

Cross-Party Group on Industrial Communities

Minute of the Initial Meeting held on the 23rd June 2021 at 1.00pm via MS Teams

Present

Colin Beattie MSP, Alex Rowley MSP, Richard Leonard MSP, Paul McLennan MSP, John Mason MSP.

Apologies

Jeremy Balfour MSP.

In Attendance

Roddy MacDonald, Laura Cunningham.

The Purpose of the CPG

All in attendance agreed that the purpose of the Group be as follows.

‘Seek to understand and highlight the range of ongoing issues affecting Scotland’s former traditional industrial communities who have experienced industrial decline over the last few decades. Ongoing issues are likely to include youth unemployment, town centre regeneration, health inequalities, low educational attainment, regeneration funding and poor environmental conditions. The term ‘former industrial communities’ covers a range of traditional industries including coal, steel, textiles and shipbuilding.’

The Election of Office Bearers

Convenor

Colin Beattie MSP proposed by Alex Rowley MSP and duly elected.

Deputy Convenor

Alex Rowley MSP proposed by Colin Beattie MSP and duly elected.

Secretary

Roddy MacDonald, Director of Alliance Scotland, proposed by Colin Beattie MSP and duly elected.

Next Steps

Roddy MacDonald and Laura Cunningham will engage to ensure the registration of the Cross-Party Group with the Parliamentary Authority. A date will then be set in September 2021 for the Cross-Party Group to meet.