

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

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| NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP |
| Cross-Party Group on Animal Welfare |
| DATE GROUP ESTABLISHED (the date of establishment is the date in this parliamentary session that the Group held its initial meeting, where the office bearers were elected and not the date that the Group was accorded recognition. All Groups should hold their AGMs on, or before, the anniversary of this date.) |
| 9/7/21 |
| DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM |
| Friday September 29 2023 |
| DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED |
| October 16 2023 |
| DATE OF PRECEDING AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 11-13 months of the previous AGM] |
| 20/10/22 |
| GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES |
| Please provide details of each meeting of the Group including the date of the meeting, a brief description of the main subjects discussed and the MSP and non-MSP attendance figures. Details of any other activities, such as visits undertaken by the Group or papers/report published by the Group should also be provided. |
| October 29 2021- Briefing from Andrew Voas, Scottish Government Veterinary Head of Animal Welfare on the government's programme relating to animal welfare issues. The main animal welfare commitments in the Programme for Government (Chapter 4) A Fairer, Greener Scotland: Programme for Government 2021-22 - gov.scot |

(www.gov.scot) are:
July 9 2021-

Re-Establish the group meeting

The purpose of the group is to provide a forum for opinion and information sharing about animal welfare; to raise awareness of the importance of animal welfare; where consensus is reached to make proposals to introduce or amend legislation concerning

animal welfare and provide information for possible parliamentary questions and motions.

This purpose is of public interest as it represents a broad spectrum of views on issues

surrounding the complex subject of animal welfare. It provides a forum for these viewpoints to come together and seek consensus and discuss issues

January 14 2022 –

Agenda item 1

Talk by Rhona O'Malley from Advocates for Rabbit Welfare

ACTION - Christine to draft a letter to Shirley Ann Somerville, Cab Sec for Education asking to add Animal Welfare to the Curriculum for Excellence in Primary Schools.

Agenda item 2

Presentation by Gill Donn from Abolish Greyhound Racing

ACTION – Gill to send her comments on the reply from GBGB, Christine will draft a response and circulate to all the members of the AW CPG. Also send response letter to GBGB.

Agenda item 3

Presentation by Sarah Dolman from Whale & Dolphin Conservation on Marine Animal Entanglement

ACTION – Finlay Carson MSP to update Maggie Chapman MSP on Rural Affairs & Islands National Environment Committee, Maggie to get an update on the Inshore Fisheries Legislation.

March 11 2022 –

Rebecca Knowles - "Farmers For Stock-Free Farming" followed by a Q&A

Ms Knowles gave a presentation on "Farmers For Stock-Free Farming" argument for livestock free farming,

Amro Hussain - Humane League, Fish Stunning followed by Q&A

Mr Hussain highlighted what they believe is a discrepancy where there is clear guidance for avoidance of unnecessary suffering at slaughter for land farm animals but not fish.

Rick Ackers - Justice for Reggie followed by Q&A

Mr Ackers highlighted this campaign to regulate online animal sales, by measures such as requiring both sellers and buyers to provide proof of ID.

Natalie Harney - Naturewatch Foundation, Canine Fertility Clinics. Q&A

Ms Harney highlighted concerns about canine fertility clinics, particularly where medical procedures are carried out by people with no veterinary training and basic "online courses" which purport to offer training in this area.

May 20 2022 –

Agenda item 2

Kirsty Jenkins, OneKind, Presented - 7 Principles of Ethical Wildlife 'Control'

1. Begin by modifying human practices
2. Justify with evidence
3. Ensure objectives are clear and achievable
4. Prioritise animal welfare
5. Maintain social acceptability
6. Conduct systematic planning
7. Make decisions based on specifics, not labels.

September 5 2022 –

Agenda item 1

Paul Reynolds, HART Wildlife Rescue, Avian Flu Presentation

Due to rescue centres not being able to take in birds, members of the public are taking birds home, which causes issues for spread of Avian Flu.

