



## BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGIES

### All-Party Parliamentary Group

Minutes from the Blockchain Technologies All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) Inaugural Meeting

Date: Monday, 17 March 2025, 3 PM.

Venue: Room U, Portcullis House

#### **In attendance:**

##### Parliamentarians

- Matt Vickers MP
- Lord Goddard of Stockport
- John Lamont MP
- Lord Wei of Shoreditch
- The Lord Roborough
- Lord Taylor of Warwick

##### Secretariat (The British Blockchain Association):

- Prof Dr Naseem Naqvi MBE
- Racheal Muldoon
- Larisa Yarovaya
- Lewis Rogers
- Deborah Cleary

##### Apologies:

- The Lord Boateng
- Danny Kruger MP
- Lord McNicol of West Kilbride
- The Lord Triesman

#### **1. Welcome from the APPG Chair, Matt Vickers MP**

- a. Matt Vickers MP welcomed attendees to the inaugural AGM and was pleased to note that the APPG has strong cross-party support. He thanked all member MPs and Lords for their support of the Group and mentioned plans to deliver impactful initiatives over the course of the APPG's term, and to explore how Blockchain, Cryptoassets and Web3 technologies can help build a smart Britain.
- b. Matt Vickers MP added that it was important that Government, regulators, Parliament and the blockchain sector were able to come together to discuss challenges and opportunities offered by Blockchain technologies.

#### **2. Remarks from APPG Secretariat, Prof Naseem Naqvi MBE:**

Naseem Naqvi highlighted that in order to build a thriving Blockchain ecosystem in the UK, there is a need for stakeholder engagement, workforce planning, policy and regulatory clarity, industry support, and long-term strategies to ensure UK remains competitive. The



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APPG will be arranging briefings, workshops, and training sessions with experts in blockchain. These sessions will help Parliamentarians to get up-skilled and shape blockchain's future effectively. Parliamentarians agreed that the UK has a unique opportunity to lead globally in Blockchain and Cryptoasset Technologies. The UK is well-positioned to lead with a National Blockchain Roadmap, outstanding universities, a thriving science and tech ecosystem, and forums such as this APPG. Naqvi reiterated that the APPG will play a vital role in driving evidence-based evaluation and adoption of Blockchain and Web3 technologies in the UK.

#### 3. Election of officers

- a. It was moved that Matt Vickers MP would serve as Chair of the APPG. All voted in favour.
- b. It was moved that the below parliamentarians be elected as officers of the APPG. All voted in favour.

Name	Party	Position
Matt Vickers MP	Conservative	Chair
Lord Goddard of Stockport	Lib Dem	Vice Chair
Lord McNicol of West Kilbride	Labour	Vice Chair
John Lamont MP	Conservative	Officer

#### Name for APPG:

It was agreed that the name of the group would be the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Blockchain Technologies.

#### Secretariat:

It was agreed that the British Blockchain Association would support the work of the group acting as the secretariat for the APPG. Head of APPG Secretariat and BBA President, Prof Naseem Naqvi MBE provided an update on Blockchain Technologies and APPG's key objectives.

#### Programme of Work

The group agreed that a key focus for the group in Parliament would be increasing education and awareness of the potential posed by the growth of blockchain and digital assets technologies, and would explore its potential use by industry, the public sector, and overseas jurisdictions. Thirteen APPG Work Streams have been established, including DeFi, Cryptoeconomy, Research and Education, DAOs, workforce and skills planning, Blockchain for public services, to name a few.

#### Statement of Purpose

A cross-party forum for parliamentarians to examine the potential of Blockchain, Crypto-assets, and Web3 technologies in driving economic growth, and to promote the evidence-based adoption of these innovations across the United Kingdom. The group will engage industry including global firms, alongside other industry experts, international Governments and bodies to learn from best practices from around the globe.



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#### **Remarks and comments from APPG Officers and Members:**

APPG Members reiterated the need for Parliamentarians to get upskilled on key blockchain topics such as Zero knowledge proofs, Tokenisation and real-world use cases. It was suggested that Web3 educators should avoid technical jargons when speaking to non-technical policymakers and regulators and use simple language to make complex topics easy to understand. Prof Naseem Naqvi highlighted that the BBA has already organised a series of Blockchain for Policymakers workshops that have been very well received by the Parliamentarians. The BBA plans to deliver additional workshops and Masterclasses in future. It was mentioned that there is a need for colleges and schools to consider including fundamentals of blockchain in educational curriculum. The BBA suggested that the JBBA is the world's largest blockchain university network and will now explore how more colleges and schools can get involved in blockchain education. APPG members also underscored the importance of bringing on board trad-fi and Web2 firms to enable mass adoption of Web3 technologies. The importance of cost savings, efficiencies, security, and improving trust needs to be highlighted when building real-world use cases of Blockchain and digital assets.

No other business took place, and the meeting was concluded at 4 PM.

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