterated the BHA's commitment to furthering the interests of the hospitality and tourism industry.