

**The Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness
Tuesday 8th June 2021
6.00 pm to 8.00 pm, online via Webex**

Focus on: **Child Safety**

Minutes

1. Welcome:

Ms Adamson welcomed everyone back to the Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness and conveyed her thanks to former vice convener of the Group, Maurice Corry, for his support of the Group over the previous year. Mr Corry is not returning to Parliament but would like to continue to take part in the Group. Ms Adamson also conveyed her thanks to former MSPs Dave Stewart and Mark McDonald for their previous support and regular attendance. Claire Baker MSP (Labour) and Graham Simpson MSP (Conservative) were at the meeting and have indicated their wishes to attend.

Ms Adamson advised members that the meeting was being recorded for the purposes of the Minutes.

2. Present and apologies

A list of those present and apologies received is included as Appendix A to these Minutes.

3. Re-registration of the Group

Ms Adamson advised that the required registration process will be completed and returned to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee within the required 30 days from the date of this meeting.. To confirm – the purpose of this group is 'To promote all aspects of safety through safety awareness and accident prevention'. The Minutes of all meetings will be held on the Scottish Parliament website when approved at the following meeting.

4. Election of Office Bearers

Liz Lumsden invited nominations for convener of the Group. Brian Topping nominated Clare Adamson MSP and this nomination was seconded by Jan Miller. Ms Adamson went on to nominate RoSPA for the role of Secretariat; this was then seconded by Dave Roy and Brian Topping. Ms Adamson nominated Graham Simpson MSP as vice convener which was seconded by Claire Baker MSP. Ms Adamson informed the Group that Miles Briggs MSP and Mark Ruskell MSP have both indicated they would like to be members of the Group.

5. Headlines Newsletter

Liz highlighted the contents of the Headlines Newsletter and thanked those who contributed. The Group was informed that the newsletter is a great opportunity for CPG members to share information and encouraged them to provide her with content prior to each meeting. *(A copy of the Newsletter was circulated on 9th June due to the timing of some of the contents.)*

6. Date of next meeting

Ms Adamson indicated that the next meeting of the Group was likely to take place in the early autumn and that Ms Adamson and Liz will discuss the proposed theme for this, and future meetings, in due course.

7. Presentations: (when available, and where appropriate, all presentations will be uploaded to the RoSPA website at <https://www.rospa.com/about/Around-the-UK/Scotland/Cross-Party-Group>)

a) Katrina Phillips, Chief Executive, CAPT (Child Accident Prevention Trust)

“If I can buy it, it must be safe”

Katrina’s presentation centred on the dangers of neodymium magnets. These super-strong magnets are used in a variety of products and there is a growing body of evidence which demonstrates the serious dangers these can pose to children. See the alert at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-safety-alert-issued-for-small-high-powered-magnetic-products>

b) Chris Bell, National Product Safety Lead Officer, SCOTSS

“Trading Standards – Product Safety”

Chris gave the Group an insight into how Trading Standards is dealing with the trade of potentially dangerous items in the online and traditional marketplaces, with a focus on toy safety. Jim Dorman took the opportunity to also highlight his recent concerns in the article: <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/business-consumer/fidget-spinner-fears-charity-warns-1051149> Gerry Hearne of OPSS contributed information on their recent research <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/product-safety-research> and to advise that the current Product Safety Review closes on 17th June. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/product-safety-research> *(This information was also circulated to members on 10th June.)*

c) Mark Lilley, Major Trauma Coordinator, Scottish Trauma Network

“Saving lives; giving life back”

Mark gave a clinical insight, presenting two case studies of children who had ingested neodymium magnets. Mark mentioned the work they are doing in the hospital around Child Safety Week and invited those who are on Twitter to follow @ScotTraumaNwk

d) Willie Clark, National co-ordinator, Neighbourhood Watch Scotland
“Neighbourhood Watch ALERT – A Partnership Approach”
Willie informed the Group of the flexible, targeted Alert system used by Neighbourhood Watch Scotland and how it could help members with their own messaging to communities.

8. Question and Answer session

Ms Adamson informed the Group of a network run by her colleague Marion Fellows MP ‘Poverty Action Network’ which brings together local and national organisations working to tackle poverty and social injustice. Ms Adamson called for members of the Group to present to this network, suggesting perhaps NWS to inform the network of their alert system.

Ms Adamson suggested drafting a letter to the biggest online retailers (or their industry body) about the issues raised at tonight’s meeting around unsafe magnets and toy safety and is happy to take forward with Liz.

It was also suggested Clare would check the Parentclub website for any messaging around the dangers of neodymium batteries as that is where a lot of parents go for information and advice around parenting.

9. Meeting close

Ms Adamson thanked all the speakers and the members for their attendance at the meeting.

Appendix A

Attendees

MSPs

Clare Adamson	Convenor
Claire Baker	MSP
Graham Simpson	MSP

Members

Robert Atkinson	Public Health Scotland
Michael Avril	Water Safety Scotland
Christopher Bell	SCOTSS
Josh Box	SCSN
Andy Cathro	Dundee and Angus College
Willie Clark	NWS
Fred Cullum	IOSH Scotland
Jim Dorman	St Andrews First Aid
Gena Falconer	Highland Council
Geraldine Hearne	OPSS
Martin Hunt	Tartan Silk Public Relations
Marguerite Hunter Blair	Play Scotland
Bill Harley	Fife Safer Communities
Sheena Harper	RLSSUK
Kathy Jenkins	Scottish Hazards
Caroline Lawrie	SGN
Mark Lilley	Safety Advocate
Karen McDonnell	RoSPA
Jan Miller	UWS
Cherie Morgan	Play Scotland
Glen Nixon	Advice Direct Scotland

Alasdair Perry	SFRS
Katrina Phillips	CAPT
Dave Roy	Kingdom Housing Association
Konstantina Scott-Barrett	RCPCH
Duncan Spiers	Safety Advocate
Gregor Steele	SSERC
Robert Thomson	Care and Repair Scotland
Brian Topping	Safety Advocate

In attendance

Jen Foley	RoSPA (Minutes)
Elizabeth Lumsden	RoSPA (Secretariat)
Kate Barclay	Parliamentary Assistant to Clare Adamson MSP

Apologies

Vince Bowles	Scottish Autism
Maurice Corry	Safety Advocate
Scott Darroch	Gas Safe Register
Alison Gilhooly	Scottish Trauma Network
Emma Harper	MSP
Lynn Hill	Fife Safer Communities
Wayne Mackay	ESF
Jane Campbell Morrison	SAAF
Andy Murray	Canoe Scotland
Carolyn Reid	ScORSA
Caroline Wilson	The Risk Factory