

## APPG for Alevis AGM – Tuesday 23 October 2018

### Agenda:

- To elect officers of the APPG and reappoint the British Alevi Federation as the group's secretariat.
- To outline the APPG's achievements, programme of events and future agenda.

### Thanks:

The APPG wishes to thank the British Alevi Federation for their support as the group's secretariat and looks forward to continuing to work together in the year ahead.

### Representatives from the Alevi community in attendance:

- Chair of British Alevi Federation (BAF) – Mr Israfil Erbil
- Representative from British Alevi Women's Association (BAWA)
- Representative from British Alevi Youth Federation (BAYF)
- BAF representatives from North England, South England, Scotland and Wales
- Alevi Councillors – including Cllr Tolga Aramaz, Cllr Guney Dogan, Cllr Ergin Erbil

### The year in review:

- Secured first debate on Turkey in the main House of Commons Chamber for six years. This was also the first time that a government minister used the word 'Alevi' in a Parliamentary debate, on 7 June.
  - **The Minister for Asia and the Pacific (Mark Field):**  
*"The FCO will strongly support protection of the rights of minority groups in Turkey, including Kurdish and Alevi communities, among others. I call today on the Turkish authorities to safeguard their welfare and respect their human rights."*
- Grand opening of the British Alevi federation's new Headquarters in Edmonton, on 29 October 2017.
- Launch of Hornsey Cemevi, on 7 January 2018.
- Meeting of the APPG and the BAF, press call in Westminster Hall.
- Meeting of the APPG and the BAF, to discuss the Turkish election, constitutional changes and the new executive presidency, on 24 April.
- New generation of Alevi councillors elected in Enfield, at May's local elections.
- Community outreach: Joan Ryan MP and Kate Osamor MP visits to Liverpool Cemevi.
- Grew APPG membership – there are now 22 MPs from all political parties and both Houses of Parliament.

### Future events and the year ahead:

- **British and European Alevi Women's Association – Elimination of Violence Against Women Event Wednesday 21 November, 7-9pm, Attlee Suite**
  - This event comes ahead of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, on 25 November, and is an opportunity for the Alevi community to show their support for this vital day of awareness. Gender equality is one of the pillars of Alevism and all forms of violence are condemned.
- **British Alevi Federation Parliamentary Reception Tuesday 4 December, 7-9pm, Grand Committee Room**
  - Reception to welcome members of the Alevi community to Parliament, recognising the great contribution that they have made to British society and reaffirming the APPG's commitment to ensure that their rights and religion are recognised both here and overseas. This reception will commemorate the victims of the Maras Massacre in 1978, where over 100 Alevi citizens in the city of Kahramanmaraş were killed by the neo-fascist Grey Wolves group.
- The APPG will continue to make representations to the FCO and other government departments, to raise awareness about issues affecting the Alevi community.

**Mission Statement:** the APPG for Alevis was established to recognise the important contribution that the Alevi community makes to British society; to ensure that British Alevis are represented in Parliament by giving them a platform to express their legitimate socio-political aspirations, so they achieve recognition for their rights and religion in Britain and overseas.