Christine Grahame MSP (Convener)

Colin Smyth MSP (Deputy Convener)

Alison Johnstone MSP (Deputy Convener)

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|-----------------------|---|
| Elsbeth Stirling | Cat Neutering Campaign, |
| Andy Swinburne | Naturewatch Foundation, |
| Gillian Docherty | Scotland Against Greyhound Exploitation (SAGE), |
| Jaqueline Brown | SAGE & Scottish Greyhound Sanctuary, |
| John Burns | World Horse Welfare, |
| Leanne McPake | World Horse Welfare, |
| Patricia Saluja | U of Aberdeen School of Law, |
| Sarah Dolman | Whale and Dolphin Conservation, |
| Ben Parker | Battersea Cat & Dog Home, |
| Eve Massie | OneKind, |
| Romaine Pizzi | BVA, |
| Libby Anderson | OneKind, |
| Zofia Bekas | U of Edinburgh BSAS, |
| Tricia Colville | BVA/BSAVA, |
| Karen Gray | Advocates for Rabbit Welfare, |
| Rhona O'Malley | Advocates for Rabbit Welfare, |
| Adam Reed | U of St Andrews, |
| Henry Northmore | Edinburgh Dog & Cat Home, |
| Claire Wilson – Leary | Dogs Trust. |

Friday September 29 at 12

Minutes

Present

MSPs

Grahame C (Christine), MSP

Colin Smyth MSP

Chapman M (Maggie), MSP

Harper E (Emma), MSP

Golden M (Maurice), MSP
Gallacher M (Meghan), MSP
Ruskell M (Mark), MSP
Non-MSP Group Members
Coe K (Karen)
Libby
Jill Stewart
Charlotte McNamara
Holton L (Lynda)
Stewart Donald, Canine Concern Scotland Trust
Gareth Hateley
Roberts A (Aimee)
Charity Manager
Skipper, Alison
amanda doves
Richard Woodward
Graeme Corbett
Kirsty Jenkins
Kirsteen MacKenzie
Caroline Robinson
Leanne McPake
Holly Conway
Madison Rogers
Natalie Harney
Lauren Wards
Rae Walters
Zofia Bekas

Apologies

Jake Swindells, Countryside Alliance
Justice for Reggie
Marie McNair MSP
Tatevik Hovhannisyan. Vegetarian for Life
Romain Pizzi BVSc MSc
BASC
Minutes - agreed by members

AGM Business – chaired by Lynda Holton

Election of Convener: Christine Grahame MSP proposed by Maurice Golden MSP, seconded by Emma Harper MSP.

Election of Vice Convener: Maurice Golden MSP proposed by Maggie Chapman MSP, seconded by Christine Grahame MSP.

Election of Vice Convener: Colin Smyth MSP proposed by Libby Anderson, seconded by Christine Grahame MSP.

Secretary: Karen Coe proposed by Christine Grahame MSP, seconded by Maggie Chapman MSP

Agenda item 1

Presentation by Charlotte McNamara of the Kennel Club-
Breeding, Buying and Bringing Up Brachycephalic Dogs Better

“There is currently widespread concern surrounding the health and welfare of popular brachycephalic types of dog, such as Pugs, Bulldogs and French Bulldogs” - The Kennel Club,

Q&A –

Included questions about reach and engagement, the use of webinar support available to all, the addition of rabbits and cats that are effected,

The amount of breeders and the challenge to reach them all, only responsible breeders and owners is recommended, health and future problems is an issue.

What can Govts do, banning not the answer, small issues can make a difference and can be included in registration, irresponsible breeders and owners are a problem.

Better enforcement of registration and educate new buyers, advertisers and insurance companies.

BVA keen to get involved. Is banning Brachycephalic Dogs due to the health issues a solution or not workable.

MSP Updates –

Colin Smyth MSP update (by email)

Since the last meeting the Scottish Government have announced that they are likely to bring an amendment at Stage 2 of the Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Bill which is currently going through the Rural Affairs Committee. The Government are consulting on the issue and I am keen that any ban follows Wales with no loopholes (i.e no use of snares even under licence and no use of so-called "humane holding devices" as an alternative). I recently attended and spoke in support of a ban on greyhound racing at the Grey2kUSA Worldwide conference held in Edinburgh along with campaigners from a range of charities and organisations and I hosted the RSPB Nature of Scotland Awards Shortlisting event in Parliament. Since the last meeting I have been working with the RSPB on the issue of the impact of commercial forestry on the red squirrel population, tabling a number of questions.

Maggie Chapman MSP update

Sending it to secretary

Emma Harper MSP update

Update of sheep attack by dogs, Emma has written to the Lord Advocate.

Mark Ruskell MSP update

Attended Grey2kUSA Worldwide conference held in Edinburgh, Phase out Greyhound Racing consultation, proposal for bill.

Christine Grahame MSP update

Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill.

