

## Cross-Party Group Annual Return

### Name of Cross-Party Group

### Cross-Party Group on Volunteering

**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.)

26<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)

26<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### Date Annual Return Submitted

6<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**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]

17<sup>th</sup> November 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.

### 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023: Meeting

MSPs present: Jeremy Balfour and Evelyn Tweed

Non-MSP members present: 31

This meeting had a theme of Volunteering and Care, with a particular focus on National Care Service plans.

Rob Gowans from the ALLIANCE gave an introduction on the National Care Service ambitions and what this could mean for the voluntary sector.

Sarah Latto from Volunteer Scotland then gave a presentation about the contribution of volunteers to social care, including exploring the health and wellbeing benefits of participating in volunteering.

Graham Galloway from Kirrie Connections then provided a case study of volunteers supporting social care, specifically in a Dementia meeting centre.

### 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023: Meeting

MSPs present: Jeremy Balfour and Foysol Choudhury

Non-MSP members present: 31

This meeting explored the link between volunteering and the Wellbeing Economy, specifically ambitions around Community Wealth Building.

Laura Moffat, Senior Policy Advisor in the Scottish Government, gave a presentation about Wellbeing Economy ambitions, and the launch of a Wellbeing Economy Toolkit.

Sarah Latto from Volunteer Scotland shared information about the newly established Policy Champions Network, a key part of the infrastructure underpinning the Volunteering Action Plan.

Margaret Starkie from Volunteer Scotland launched plans for Volunteers' Week 2023.

### 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023: Volunteers' Week Reception

The CPG hosted a reception to celebrate Volunteers' Week.

MSP attendees: Jeremy Balfour, Foyso Choudhury, Liam MacArthur, Emma Roddick

The group heard from a range of volunteers about their experiences.

### 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023: CPG AGM

MSP attendees: Foyso Choudhury, Jeremy Balfour

Non-MSP attendees: 37

AGM business was concluded, followed by presentations on a human rights theme.

Sarah Latto from Volunteer Scotland gave an overview of the relationship between volunteering and human rights.

Fiona Inglis from Impact Funding Partners introduced two guest speakers, both recipients of the Volunteering Support Fund, who shared how their volunteers promote and uphold human rights: Amma Birth Companions and the Denis Law Legacy Trust.

### **MSP Members of The Group**

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

- Foyso Choudhury MSP: Co-Convener, Scottish Labour
- Jeremy Balfour MSP: Co-Convener, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
- Fulton MacGregor MSP: Member, Scottish National Party
- Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP: Member, Scottish Liberal Democrats
- Miles Briggs MSP: Member, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
- Paul O'Kane MSP: Member, Scottish Labour

### **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.

<b>Individuals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stuart McIver</li> </ul>
<b>Organisations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action</li> <li>• ACVO - third sector interface for Aberdeen</li> <li>• Befriending Networks</li> <li>• Blue Triangle</li> <li>• British Red Cross</li> <li>• CentreStage</li> <li>• Charity Retail Association</li> <li>• CHAS (Children's Hospices Across Scotland)</li> <li>• Chest Heart &amp; Stroke Scotland</li> <li>• Clan Cancer Support</li> <li>• Community Transport Association</li> <li>• CrossReach</li> <li>• Cruse Scotland</li> <li>• CVS Falkirk</li> <li>• CVS Inverclyde</li> <li>• Dyslexia Scotland</li> <li>• Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity</li> <li>• Evangelical Alliance</li> <li>• Firsthand Lothian</li> <li>• Girl Guiding Scotland</li> <li>• Healthcare Improvement Scotland</li> <li>• Helen Fleming Freelancing</li> <li>• Highland Third Sector Interface (HTSI)</li> <li>• Housing Options Scotland</li> <li>• LifeCare</li> <li>• Macmillan</li> <li>• maidsafe foundation</li> <li>• Marie Curie</li> <li>• NHS Tayside</li> <li>• Organisation</li> <li>• Paths for All</li> <li>• Rowan Alba</li> <li>• Royal Voluntary Service</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)</li> <li>• Scottish Government</li> <li>• Scottish Sports Association</li> <li>• Stroke Association</li> <li>• SVE</li> <li>• The Ayrshire Community Trust</li> <li>• The Machan Trust</li> <li>• tsiMORAY</li> <li>• VASLan</li> <li>• Vintage Vibes - Partnership between LifeCare and Space</li> <li>• Voluntary Action Shetland</li> <li>• Voluntary Health Scotland</li> <li>• Voluntary Sector Gateway West Lothian</li> <li>• Volunteer Centre East Lothian</li> <li>• Volunteer Centre Western Isles</li> <li>• Volunteer Edinburgh</li> <li>• Volunteer Glasgow</li> <li>• Volunteer Midlothian</li> <li>• Volunteer Scotland</li> <li>• Youth VIP (Volunteering Matters / Project Scotland)</li> <li>• YouthLink Scotland</li> </ul> <p>54 Organisation members</p>
<p><b>Group Office Bearers</b></p> <p>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.</p>	
<p><b>Co-Conveners</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeremy Balfour MSP: Co-Convener, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party</li> <li>• FoysoI Choudhury MSP: Co-Convener, Scottish Labour</li> </ul>

<b>Deputy Convener</b>	N/A
<b>Secretary</b>	Sarah Latto, Volunteer Scotland
<b>Treasurer</b>	n/a
<p><b>Financial Benefits or Other Benefits</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></p>	
No financial benefits	
<b>Convener Contact Details</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Jeremy Balfour MSP
<b>Parliamentary address</b>	The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
<b>Telephone number</b>	0131 348 5961