

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group

Cross-Party Group on Disability

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.)

22 June 2021

Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)

11 June 2025

Date Annual Return Submitted

17 June 2025

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]

12 June 2024

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.

2 October 2024 - (date was changed from 18 September 2024)

2 MSPs – 38 Non MSP attendees

Topic:-

Edel Harris and Keith Rae - Independent Review of Adult Disability Payment – briefing on Social Security in respect of disabled people and the Adult Disability Payment. There was a Q&A Session.

Antonella Valbonesi and Anne Baldock from OPFS, One Parent Families Scotland made a presentation with slides to the group on : Single Parents with disabled children: issues, challenges & policy actions. – Report:- [Single Parents with disabled children: issues, challenges & policy actions](#)

Maggie Ellis a member of the CPG raised to discuss a meeting to be arranged with the First Minister, and Equalities Minister, to raise law breaking of legislation and the Equalities Act that is in place to assist disabled people and how to enforce this.

Dr Lisa O’Leary, Napier University Researcher in Intellectual Disabilities highlighted the – Codesign Workshop – poster has been circulated round the Group.

11 December 2024

2 MSPs – 45 Non MSP attendees

Topic: -

Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice answered Questions from the Group on a range of Social Security and disability related issues.

Rab Walker, Drew Walker and Liz Walker – Falling Up Together – 'The Gugging Artists' – made a presentation to the group inspired by the House of Artists at Gugging, in Austria. Gave an overview of how they “promote inclusion, equality, destigmatization, arts development and advocacy for neuro-diversity through participants' cultural contribution to society.”

26 February 2025

2 MSPs – 25 Non MSP attendees

Topic: -

Motability Foundation – Chief Executive Nigel Fletcher – updated the group and give a presentation on their current work and priorities.

OSCR – Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator – presenters Emma Sedgwick, Engagement Manager and Charles Willis Senior Manager, Policy and Sector Improvements, briefed the group on how the new measures to charity law in the Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023, due to come into force in 2025, will impact upon charities in Scotland

Karen Proceck, - member of the CPG and Julie Brown - made a brief presentation regarding annual health checks for adults with learning disabilities and missed targets for its implementation.

CPG on Disability Bank Account - Jeremy Balfour MSP, Convener - confirmed the CPG had a historical bank account (from when we held in-person meetings with catering) of £91.14, which needs to be closed. He suggested the funds be donated to a charity of the group's choice –a disability charity. A vote was taken.

11 June 2025 - AGM

2 MSPs – 32 Non MSP attendees

Re-election of office bearers:-

Jeremy Balfour MSP – Convener

Pam Duncan-Glancy MSP – Deputy Convener

Treasurer – Mike Harrison

Secretariat – Spinal Injuries Scotland – Ian Buchanan

Topic:-

Amanda McCarren – Policy Official, Learning Disability Policy Manager, Neurodivergence and Learning Disabilities Unit, Mental Health Directorate – presented findings on implantation of annual health checks for those with learning disabilities. Q&A.

Dr Mark Bevan Research and Evaluation Officer at Family Fund – briefed the group on their report 'The Cost of Caring 2025' (published in May). Q&A.

MSP Members of The Group

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

Jeremy Balfour MSP - (CON)

Pam Duncan-Glancy MSP - (LAB)

Jackie Baillie MSP – (LAB)

Gillian Mackay – (Scottish Green)

Emma Roddick (SNP)

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

Dr Caroline Gould
Sarah Jayne Reilly
Michael McEwan
Susie Glover
Wilma McLean
Hazel Kelly
James McLeod
Kayleigh O'Neill
David Nicholson
Peter Todd
Amanda Foster
Diana Winfield
Derek Kelter
John Grafton
Patricia Ferguson
Sue Bowen
Susan Webster
Jacqueline Cowan
Suzanne Ng
Susan Chambers
Celia Sweeny
David Nicholson
Shona Scott
Maureen Morrison
Laura Gemmell
Amanda Foster

