



All-Party Parliamentary Group Arts, Health and Wellbeing

Annual Report 2021-2022

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1. Foreword

We are delighted to present this annual report of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Arts, Health and Wellbeing. The year has seen the significant development of a new working relationship between the APPG and the National Centre for Creative Health (NCCCH), which also brings us close links to the Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance and the Lived Experience Network, as well as UCL and the Arts and Humanities Research Council as academic partners. Another range of partnerships has been developed between our APPG and other APPGs concerned especially with wellbeing, notable among them the APPG on the Health and the Natural Environment.

Our collaboration with the NCCCH in a policy review is particularly exciting, and we are most grateful to the distinguished people who have joined the Commission we have set up. This work should bear important fruit later in the year in policy recommendations to ministers and mayors.

We extend our warmest thanks to members of the secretariat: Alex Coulter, Victoria Hume, Hannah Waterson and Alexis Butt.

Tracey Crouch MP
Co-Chair
APPG on Arts, Health and Wellbeing

Rt Hon. Lord Howarth of Newport CBE
Co-Chair
APPG on Arts, Health and Wellbeing

2. Introduction

This Annual Report covers the period from the Inaugural Meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group which was on 14th December 2021.

At the Inaugural Meeting the following Officers were appointed:

Chair and Registered Contact: Tracey Crouch MP
Co-Chair: Rt Hon. Lord Howarth of Newport
Vice-Chair: Rt Hon. Baroness Morgan of Cotes
Vice-Chair: Baroness Meacher
Vice-Chair: Rachel Hopkins MP
Treasurer: Baroness Andrews

3. Speeches in Parliament

Lord Howarth of Newport contributed to the debates on the Health and Care Bill as it passed through the House of Lords. You can read a summary of his speeches here:

<https://ncch.org.uk/blog/creative-health-and-the-health-and-care-bill> and here:

<https://ncch.org.uk/blog/creative-health-and-the-health-and-care-bill-update-23-march-2022> .

Lord Howarth's amendments were supported in speeches by [Lord Crisp](#), [Baroness Greengross](#), [Baroness Morris of Yardley](#), [Baroness Finlay of Llandaff](#), [Baroness Pitkeathly](#) and sponsored by The Lord Bishop of London. Lord Howarth proposed a review of creative health. The NCCH and the APPG agreed to take this proposal forward (see 7.)

4. Meetings with Ministers

Tracey Crouch had a meeting with Lord Parkinson which led to a meeting between Lord Howarth, Alex Coulter and Lord Parkinson. Alex Coulter and Lord Howarth met with Lord Mendoza.

5. APPG meetings and webinars

23rd March 2022 – A meeting to introduce members of the APPG to the work of the NCCH, CHWA and the Lived Experience Network (LENs).

25th May 2022 – Joint event on the Pandemic and Beyond Research Programme. Speakers included Sir Nick Serota, Chair of Arts Council England, Lord Parkinson, Lord Howarth: <https://pandemicandbeyond.exeter.ac.uk/policy/webinars/>. This was attended by 90+ people with a further 88 people viewing on YouTube.

14th June 2022 – Online webinar on young people, co-production, creativity and mental health services during Creativity and Wellbeing Week. Our thanks to Rachel Hopkins MP who chaired the event. Projects represented included Branching Out with Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination; GM Creative Health City Region and the i-Thrive Arts, Culture and Mental Health Programme; and Greater London's Thriving Through Culture programme. We heard from young people involved in co-production as part of Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Eating Disorder Service and from Dr Daisy Fancourt, Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Arts & Health at UCL.

The webinar was attended by 290 people and has been viewed on YouTube by a further 215 people: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MunXmvP78GY&t=2878s>

6. Joint working with other APPGs

The APPG on Health and the Natural Environment convenes regular get togethers for Chairs and Secretariats of APPGs with a remit for wellbeing. The secretariat for the APPG on Health and the Natural Environment is provided by the National Academy for Social Prescribing. Our Co-Chairs have attended two meetings to discuss joint working.

Alex Coulter gave a presentation on ‘*Creativity and the Natural Environment – the benefits for health and wellbeing. An overview of recent evidence and current research programmes*’ at a meeting held by the APPG on Health and the Natural Environment on 5th July.

7. Creative Health Review

The APPG and the NCCH launched a Review of Creative Health on Thursday 13th October. The online launch event was attended by over 400 people and viewed by a further 253 since then: <https://ncch.org.uk/blog/creative-health-review-launches>

The purpose of the Review is to highlight the potential for creative health to help tackle pressing issues in health and social care and more widely, including health inequalities and the additional challenges we face as we recover from Covid-19. Central to the Review are a series of themed public roundtables held between October 2022 and May 2023. A panel of commissioners, with a wide breadth of expertise will consider current evidence in the context of relevant policy and develop recommendations to encourage and inform the development of a cross-governmental creative health strategy.

The Review is intended to make progress towards Recommendation 2 in the [Creative Health Report](#):

We recommend that the Secretaries of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Health, Education and Communities and Local Government develop and lead a cross-governmental strategy to support the delivery of health and wellbeing through the arts and culture.

