

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group

Cross-Party Group on Towns and Town Centres

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.)

Monday 20th September 2021

Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Wednesday 20th September 2023

Date Annual Return Submitted

DATE 19th October

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]

Wednesday 7th September 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.

Wednesday 7th September 2022
Attendance: 4 MSPs, 75 Non-MSPs

Topic Discussed: Climate Emergency and Towns
Invited Speaker: Katherine Brown, Blachere Illumination; Claire Daly, Sustrans Scotland; Phil Prentice, Scotland's Towns Partnership, Dr Emilie Wadsworth, Green Action Trust and Caroline Warburton, Visit Scotland

Wednesday 7th December 2023

Attendance: 3 MSPs, 73 Non-MSPs

Topic Discussed: Accessible Towns

Invited Speaker: Phil Prentice, Scotland's Towns Partnership; Susie Fitton, Inclusion Scotland; Hilary Kidd, YoungScot; Fiona McKenzie, CentreStage MT

Wednesday 8th March 2023

Attendance: 3 MSPs, 75 Non-MSPs

Topic Discussed: People Power

Invited Speaker: Phil Prentice, Scotland's Towns Partnership; Jackie Shearer, Possilpark Business Improvement District; Stephen McCarron, ACDI; Scott MacKay, Midsteeple Quarter Project

Wednesday 7th June 2023

Attendance: 3 MSPs, 74 Non-MSPs

Topic Discussed: Scotland Loves Local

Invited Speaker: Kimberley Guthrie, Scotland's Towns Partnership; Graham Smith, Glasgow City Council; Fergus Murray, Argyll and Bute Council; Suzanne Rhind, Aberdeenshire Council; David O'Neill, Miconex

MSP Members of The Group

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

Neil Bibby MSP (Labour)

Claire Baker MSP (Labour)

Stephanie Callaghan MSP (SNP)

Katy Clarke MSP (Labour)

Willie Coffey MSP (SNP)

Sharon Dowey MSP (Conservative)

Meghan Gallacher MSP (Conservative)

Douglas Lumsden MSP (Conservative)

Marie McNair MSP (SNP)

Alex Rowley MSP (Labour)

Evelyn Tweed MSP (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

Organisations

Scotland's Towns Partnership - secretary
Architecture + Design Scotland
ABB Scotland
Aberdeenshire Council
Alliance Boots
Alloa Town Centre BID
Angus Council
Argyll and Bute Council
Association of Town and City Management
Barrhead BID
Big Lottery Fund
Boston Networks
BT
Built Environment Forum Scotland
Business in the Community Scotland
Can Do Places
Carnegie UK Trust
Charity Retail Association
City of Edinburgh Council
CityFibre
CGI
Colliers International
Cupar and North Fife Tourism Association
Cupar Development Trust
Currie Brown
Cycling Scotland
Cycling UK
Development Trusts Association Scotland

Dods
Dundee City Council
East Ayrshire Council
East Dunbartonshire Council
East Kilbride Shopping Centre
East Lothian Council
East Renfrewshire Council
Economic Development Association Scotland
Falkirk Council
Falkirk Delivers
Federation of Master Builders
Fife Council
Fort William Town Team
FreshAyr
FSB Scotland
Future Hawick
Fyne Futures
Glasgow City Council
Global Treasure App
Grampian Housing
Granton Improvement Society
Halliday Fraser Munro
Highland Council
Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Historic Environment Scotland
Institute of Retail Studies, University of Stirling
Interface
Intu Properties
Keep Scotland Beautiful
Kingsgate Shopping Centre
Ladbrokes Coral
Lanark Community Council
Langbank Community Council
Living Streets
Loop Connections
Lloyds TSB Foundation
Miconex
Melrose Living
Moffat and District Community
Motherwell Town Centre
Museums Galleries Scotland
Natural Power
Newmilns Regeneration Association

North Lanarkshire Council
Obesity Action Scotland
One Dalkeith
Pagoda Porter Novelli
Paisley First BID
Paths for All
People Scotland
Perth and Kinross Council
PJ Leggate
Planning Aid Scotland
Prestwick Community Council
Real Retail Solutions
Renfrewshire Council
Retailers Against Crime
RICS
RTPI
Scottish Canals
Scottish Licensed Trade Association
Scotland's Rural College
Scottish Borders Council
Scottish Business Resilience Centre
Scottish Chambers of Commerce
Scottish Empty Homes Partnership
Scottish Futures Trust
Scottish Grocers Federation
Scottish Power Energy Networks
Scottish Retail Consortium
Scottish Small Towns Group
South Ayrshire Council
South Lanarkshire Council
Stirling BID
Stirling Council
Stranraer Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme
SURF
Sustrans Scotland
TACTRAN
The Democratic Society Scotland
The Retailer Group
Transform Scotland
USDAW
Vale of Leven Trust
VisitScotland
Voluntary Action Fund

	Weber Shandwick West Lothian Council William Hill WSP
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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	Meghan Gallacher MSP
Deputy Convener	Katy Clark MSP
Secretary	Alison Jones (Scotland’s Towns Partnership)
Treasurer	Elaine Bone (Scotland’s Towns Partnership)

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.

Scotland’s Towns Partnership Total value of support - £2,000

Breakdown: Secretary duties (Scotland’s Towns executives) to the value of £2,000 for 10 days work for the managing all communications with office bearers, members, speakers, supporters; planning agendas and related arrangements; attendance and Minute taking and digital communications for four CPG meetings/activities, AGM and an Office Bearers meeting; and fulfilling Code of Conduct and Best Practice requirements.

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 Towns and Town Centres 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

✓

Held at least 2 quorate meetings in the last 12 months

✓

Held an AGM within 11-13months of the date of registration or the last AGM

✓

Submitted an annual return form within 30 calendar days of the AGM

✓

Provided Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings

✓

Provided minutes of all meetings

✓

Signed



Date

19th October 2023