

Cross-Party Group on MS

15/03/23

Minutes

Present

MSPs

Jackie Baillie (Convener of the Cross Party Group on Muscular Dystrophy), Chair
Donald Cameron (Co-Convener of the Cross Party Group on MS)
Annie Wells (Member of the Cross Party Group on Muscular Dystrophy)
Carol Mochan (Member of the Cross Party Group on MS)

Invited guests

Kevin Stewart (Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care)
Tanith Muller (Parkinson's UK Scotland)
Anna Telfer (Epilepsy Scotland)

Non-MSP Group Members

Steve Brown
Robert Burley
Gavin Cobb (NHS Highland)
Julie Dock (Revive MS)
Edwin Jesudason
Natasha Johnston
Gerry Kelly
Kim Kemp
Sheonad Laidlaw
Hew Mathewson (MS Society Scotland)
Catherine McWilliam
Iain McWhirter (Revive MS)
Ellie Meikle
Jon Metcalfe
Thomas Mulvey (MS Society Scotland)
Jacqueline Munro
Hubert Nadzjejko
Stephen O'Keane (MS Society Scotland)
Keith Park (MS Society Scotland)
Matthew Rose (Muscular Dystrophy UK)

Morna Simpkins (MS Society Scotland)
Phil Sully
Jon Watkins

Apologies

Stacey Adam
Jacquie Downs (Douglas Grant Rehabilitation Centre)
Liam McArthur MSP
Hannah McGlynn (MS Society Scotland)
Erin Slaven (Office of Paul Sweeney MSP)
Paul Sweeney MSP
Paul Traynor (Carer's Trust Scotland)
Beatrice Wishart MSP

Agenda item 1

Welcome

Chairing the meeting, Jackie Baillie MSP welcomed group members of both CPGs and invited guests to the meeting and ran over house rules for the meeting.

At this point Minister Kevin Stewart noted that he would have to leave the meeting early to vote on the day's parliamentary business. He agreed with the Chair to give an update prior to leaving and return to answer questions from the group.

Agenda item 2

Report

Matthew Rose from Muscular Dystrophy UK presented the findings of a report on the National Care Service from The Scottish Care and Support Alliance for People with a Long-Term Condition.

Matthew highlighted the findings of the report including the need for an increased social care workforce and a need for greater personalised choice in services.

Agenda item 3

Ministers Response

The Minister gave a brief response to the report where he outlined the principle of co-production at the heart of the vision for the National Care Service and promised to follow up with details on how organisations present could get involved.

Minister spoke to parts of the framework bill including the right to breaks for carers.

Agenda item 4

Group Discussion

Minister went to vote on parliamentary business and the Chair led a discussion on issues the group wanted to raise with the Minister on the National Care Service.

Agenda item 5

Question and answer session with the Minister

Minister returned from voting and answered questions from CPG members present. Topics covered included difficulty accessing appropriate care packages, lack of resource and staff and the make up of Care boards proposed in the National Care Service bill.

Agenda item 6

Chaired closed the meeting, thanking group members and invited guests for their time.