The commissioners are:

Tracy Brabin, Mayor of West Yorkshire
Madeleine Bunting, Author and Journalist
Tracey Crouch CBE MP
Dame Caroline Dinenage DBE MP
Professor Ilora Finlay, Baroness Finlay of Llandaff
Monty Don OBE, Garden Writer and Broadcaster
Dr Darren Henley CBE, Chief Executive Arts Council England
Rt Hon. Lord Howarth of Newport CBE
Kwame Kwei-Armah OBE, Artistic Director, Young Vic
Professor Sir Michael Marmot, Professor of Epidemiology, UCL
Professor Martin Marshall CBE, GP and Chair Nuffield Trust
Rt Hon. Baroness Estelle Morris of Yardley

James Sanderson, Director of Community Health and Personalised Care, NHS England
Rob Webster CBE, Chief Executive of NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Alice Wiseman, Director of Public Health, Gateshead
Baroness Lola Young of Hornsey OBE

You can read the commissioners' biographies here: <https://ncch.org.uk/commissioners>

Themes and [Roundtables](#)

Theme 1 - Mental Health and Wellbeing across the Life Course

Roundtable: Thursday October 27th 2022 10am - 12 noon

An increasing number of people are living with mental health conditions, but many face barriers in accessing NHS services. With a new long-term government strategy planned to address these issues, this theme looks at how creative health can be used to improve mental health and wellbeing.

[Watch the recording of this roundtable here >>](#)

[Roundtable overview and recommendations >>](#)

Theme 2 - Health Inequalities

Roundtable: Thursday December 1st 2022 -10am - 12 noon

People living in less wealthy areas, and people from certain populations die earlier and have a poorer quality of life than others. Creative health approaches can be used to improve health outcomes, and to develop culturally appropriate and accessible services. We know that where people are born, live, work and age has a huge impact on their health and so this theme looks beyond healthcare, also thinking about the role of culture and creativity in improving the places people live and strengthening communities.

[Watch the recording of this roundtable here >>](#)

[Roundtable overview and recommendations >>](#)

Future Roundtables

Theme 3 - Social Care

Roundtable: Thursday January 26th 2023 - 10am-12 noon

In this theme, we look at how the innovative ways in which creative health improves the health and wellbeing of people in social care and how creative health approaches can help tackle some of the challenges the sector faces.

Theme 4 - End of Life Care and Bereavement

Roundtable: Tuesday February 7th 2023 10am - 12 noon

Creative approaches are commonly used in end of life care to improve wellbeing and quality of life, helping people to process and express emotion and maintain human connection. Creativity can also play an important role during bereavement and grief

Theme 5 - Education and Training

Roundtable: Thursday March 9th - 10am-12 noon

In this theme, we look at the importance of creativity for the emotional development of children at school, as well as at how creative health approaches can be used within education

and training for healthcare professionals, education and training for artists, and the professional development of the creative health workforce.

Theme 6 - Cost-effectiveness, Evidencing Value for Money and Funding Models

Roundtable: Thursday April 27th - 10am - 12 noon

It is important that we can explain and justify investment in creative health. This may require the development of new ways to measure cost-effectiveness and social value. This theme looks at how we demonstrate the value of creative health. We will also think about sustainable funding and commissioning models for the sector.

Theme 7 - Leadership and Strategy - Embedding Creative Health in Integrated Care Systems

Roundtable: Tuesday May 16th - 10am - 12 noon

Work is already underway to integrate creative health into health systems and across local authorities. Building on this, we will identify best practice for embedding creative health and consider how this can be further supported by national policy.

8. Secretariat

The Secretariat for the APPG is provided by the National Centre for Creative Health (NCCH) and the Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance (CHWA). Alex Coulter, Director of NCCH manages the secretariat with the support of Victoria Hume, Director of CHWA.

The webpages for the APPG are hosted on the website of the Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance. Minutes from meetings, annual reports and other documents are publicly available: <https://www.culturehealthandwellbeing.org.uk/who-we-are/appg>

The APPG has a memorandum of understanding with NCCH which covers the role of the secretariat and gives NCCH responsibility for maintaining personal data as the Data Processor for the APPG in accordance with the principles and legal obligations of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and related legislation.

9. Finance

The APPG holds no funds itself. APPG finances are managed by NCCH and governance oversight is provided by the Board of Trustees of NCCH. The secretariat provides in-kind support for the APPG and over the last year has provided the following time:

Alex Coulter, Director of NCCH - 55.5 hours

Hannah Waterson, Policy and Research Lead, NCCH - 210.5 hours

Alexis Butt, General Manager, NCCH - 117.5 hours

Victoria Hume, Director CHWA - 25 hours

Edna Petzen, Communications consultant – 22.5 hours

The total cost of this is **£9836**

The NCCH is funded by The Baring Foundation, Oak Foundation and Paul Hamlyn Foundation. CHWA is funded by Arts Council England.