

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

### NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Funerals and Bereavement

**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.)

15<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

4<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

20 October 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]

12<sup>th</sup> October 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.

March 8<sup>th</sup> 2023. Attendance: 2 MSPs, 14 non-MSPs, discussed challenges around winter 2022. Presentation by Scottish Palliative Care on bereavement policy.

June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023. Attendance: 2 MSPs. 16 non-MSPs. Discussion on increasing bereavement support at schools, discussion on an overhaul of bereavement support in the UK. Continued discussion on winter 2022 challenges.

**MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

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

- Jeremy Balfour MSP
- Alexander Burnett MSP
- Graham Simpson MSP
- Stuart McMillan MSP
- Pam Duncan-Clancy MSP

**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	Mairi Handy
Organisations	National Association of Funeral Directors Society of Allies Independent Funeral Directors Co-operative Funeralcare Dignity Scotmid Funerals Thomas Cuthell & Sons funeral directors Golden Charter Resomation STUC Community Renewal Palliative Care Scotland Cruse Scotland Scottish Pensioners Forum

	<p>Caledonia Cremation  CHAS  City of Edinburgh Council  Scottish Cot Death Trust  National Association of Funeral Plan Providers</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	Jeremy Balfour MSP
Deputy Convener	Alexander Burnett MSP
Secretary	Nick Britten
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.

The National Association of Funeral Directors funds the Secretariat support of c.£4000 pa.

**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

Jeremy Balfour MSP

Parliamentary  
address

The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

Telephone number

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