

Cross Party Group on Tobacco Control
22 September 2011
12.45pm – 1.45pm
The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh

Attendees:

Kenneth Gibson MSP
Willie Rennie MSP
Richard Simpson MSP
Sheila Duffy, Chief Executive, ASH Scotland
John Watson, Director of Policy & Campaigns, ASH Scotland
Robert Howe, Director of Professional Development, REHIS
Eileen Streets, Director of Tobacco Control, Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation
Gillian Griffith, Consultant in Health & Tobacco Control
Helen Reilly, Public Affairs Officer, BMA
Marion McGovern, Projects & Communications Officer, ASH Scotland
(Minutes)

Apologies:

Geoff Earl, Royal College of Nursing
Susan Macaskill, Senior Researcher, Centre for Social Marketing & Research
Vicky Crichton, Public Affairs Officer for Scotland, Cancer Research UK

1. Welcome & Apologies

Kenny welcomed the group and round table introductions were made.
Apologies were noted.

2. Discussion of remit and format of the group

It was agreed that the name of the Group would remain "Cross Party Group on Tobacco Control".

The remit and focus of the group should and would remain the same:

To take forward an effective tobacco control in Scotland

Wide ranging discussions then took place, and the main question was; *what are the priorities of the group?*

- Young people
- Education
- Health Inequalities
- Legislation
- Smuggling/Illicit Tobacco
- Smoking when Children are in Cars
- Smoking in front of newborn babies
- Smoking in pregnancy
- Smoking in the home
- Media influence – profile has declined we have to ensure that this is increased, as tobacco still a major contributor to death rates in Scotland

Suggestions for future meetings:

Minister of Public Health, Michael Matheson MSP – invite to see what the Scottish Government's proposals are and how do we take this forward.

AP.ASH Scotland – Draft letter to Minister with invitation to attend meeting.

Health Committee – Duncan McNeill MSP, Convener – invite to discuss the way forward for the Committee.

Retail sector - influenced by the tobacco industry – we should engage with the retailers to ensure they do not simply follow the tobacco lobby and encourage them to be innovative in their alternative products. **Look at retailers who do not sell tobacco and invite them to discuss why they do not and what impacts if any this had made on their profits.**

AP. Marion – Enquire with information service, as to which large retailer (Aldi/Lidl) do not sell tobacco pass this information onto Sheila

Plain packaging – Scottish input required when this is being discussed at Westminster – Dr Crawford Moodie presented at a previous CPG on Tobacco Control Meeting. Send invitation to return to discuss further research?

Fashion Industry –What influence does design have on tobacco's image as being fashionable and/or cool - Engage with Universities/designers.

3. Office Bearer elections – conveners/vice-conveners

Convener –

Willie Rennie MSP, was nominated by Kenneth Gibson MSP, and seconded by Richard Simpson MSP

Vice-Convener –

Kenneth Gibson MSP, nominated by Willie Rennie MSP, and seconded by Richard Simpson MSP

Richard Simpson MSP, nominated by Kenneth Gibson MSP, and seconded by Willie Rennie MSP

NB. Ruth Davidson MSP has agreed to be a Conservative member of the Group, enabling the Group to be formally established. However due to time constraints she does not feel able to take on a Vice-Convenor role.

It was agreed that ASH Scotland would continue as secretariat of the group.

4. AOB

Date of next meeting: Cross Party Group meeting should be set for the 2011/2012 session of Parliament.

AP. Marion McGovern/John Watson to liaise with Willie Rennie's office to agree dates which will then be circulated to the group.