

Cross-Party Group on Towns and Town Centres, Liveable Neighbourhoods

Thursday 9th October, 10:30-10:45, Online

Minutes

Present

MSPs

Meghan Gallacher MSP
Paul McLennan MSP

Non-MSP Group Members

Elaine Bone, Scotland's Towns Partnership
Alison Luke-Jones, Scotland's Towns Partnership

Apologies

Kimberley Guthrie, Scotland's Towns Partnership

Agenda item 1

Meghan Gallacher MSP opened the meeting. The Minute of last meeting held 11th June was approved by all in attendance.

Agenda item 2

On Annual General Meeting Business, Alison Luke-Jones sought nominations for the position of MSP Convener. Paul McLennan MSP nominated Meghan Gallacher MSP, this was seconded by Elaine Bone.

Meghan Gallacher MSP nominated Paul McLennan MSP as Deputy Convener, this was seconded by Elaine Bone.

Meghan Gallacher MSP proposed Alison Luke-Jones as secretary of the Cross Party Group and Elaine Bone as Treasurer. Paul McLennan MSP seconded both nominations.

The office bearers for the coming year were therefore confirmed as:

- Convener – Meghan Gallacher MSP
- Deputy Convener – Paul McLennan MSP
- Secretary – Alison Luke-Jones, Scotland’s Towns Partnership
- Treasurer – Elaine Bone, Scotland’s Towns Partnership.

The convener then read out the following annual report on CPG activity:

“An annual report will be submitted to the Scottish Parliament following this meeting. A copy of which will be shared and available online. The report outlines activity undertaken.

The group has covered the following topics at meetings in 2024-25.

- Creating Inclusive and Accessible Towns and Places – Why?
- Planning Today for Sustainable Towns Tomorrow
- Financing and Investing in Our Towns—Deliverables and Constraints
- Liveable Neighbourhoods

On forward planning, to support the CPG secretariat, attendees are asked to submit potential topic ideas to Alison Luke-Jones or Elaine Bone at Scotland’s Towns Partnership.

Agenda item 3

Under AOB, it was noted that the next meetings of the CPG will take place on Wednesday 3rd December 2025 and Wednesday 4th March 2026.