

APPG on FinTech Inaugural Meeting - Meeting Notes

Date and time: Tuesday 10 September, 13:00 - 14:00

Location: Room S, Portcullis House, SW1A 2JR

Attendees:

1. Luke Charters MP
2. Samantha Niblett MP
3. Alistair Strathern MP
4. Adam Jogee MP
5. Lord Vaux of Harrowden
6. Jake Verity, Senior Parliamentary Assistant, Office of Luke Charters MP
7. Amelia Martinez, Director of Ecosystem, Innovate Finance
8. Megan Jenkins, Policy and Public Affairs Manager, Innovate Finance
9. Christopher Foo, International Policy Associate, Innovate Finance

Discussion:

1. Welcome

- The Chair welcomed attendees and noted FinTech is a crucial and big player in the UK economy, with its contribution to the UK economy totalling £11 billion a year.

2. Election of the Group’s Chair

Motion: Election of the Group’s proposed co-Chairs as listed below

Luke Charters MP	Chair
Samantha Niblett MP	Co-chair

Result: unanimously approved

3. Election of the Group’s Officers

Motion: Election of two Officers from the Group of candidates as listed below.

Lord McNicol of West Kilbride
Lord Vaizey of Didcot

Result: unanimously approved

4. Election of the Secretariat

Motion: Election of Innovate Finance as the Group’s Secretariat

Result: unanimously approved

5. Overview of Agenda of Work

- The Chair opened the discussion by suggesting that the Group convene FinTechs and Ministers to Parliament for events, such as a breakfast roundtables.

- The Co-Chair noted the opportunities before us are huge with regards to helping FinTechs continue to drive the economy and noted 60% of SME funding is done by FinTech and recent developments around banking licences. Attendees noted the role of FinTech in SME lending, Basel 3.1 and access to finance for UK FinTechs as other areas of interest.
- The Co-Chair added that more can be done to break down what FinTech means for people especially as proposals such as APP fraud rules will impact smaller banks who might be blown away by the rules. Fraud prevention should therefore be a priority area to cover.
- The Co-Chair added that financial inclusion, including wealth management, should also be a priority area for the Group, with GoHenry, Zeed and Kestrl as potential firms to engage with. This includes skills development, particularly with regards to AI and blockchain. The Chair noted a focus on AI could also cover how it can be leveraged to deliver better customer outcomes.
- The Chair stated financial crime is an interest, particularly on how data can be leveraged to tackle fraud and grow RegTech, and noted the upcoming Westminster Hall debate on *“Impact of financial fraud and economic crime”*. Attendees agreed the debate can be used to amplify the need for shared liability and responsibility to tackle fraud at the source.
- The Secretariat added that priorities for the sector include digital assets more broadly and crypto regulation and that a workstream on this focusing on developing a good regulatory environment would be helpful. Furthermore, the regulatory regime for Buy-Now Pay-Later (BNPL) would be of interest.
- The Chair asked about the current state of BNPL regulation, especially in relation to FCA authorisations. The Secretariat outlined the current state of play with regards to regulating the BNPL sector and shared details of its proposals for a regulatory framework. The Co-Chair suggested BNPL should be a standalone workstream, alongside a focus on creating more British unicorns in this post-Brexit era. The Chair agreed.
- The Secretariat shared examples of FinTech firms willing to engage with the Group in the coming months.
- Attendees agreed the Group should look to hold a meeting or event every six weeks.
- The Co-Chair and Secretariat agreed to share links between women in scale-up FinTechs.

6. AOB.

7. Closing Remarks

- The Chair thanked attendees and closed the meeting.

Website

<https://appgfintech.org.uk/>

Contact

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