



House of Commons
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Sarah Champion
Member of Parliament for Rotherham

Immediate release
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Rotherham MP to become chair of Parliamentary group on victims

Sarah Champion, the Member of Parliament for Rotherham, has been appointed the Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Victims and Witnesses of Crime. Sarah won the coveted position following a ballot of MPs from all political parties.

Sarah's involvement with the group – whose aim is to promote the rights and interests of victims of crime – is a natural progression from her continual campaigning on behalf of the victims of child sexual abuse, which has recently seen her change the law on child grooming.

The APPG for Victims and Witnesses of Crime addressed areas such as the process of giving evidence for a crime, what rights should be put in place for victims and witnesses, and what support should be given to victims and witnesses after a crime should take place. The group seeks to put victims' issues on the map, and with her background campaigning on issues such as child sexual exploitation and the privatisation of probation, Sarah is well placed to do just that.

Sarah commented: "I am excited to become the new chair of the APPG for Victims and Witnesses of crime. I have already spoken in Parliament many times on this sensitive policy area, most recently supporting new ideas around how vulnerable witnesses give evidence.

"I am looking forward to the year ahead and hope to bring about a real change to the experiences of victims and witnesses of crime: too often the voice of victims goes unheard because they are too traumatised or scared to speak up. It is time that we changed that culture and put into place positive, supportive mechanisms for victims and witnesses of crime."

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Notes to Editors:

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