

MEMBERSHIP

- Association of British Professional Conference Organisers
- Association for Conferences and Events
- Association for Events Management Education
- Conference Centres of Excellence
- Department for Culture, Media & Sport
- Eventia
- European Federation of Professional Conference Organisers
- Events Industry Alliance
- Events Industry Forum
- Hotel Booking Agents Association
- International Congress & Convention Association
- International Special Events Society
- Meet England
- Meetings Industry Association
- Meetings Professionals International
- National Outdoors Events Association
- Northern Ireland Tourist Board
- Site Global
- UK Inbound
- UK Trade & Investment
- VisitBritain
- Visit London
- VisitScotland
- Visit Wales

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24th March 2011

All Party Parliamentary Group for Events Established Inaugural meeting of MP's and Peers held this week

24th March 2011: The first All Party Parliamentary Group for Events (APPG) was formally established this week after a meeting at the House of Commons to elect officers.

Nick De Bois MP, Conservative Member for Enfield North, was elected Chair of the APPG, with Ian Murray, Labour Member for Edinburgh South acting as Vice Chair. Steve Brine and Paul Uppal were elected as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

A total of 27 MP's and Peers have so far put their names forward to join the APPG.

A number of issues were discussed at the first meeting, including the future level of Government support for the Events Sector, given VisitBritain's withdrawal from business tourism, and the need to further engage with Ministers and Government Departments in the support of bids for major international events along with the issue of subvention practices relative to what competitor countries offered.

The importance of events at a local level was discussed and the need to also inform local authority managers and elected representatives of the role events can play in the community and in raising local revenues. Plans to compile an Event Management Guide to include Health & Safety guidelines with input from across Whitehall departments were also discussed.

The first business meeting of the APPG will be held on Monday 13th June, and Kevin Murphy, CEO at Excel London, will address the Group about business events. There will also be an industry leader from the leisure events sector to brief members on outdoor and cultural events and festivals. A number of familiarisation visits to venues and major events for the Group are also being organised.

The establishment of the first APPG for Events is designed to improve links to Parliament and Government and to gain greater recognition for the £36 billion UK events industry. This follows a reception at the House of Commons, organised by the Business Visits & Events Partnership last October, during the highly successful Britain for Events campaign, which was attended by Members of Parliament and Peers from the House of Lords.

Both the Event Industry Forum (EIF) and The Business Visits & Events Partnership are supporting the initiative and Phil Mist of the Hire Trade Alliance is acting as Secretariat for the Group.

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www.businessvisitsandeventspartnership.com

Business Visits & Events Partnership

LEADING THE WAY FOR BRITAIN'S EVENTS

Michael Hirst OBE, Chairman of the BVEP said; *“The creation of an APPG specifically for the events sector is a major step forward for our industry and was one of Partnership's key manifesto pledges. The enthusiasm for this Group within Parliament and the sheer number of MP's and Peers seeking to join demonstrates the interest in our sector and will significantly help us to communicate the importance of events to both Parliament and Government.”*

Other members of the APPG include;

Esther McVey	Con	Wirral West
Karen Lumley	Con	Redditch
Laura Sandys	Con	South Thanet
Paul Uppal	Con	Wolverhampton South
Mark Menzies	Con	Fylde
Caroline Dineage	Con	Gosport
Jack Dromey	Lab	Birmingham Erdington
Michael Dugher	Lab	Barnsley East
Tom Greatrex	Lab	Rutherglen & Hamilton West
Tony Lloyd	Lab	Manchester Central
Ian Murray	Lab	Edinburgh South
Stephen Timms	Lab	East Ham
Don Foster	Lib Dem	Bath
Adrian Saunders	Lib Dem	Torbay
Lord Lee	Lib Dem	of Trafford
Anas Sarwar	Lab	Glasgow Central
Richard Harrington	Con	Watford
Charlotte Leslie	Con	Bristol North West
John Cryer	Lab	Leyton and Wanstead
Emily Thornberry	Lab	Islington
Dan Byles	Con	North Warwickshire and Bedworth
John Pugh	Lib Dem	Southport
Steve Brine	Con	Winchester
Kevin Brennan	Lab	Cardiff West
Connor Burns	Con	Bournemouth West

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About the Business Visits & Events Partnership

The Business Visits and Events Partnership's aim is to lead the way in supporting a competitive, high quality and more profitable business visits and events sector in Britain. The Partnership seeks to provide a cohesive industry voice and works with VisitBritain and other government departments and agencies to influence and develop policies and practices favourable to the growth of tourism, trade and creative enterprise from business visits and events and with the support of the leading trade organisations and government agencies with an interest in conferences, meetings, exhibitions, trade fairs, incentive travel, corporate hospitality, and business, sporting, cultural and festival events.

Members of the BVEP include;

• Association of British Professional Conference Organisers	• Meet England
• Association for Conferences and Events	• Meetings Industry Association
• Association for Events Management Education	• Meeting Professionals International
• Conference Centres of Excellence	• National Outdoors Events Association
• Department for Culture, Media & Sport	• Northern Ireland Tourist Board
• Eventia	• UK Inbound
• Events Industry Alliance	• UK Trade & Investment
• Events Industry Forum	• VisitBritain
• Hotel Booking Agents Association	• Visit London
• International Congress & Convention Association	• VisitScotland
• International Special Events Society	• Visit Wales

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