	<p>Maureen Curtin Alyssa Faulkner Jordon Anderson Dr Lisa O’Leary Stephan Tait</p>
Organisations	<p>Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Scotland The ALLIANCE Evangelical Alliance University of Strathclyde Motability Foundation CAPS Advocacy UK Owner Trained Assistance/Service Dogs Campaign for Change (OTCC) EKTG Leonard Cheshire Royal College of Psychiatrists The Stroke Association BDA Scottish Churches Disability Group Arthritis Care Scotland Upaid Carers / Carers Labour Network Scottish Personal Assistant Employers Network (SPAEN) SUSE Contact Sense Scotland Turning Point Scotland Autism Rights GCIL (Glasgow Centre for Inclusive Living) Edinburgh Access Panel SCDG</p>

PAMIS
Scottish Accessible Transport Alliance (SATA)
Edinburgh Access Panel
Action Duchenne
NLRP12 Advocacy Group
Fair Advice Scotland
The National Deaf Children's Society
The Thistle Foundation
PhoneAbility
Versus Arthritis
Individual
MECOPP (Minority Ethnic Carers of People Project)
Pasda
Volunteer Edinburgh
Genetic Alliance UK
Drake Music Scotland
Independent Living Fund Scotland
Lead Scotland
Camphill Scotland
The National League of the Blind and Disabled
Edinburgh Access Panel
Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance
Family Fund
SDS
TalkTime Edinburgh
Audio Description Scotland
ASH Scotland
Aberdeen Action on Disability
Cerebral Palsy Scotland
Renfrewshire Access Panel
Leonard Cheshire

ILIS
Parkinson's UK in Scotland
Glasgow Disability Alliance
Learning Disability Alliance Scotland
Disability Equality Scotland
Parent Carers of Additional Needs young people
Evoc
I Am Me Scotland
Dyslexia Scotland
MND Scotland (Motor Neurone Disease)
Public Affairs Manager - Headway
Carers in West Lothian
Volunteer Scotland
Multiple Sclerosis Society
Partners in Advocacy
Scottish Disability Sport
Scottish Orienteering Association
Advance Higher Education
Guide Dogs Scotland
Scottish Motor Sports
CCPS Scotland
Shared Lives
GIRFEC
Children's Health Scotland
MACS
The EC Partnership
CSP
RCOT
COP
ECAS
CIPD

ECAS
Visit Scotland
Purple Tuesday
See Around Britain
Family Fund
DG Voice
Police Scotland
Crown Office of Procurator Fiscal Scotland
Disability Equality Scot Gov
News Direct
National autistic Society Scotland
Euan's Guide
RNIB
STUC
Spinal Injuries Scotland
Salvesen Mindroom Centre
Inclusion Shetland
STUC
Inclusion Scotland
Scottish Post Polio Network
Dyslexia Scotland
MND Scotland (Motor Neurone Disease)
Pasda
Disability Equality Scotland
ENABLE Scotland
Coalition of Care and Support Providers Scotland
Into Work
Horizon Housing Association
SAMH
Sight Scotland and Sight Scotland Veterans
ADC Assistance Dogs Council

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

Jeremy Balfour MSP

Deputy Convener

Pam Duncan-Glancy MSP

Secretary

Spinal Injuries Scotland – Ian Buchanan

Treasurer

Mike Harrison

Financial Benefits or Other Benefits

Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) the Group anticipates receiving 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.

Closing Bank Account Funds of £91.14 being donated to PAMIS

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE CONVENER

COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 6 OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT (Please tick all boxes that apply)

I, Convener of the Cross-Party Group on Disability, hereby declare that, in line with the requirements of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct, this CPG has:

5 MSP Members from 3 different political parties	X
Held at least 2 quorate meetings in the last 12 months	X
Held an AGM within 11-13months of the date of registration or the last AGM	X
Submitted an annual return form within 30 calendar days of the AGM	X
Provided Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings	X
Provided minutes of all meetings	X
Signed	 Jeremy Balfour MSP
Date	17 June 2025