

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on The Armed Forces and Veterans Community
Date Group Established
30 June 2021
Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)
21 June 2023
Date Annual Return Submitted
23 June 2023
Date of Preceding AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 11 to 13 months of the previous AGM]
22 June 2022
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.
25 Oct 2022: The meeting received a presentation on the 'Trends in Scottish Veterans Health' report prepared by Prof Beverly Bergman from the University of Glasgow. It also heard, from a variety of charities

and drop in centres, matters relating to the Cost of Living Crisis, the effect it was having on some veterans and what steps they were taking to reduce this.

3 MSP's attended and 43 other members.

25 Jan 2023: Topics included: Meeting the legal obligations to the Armed Forces Covenant. The group also continued the discussion in respect of the impact of the Cost of Living Crisis. Other matters discussed included the work of the Scottish Men's Sheds Association, developments within Defence Transition Services, and veterans working within the Health Service.

3 MSP's attended and 40 other members.

30 March 2022: Topics included: An update on the Cost of Living Crisis, discussion on the employability of members of the ex-Service Community, and the work of Housing Options Scotland's Military Matters project, Fares for Free and Glasgow's Helping Heroes.

3 MSP's attended and 23 other members.

21 June 2023: Topics included: A presentation on 'You're in your own time now': Understanding current experiences of transition to civilian life in Scotland report carried out by Edinburgh Napier University; and a further update on the Employability of veterans.

2 MSPs and 13 others attended, with a further 32 attending online.

MSP Members of The Group

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

Jackie Baillie; Scottish Labour

Jackson Carlaw; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Katy Clark; Scottish Labour

Maurice Golden; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Mark Griffin; Scottish Labour

Stephen Kerr; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
 Douglas Lumsden; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
 Gordon MacDonald; Scottish National Party
 Edward Mountain; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
 Willie Rennie MSP; Scottish Liberal Democrats (from 22 June 2022)
 Paul Sweeney; Scottish Labour

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	Mr Maurice Corry TD MBA
Organisations	51 Infantry Brigade; Action on Hearing Loss Scotland; ADES National Transitions Officer; Age Scotland; Armed Services Advice Project; Army; Army Families Federation; Association of Wrens and Women of the Royal Naval Services; BFBS The Forces Station; BLESMA; Business in the Community Scotland; Career Transition Partnership; Defence Transition Services; Scotland Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committee; Edinburgh Napier University; Erskine; FirstLight Trust; Forces in Mind Trust; Garelochhead Station Trust; Give Us Time; Glasgow Caledonian University; Glasgow's Helping Heroes; Help for Heroes; Housing Options Scotland; Local Authority Armed Forces and Veterans Champions; Lothian Armed Forces and Veterans Project; Lothian Veterans Centre; Lowland Reserve Forces and Cadets Association; Naval Families Federation; NHS Scotland; Officers Association Scotland; Poppyscotland; RAF; RAF Association; RAF Benevolent Fund; RASC and RCT Association; Reading Force; Recruit for Spouses; RFEA The Forces Employment Charity; Royal Air Force Families Federation; Royal British Legion Scotland; Royal Caledonian Education Trust; Royal Naval Association; Royal Navy; SACRO - Veterans

	<p>Mentoring Service; Salute My Jobs; SAMH; Scotland & NI RAF Association; Scotlands Bravest Manufacturing Company (RBLI); Scottish Prison Service; Veterans Housing Scotland (Scottish Veterans Garden City Association); Scottish Veterans Residences; Sight Scotland Veterans (Scottish War Blinded); Seafarers UK; Skills Development Scotland; Soldiers off the Streets; SSAFA; Stand Easy Productions; The Coming Home Centre/Community Veterans Support; The Officer's Association Scotland; The Royal Regiment of Scotland; The Scottish Veterans Commissioner; The Veterans Foundation; Thistle Foundation; University of Edinburgh; University of Glasgow; Venture Trust; Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committees; Veterans Community Café; Veterans First Point Highland; Veterans First Point Scotland; Veterans for Independence; Veterans Housing Scotland; Veterans Scotland; Veterans Welfare Services; Walking with the Wounded; War Widows Association. Other organisations have attended from time to time</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.

Convener	Maurice Golden MSP
Deputy Convener	<p>Jackie Baillie MSP</p> <p>Gordon MacDonald MSP</p> <p>Willie Rennie MSP (from 22 June 2022)</p>
Chair	Maurice Corry; Provost Argyll & Bute

Secretary	Jim Wilson; Veterans Scotland
Treasurer	Jim Wilson; Veterans Scotland
<p>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).</p>	
<p>Subscription Charged by the Group</p> <p>Please provide details of the amount charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.</p>	
<p>Nil</p>	
<p>Convener Contact Details</p>	
Name	Maurice Golden MSP
Parliamentary address	The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 6148