

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group

Cross-Party Group on Women, Families and Justice

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.)

15 September 2021

Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)

9 September 2025

Date Annual Return Submitted

11 December 2025

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]

10 September 2024

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.

Meeting 10 September 2024

Attendance: 3 MSPs and 24 non-MSPs.

Guest Speakers:

- Toni Groundwater, Families Outside and Cameron Smith, Sacro: Presentation on Travel to Scottish Prisons.
- Emma Mitchell, Midlothian Justice Network: Update on establishment of a new Women's National Justice Network being set up to discuss and share best social work practice in working with women in justice.

This meeting was the AGM covering the reconstitution of the CPG, including the election of office bearers. Discussion amongst attendees focused on the two inputs, with consideration of the travel issues relating to prisons and how the CPG might support action to address these issues, and also of how members of the CPG might engage with the new network.

Meeting 10 December 2024

Attendance: 2 MSPs and 17 non-MSPs.

Guest speakers:

- Stephen Sandham, HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland: Presentation on the inspection reports for HMP YOI Stirling, The Liliac Centre, and The Bella Centre.
- Marianna Marquardt, Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol & Drugs: Presentation on Navigating Impacts of Substance Use and the Justice System.

Discussion amongst attendees focused on the issues raised in the contributions of both guest speakers, including consideration of the findings and recommendations of the inspection reports of the women's estate and the experiences of CPG members in relation to these establishments, and also consideration of what links could be made between CPG members and SFAD to support their work.

Meeting 11 March 2025

Attendance: 2 MSPs and 15 non-MSPs.

Guest speakers:

- Eilidh Smith, Head of Integration, Scottish Prison Service:
Update on short-term prisoner early release (STP40)

Discussion amongst attendees focused on the issues raised in the presentation including consideration of the experiences of members in relation to early release with issues of concern and good practice shared. There was also a discussion carried forward from the December meeting regarding potential actions for the CPG to take in relation to the approach to women in the justice system.

MSP Members of The Group

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

Rona Mackay, Scottish National Party
Collette Stevenson, Scottish National Party
Miles Briggs, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
Maggie Chapman, Scottish Green Party
Katy Clark, Scottish Labour
Audrey Nicoll, Scottish National Party

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

Anne Pinkman
Elyse Brown
Carol Dearie
Karen Mabon
Maggie Melon
Briege Nugent
Yvonne Robson

Organisations

Aberdeen City Council
Aberdeenshire Health & Social Care Partnership
Apex Scotland
British Association of Social Work
Circle Scotland
Community Justice Aberdeen
Community Justice Glasgow

Community Justice Scotland
Cornerstone
CrossReach
Cyrenians Scottish Centre for Conflict Resolution
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Early Years Scotland
Engender
Falkirk Council
Families Outside
Fife College (SPS Education Providers)
Fife Council
Glen Isla and Glen Cova Projects, Angus Council
Highland Council
HM Inspectorate of Prisons Scotland
includem
Justice for Women
Mental Welfare Commission
Midlothian Council Justice Services
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
NHS Lothian
Perth Prison Visitor Centre
Phoenix Futures
Place2Be
Prison Reform Trust
Queen's Nursing Institute Scotland
Resilience Learning Partnership
Sacro
Salvesen Mindroom Centre
Scottish Association of Social Work
Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research
(SCCJR)
Scottish Community Safety Network
Scottish Prison Service
Scottish Recovery Consortium
Social Work Scotland
Soroptimists Scotland
Stirling Council
St Mary's Kenmure
Tomorrow's Women Glasgow
Turning Point Scotland
University of Glasgow
University of Stirling
University of Strathclyde

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	Rona Mackay MSP
-----------------	-----------------

Deputy Convener	Collette Stevenson MSP
------------------------	------------------------

Secretary	Families Outside
------------------	------------------

Treasurer	N/A
------------------	-----

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.

None

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 Women, Families and Justice, 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		X
Held at least 2 quorate meetings in the last 12 months		X
Held an AGM within 11-13months of the date of registration or the last AGM		X
Submitted an annual return form within 30 calendar days of the AGM		X
Provided Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings		X
Provided minutes of all meetings		X
Signed	Rona Mackay MSP	
Date	11/12/25	