Christine praised colleagues in Parliament for their support for Animal Welfare.

Strong cross party support for Animal Welfare Issues.

Future Agenda Discussed -

Proposed date of next virtual meeting - Friday 17th November at 2pm

Agenda may include Nature Scot update and Shock Collar update.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group.

Maggie Chapman (Green)

Megan Gallacher (Con)

Christine Grahame (SNP)

Emma Harper (SNP)

Marie McNair (SNP)

Colin Smyth (Lab)

Maurice Golden (Con)

NON-MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

For organisational members please provide only the name of the organisation, it is not necessary to provide the name(s) of individuals who may represent the organisation at meetings of the Group.

Individuals

Christine Nevin
Edna Elliot-McColl
Dr Elspeth Stirling
Seonaig Johnston
Jane Stirling
Romain Pizzi
Elaine Henley
Tracy Lygo
George Leslie
Nigel Miller
Allan Sim

Organisations

Animal Aid
Animal and Plant Health Agency
Animal Concern Advice Line
Association of British Riding Schools

Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors (APBC)
Battersea Dog & Cat Home
Blue Cross
Borders Pet Rescue
Born Free Foundation
British Association for Shooting and Conservation
British Egg Industry Council (BEIC)
British Deer Society
British Equine Veterinary Association
British Horse Society
British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA)
British Veterinary Association
British Veterinary Nursing Association
Canine Concern Scotland Trust
Cats Protection
CATSCO
Centre for Animal Welfare Education
Compassion in World Farming
Cruelty Free International
Dog Warden Association Scotland
Dogs Trust
Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home
Farmers For Stock-free Farming
Fostering Compassion
Glo Wild
Horse Rescue Scotland
International Fund for Animal Welfare
Jeanne Marchig Centre for Animal Welfare
League Against Cruel Sports
Local Authority Scottish Animal Health and Welfare
Strategy
Group
Marine Conservation International
National Farmers Union Scotland
National Wildlife Crime Unit

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| | <p>Naturewatch Foundation</p> <p>Network for Animals</p> <p>Nourish Scotland</p> <p>One Kind</p> <p>PDSA</p> <p>Perth and Kinross Council</p> <p>Rabbits Require Rights</p> <p>Rabbit Welfare</p> <p>Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)</p> <p>Scotland Against Greyhound Exploitation (SAGE)</p> <p>Scotland's Rural College</p> <p>Scottish Badgers</p> <p>Scottish Countryside Alliance</p> <p>Scottish Government (Rural and Environment Directorate)</p> <p>Scottish Kennel Club</p> <p>Scottish Land and Estates</p> <p>Scottish Racing</p> <p>Scottish Rural and Agricultural College</p> <p>Scottish Salmon Producers Org (SSPO)</p> <p>Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals</p> <p>The Kennel Club</p> <p>The Society for Companion Animal Studies (SCAS)</p> <p>University of Aberdeen</p> <p>University of St Andrews</p> <p>Weimaraner Rescue</p> <p>Whale and Dolphin Conservation</p> <p>World Animal Protection</p> <p>World Horse Welfare</p> |
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GROUP OFFICE BEARERS

Please provide names for all office bearers. The minimum requirement is that two of the office bearers are MSPs and one of these is Convener – beyond this it is a matter for the Group to decide upon the office bearers it wishes to have. It is permissible to

have more than one individual elected to each office, for example, co-conveners or multiple deputy conveners.

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|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Convener | Christine Grahame MSP |
| Deputy Convener | Colin Smyth MSP Maurice Golden MSP |
| Secretary | Karen Coe |
| Treasurer | N/A |

FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE GROUP

Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) received from a single source in a calendar year which has a value, either singly or cumulatively, of more than £500. This includes donations, gifts, hospitality or visits and material assistance such as secretariat support.

Details of material support should include the name of the individual providing support, the value of this support over the year, an estimate of the time spent providing this support and the name of the organisation that this individual is employed by / affiliated to in providing this support.

Groups should provide details of the date on which the benefit was received, the value of the benefit and a brief description of the benefit.

If the Group is not disclosing any financial information please tick the box to confirm that the Group has considered the support received, but concluded it totalled under the threshold for disclosure (£500).

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

Please provide details of the amount charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.

N/A

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Name | Christine Grahame MSP |
| Parliamentary address | The Scottish Parliament EH99 1SP |
| Telephone number | 0131 348 5729 |