

APRIL 2022

# APPLE Newsletter

Addressing Poverty with Lived Experience.



## News from the APPLE Collective

Every thought is a seed...

### WHO WE ARE:

We are the APPLE Collective.

A national collective of individuals and organisations who have experienced or are experiencing poverty.

Our aim is to create a sustainable, grassroots network across the UK to raise awareness of poverty, reduce stigma and work together with others to eradicate it.

We work collaboratively with allies to use our voice to affect change and we invite groups that have experience or are led by people who are experiencing poverty to join us and become part of the APPLE Collective.

April is the second month of spring, it is a time for planting and spring cleaning! In ancient Rome, April was sacred to the goddess Venus.

In this Newsletter, you can read more about the Good Things Foundation 'CHESS' report, in collaboration with ourselves and Nominet. You can also find out more about our involvement with the APPG on Data Poverty and our discussion on our digital divide campaign at the cross-parliament panel discussion on poverty and the cost of living crisis.

We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter, if you or your charity/organisation/group are led with lived experience of Poverty and Inequality and would like to feature in our Newsletter, visit our website at:

<https://www.applecollective.com/apple-newsletter/>

# APPLE Collective

## 'A CROSS NATION LOOK AT THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS'.

"On 26th April we were delighted to join a cross-Parliament panel discussion on poverty and the Cost of Living Crisis, bringing together representatives from the UK Parliament, Welsh Senedd and Scottish Parliament. The event was organised by the Poverty Alliance and as a Collective we were invited to share stories, particularly around the digital divide.

Dan from Starting Point joined on APPLE's behalf, to talk about our digital divide campaign and how digital exclusion is strongly interlinked with the Cost of Living crisis. He spoke about the importance of lived experience being involved in decision making, using stories from across the APPLE network, as well as achievements from our work like our Digital Campaigner Parliament Award, the Operation WiFi campaign and our ongoing partnership with Good Things Foundation. Dan also joined the panel Q&A to talk about the need for a UK-wide anti-poverty strategy and making sure that communities are at the heart of developing this.

APPLE's input at the event was very warmly received and it has helped to grow our profile, including with Welsh organisations who have the same values as APPLE." - **Dan Oliver- APPLE Collective Member/Start Point.**

## Quote

OF THE MONTH

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself,"

- Henry Ford.



APPLE are proud winners of the UK Parliament Digital Campaigners of the year 2021 Award!





# CHESS: Co-defining what counts as a 'good' solution to data poverty.

In collaboration with Good Things Foundation and Nominet.

"Data poverty is a component of the digital divide. It is defined as: "Individuals, households or communities who cannot afford sufficient, private and secure mobile or broadband data to meet their essential needs" (Lucas et al., 2021). Through our Data Poverty Lab with Nominet, we're seeking sustainable solutions to help eradicate data poverty.

Since October 2021, we've co-hosted a series of workshops with people with lived experience with APLE Collective and Friends, Families and Travellers. We did this to ground the Data Poverty Lab in people's experiences and ideas; we believe understanding and acting upon these helps to design more effective, sustainable solutions. With APLE Collective, we identified five dimensions of what makes a 'good' solution, framed as a CHESS board to support discussions. The main insights from workshops, and some implications which follow, are below; the rest of the paper outlines the analysis and methods." - **Good Things Fdn.**

"Individuals, households or communities who cannot afford sufficient, private and secure mobile or broadband data to meet their essential needs."  
(Lucas et al., 2021)

To read the full report:

<https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/insights/chess-co-defining-what-counts-as-a-good-solution-to-data-poverty/>

**CHESS: Co-defined dimensions of a 'good' solution to data poverty.**

**Cheap** – is it genuinely affordable – not just at the start but over time?

**Handy** – is it easy to find out about? Is it easy to apply for and access?

**Enough** – does it allow me to meet my essential online needs? Is it fast enough? Is there enough data?

**Safe** – does it ensure my privacy is protected, and I'm not at greater risk of harm?

**Suitable** – is it suitable for my circumstances, and flexible if these change? Will I feel stigma or loss of pride?

There is no one-size-fits-all solution. Some solutions (such as free public WiFi in community centres or libraries) will score well on some dimensions, and less well on others.

