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**Press Release**

**APPG on Adoption and Permanence launches Call for Evidence from self-employed adopters**

Today, the APPG for Adoption and Permanence is launching a short Call for Evidence to hear from individuals who have been affected by the lack of an equivalent to the statutory maternity allowance for self-employed individuals. Over the past few months, the APPG has heard a number of individual stories about children and families being impacted by this gap in provision. Today’s Call for Evidence is seeking to gather further evidence about the impact, extent, and scale of this apparent loophole.

This Call for Evidence welcomes submissions from respondents living in England who have been impacted by the lack of an equivalent to the statutory maternity allowance due to self-employment during their adoption journey, whether they have gone on to welcome a child(ren) into their home through adoption, or not. It will close on **1 October 2022** and should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete. The survey can be accessed [at this link.](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HZGH53J)

**Ends**

For further information, please contact the APPG’s secretariat: [info@appgap.org.uk](mailto:info@appgap.org.uk)