

can be found on its charity commission page for England and Wales (269425) and in Scotland (SC039427).

- 3.3. Does the company, group or individual providing the secretariat, the funding for the secretariat, or other benefit, have a website, or other publicly available online presence? Does this state or imply a link to any foreign government?

The National Autistic Society's website is available here: <https://www.autism.org.uk/>. The website implies no links to any foreign governments.

- 3.4. Does the company, group or individual providing the secretariat appear in press stories, or on other websites or other openly available social media sites, in connection to foreign governments, now or in the past?

The National Autistic Society has appeared in multiple press stories, and several social media profiles:

- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/NationalAutisticSociety/>),
- X (formerly Twitter) (<https://x.com/Autism>)
- LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/national-autistic-society/posts/?feedView=all>)
- YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/NationalAutisticSoc>)
- And Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/nationalautisticsociety/?hl=en>)

These have no links or connection with any foreign governments.

- 3.5. Are they registered in the UK? Do the registered officers of the company tell you anything about its ownership or links to foreign governments?

The National Autistic Society is a registered charity in England and Wales (269425) and in Scotland (SC039427), and a company limited by guarantee, registered at Companies House (01205298).

#### 4. Officer Due Diligence

I the undersigned confirm that due diligence has been undertaken to ensure that a foreign government is not the ultimate funder (of any benefit) of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Autism secretariat, as required by the House's Approval of the Committee on Standards' report on APPGs which came into effect on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Date:

Officer Name:

Alison Hume MP

## **Due Diligence Statement: All-Party Parliamentary Group on Autism**

This is not an official publication of the House of Commons or the House of Lords. It has not been approved by either House or its committees. All-Party Parliamentary Groups are informal groups of Members of both Houses with a common interest in particular issues. The views expressed in this report are those of the group.

### **1. Summary**

From 16 October 2023 a new rule came into effect prohibiting APPGs from accepting secretariat services that are either provided or funded by a foreign government.

This statement is being issued in response to due diligence by the Officers of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Autism to ascertain whether the ultimate funder of any benefit to the APPG is a foreign government, and will be made publicly available on our website: <https://www.autism.org.uk/what-we-do/campaign/england/how-we-work-with-parliament/all-party-parliamentary-group>

*This statement declares that the APPG on Autism is not provided by or funded by a foreign government.*

### **2. The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Autism**

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Autism is a cross-party group of MPs and Peers. The purpose of the group is to campaign in Parliament for greater awareness of autism, and to lobby the Government for improved services for autistic people and their parents and carers. Its secretariat is provided by The National Autistic Society.

### **3. Questions and Answers**

- 3.1. Who are the individuals forming or working for the secretariat? What other responsibilities do they have, and are they working for, or on behalf of, a foreign government?

The individuals currently working for the secretariat are Joey Nettleton-Burrows, Policy and Public Affairs Manager, and Kate Wilson, Assistant Parliamentary Officer. They are paid employees working for the National Autistic Society, the UK's leading charity for autistic people and their families. No person involved in the secretariat is funded, directly or indirectly, by any foreign government.

- 3.2. Are the individuals in the secretariat paid, employed, or voluntary? If they are employed or paid, by whom, and who is funding them? If the secretariat is provided by a company or group, how is that company or group funded?

The individuals in the APPG secretariat are paid employees working for The National Autistic Society (NAS). NAS is a registered charity. Information about how NAS is funded