# APPG ON DATA POVERTY.

I was asked to attend the APPG on Data Poverty on Tuesday 26th April. This being my first experience of Westminster in person I was very nervous and kind of felt out of place but that was quickly rectified. MP Darron Jones started off proceedings by introducing the subject which was practical steps to close the Data Poverty gap. There were speakers from the Good Things Foundation, Nominet and BT among others and we had a good hour of networking afterwards where I was able to make some new contacts that I feel will be very beneficial for both Expert Citizens and APLE alike in their ongoing goals. - **Phil Parkes.**



## POST PANDEMIC PEOPLE POWER

Check out this brilliant report by Demos, featuring APLE Members Thrive Teesside.

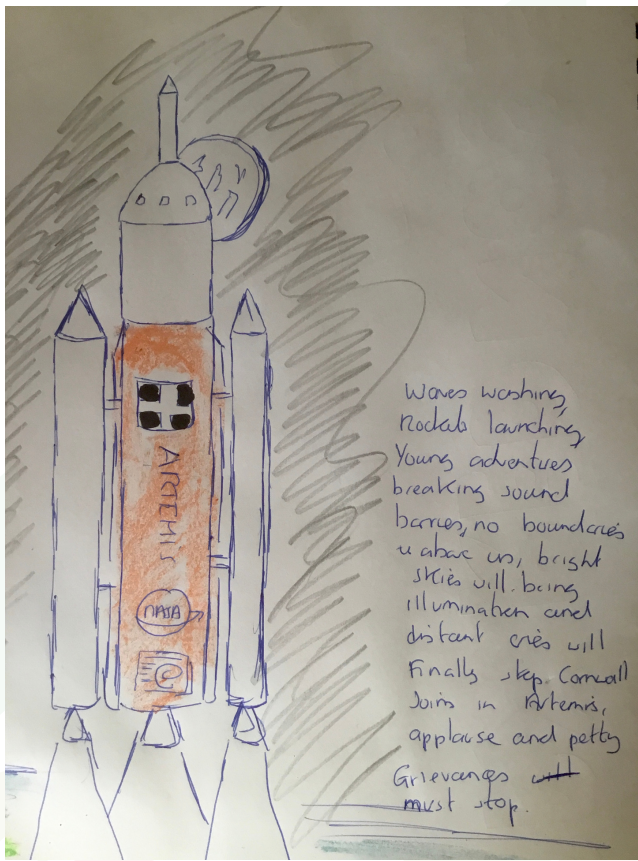
“My optimism lies in, you know, the recognition that there's a certain area of expertise that comes from experience, that is becoming more valued and able to contribute to decisions that are being made.”



## READ THE FULL REPORT HERE:

<https://peoplepower.demos.co.uk>





As #NASA launch into space this month we should also work together on earth to address poverty with lived experience #endpoverty.

**Artist: Chris Burns**

## COMING UP

- Tues 3rd May 12.30-1.15pm FIRST OF THE MONTH Sub-Group Feedback Meeting
- Weds 4th May 11-12 Campaigns & Communications Sub-Group
- Thurs 5th May 9.30-10.30am Learning Together Sub-Group
- Thurs 5th May 11-12pm Governance Sub-Group
- Tues 17th May 12.30-1.15pm APLE Networking Meeting
- Weds 18th May 11-12 Campaigns & Communications Sub-Group
- Thurs 19th May 9.30-10.30am Learning Together Sub-Group
- Thurs 19th May 11-12pm Governance Sub-Group

## APLE SPOTLIGHT



For our April Newsletter, we'd like to spotlight **Hartlepool Action Lab!**

"At Hartlepool Action Lab, we believe in the values of compassion, empathy, and social justice for everyone. We are a flexible and dynamic collection of community groups and organisations, voluntary and public sector agencies, and businesses. And we bring people together to understand the challenges experienced by the people of our town. To identify and develop working solutions that provide the people of Hartlepool routes out of the poverty trap."

Hartlepool Action Lab is made up of local people who live and work in Hartlepool and have something to offer to the task of finding solutions to poverty. The Action Lab includes individual volunteers, community organisations, voluntary organisations, social enterprises, local businesses, national businesses and public sector agencies.



**Sign up to their newsletter:**  
<http://eepurl.com/gDZviX>

**Twitter:**  
<https://twitter.com/HartActionLab>

**Website:**  
<https://www.hartlepoolactionlab.org>



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