

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

| |
|---|
| Name of Cross-Party Group |
| Cross-Party Group on The Armed Forces and Veterans Community |
| Date Group Established |
| 30 June 2021 |
| Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM) |
| 4 June 2025 |
| Date Annual Return Submitted |
| 12 June 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] |
| 19 June 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. |
| 18 Sep 24: Topics included: Services that are available to the Armed Forces and Veterans Community in Scotland; the Scottish Veterans Commissioner's annual |

progress report; details of the Scottish Armed Forces Evidence Research Hub (SAFER) International Conference 2024; and a resume a of data that was available from the Scottish census 2022 in relation to the armed forces and veterans community.

2 MSPs attended and 30 other members.

27 Nov 24: Topics included:

The Forces in Mind Trust (FiMT) report into ex service personnel in the criminal justice system; A summary of policy and research into veterans in criminal justice by the FiMT Research Hub; an update on the Scottish Veterans Commissioner's report into veterans and the law; details about forces employment by FEC; an update on the work of the three Service Families Federations; and an update by Highland Council's Military Liaison Group (MLG) and by Skills Development Scotland (SDS).

5 MSPs attended and 59 other members.

25 Feb 2025: Topics included: The process and support available when leaving the Services (CTP); Employment Support when leaving the services (FEC); Networking and Establishing connections with Employers (OAS by JW); Enabling Employment Pathways, using the example of cybersecurity (SMJ); Opportunities in Health (NHS Scotland); and The Employer Recognition Scheme (LRFCA).
association

2 MSPs attended and 42 other members.

4 Jun 2025: Topics included: The Annual Report and AGM; during the AGM the incumbent office bearers were re-elected. Discussion focused on The Role and Function of Local Authority Armed Forces and Veterans Champions, their ways of working and the information that may be needed by a newly appointed Champion. The Report 'Our Community – Our Covenant and Beyond' was presented, this report by Shared Intelligence and funded by FiMT identifies a UK perspective on the topic. We also heard examples of a Champions Experience and considered the information that they present to their Council annually.

3 MSPs attended and 45 other members.

MSP Members of The Group

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

Jackie Baillie; Scottish Labour

Jackson Carlaw; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Katy Clark; Scottish Labour

Russell Findlay; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Maurice Golden; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Mark Griffin; Scottish Labour

Stephen Kerr; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Douglas Lumsden; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Gordon MacDonald; Scottish National Party

Edward Mountain; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Willie Rennie MSP; Scottish Liberal Democrats

Alexander Stewart MSP; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Paul Sweeney; 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.

| Individuals | Mr Maurice Corry TD MBA |
|----------------------|---|
| Organisations | 51 Infantry Brigade; Action on Hearing Loss Scotland; ADES National Transitions Officer; Age Scotland; Armed Services Advice Project; Army; Army Families Federation; Association of Wrens and Women of the Royal Naval Services; BFBS The Forces Station; BLESMA; Business in the Community Scotland; Career Transition Partnership; Defence Transition Services; Scotland Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committee; Edinburgh Napier University; Erskine; FirstLight Trust; Forces in Mind Trust; Garelochhead Station Trust; Give Us |

Time; Glasgow Caledonian University; Glasgow's Helping Heroes; Help for Heroes; Housing Options Scotland; Local Authority Armed Forces and Veterans Champions; Lothian Armed Forces and Veterans Project; Lothian Veterans Centre; Lowland Reserve Forces and Cadets Association; Naval Families Federation; NHS Scotland; Officers Association Scotland; Poppyscotland; RAF; RAF Association; RAF Benevolent Fund; RASC and RCT Association; Reading Force; Recruit for Spouses; RFEA The Forces Employment Charity; Royal Air Force Families Federation; Royal British Legion Scotland; Royal Caledonian Education Trust; Royal Naval Association; Royal Navy; SACRO - Veterans Mentoring Service; Salute My Jobs; SAMH; Scotland & NI RAF Association; Scotlands Bravest Manufacturing Company (RBLI); Scottish Prison Service; Veterans Housing Scotland (Scottish Veterans Garden City Association); Scottish Veterans Residences; Sight Scotland Veterans; Seafarers UK; Skills Development Scotland; Soldiers off the Streets; SSAFA; Stand Easy Productions; The Coming Home Centre/Community Veterans Support; The Officer's Association Scotland; The Royal Regiment of Scotland; The Scottish Veterans Commissioner; The Veterans Foundation; Thistle Foundation; University of Edinburgh; University of Glasgow; Venture Trust; Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committees; Veterans Community Café; Veterans First Point Highland; Veterans First Point Scotland; Veterans for Independence; Veterans Housing Scotland; Veterans Scotland; Veterans Welfare Services; Walking with the Wounded; War Widows Association. Other organisations have attended from time to time

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

Maurice Golden MSP

**Deputy
Conveners**

Jackie Baillie MSP
Gordon MacDonald MSP
Willie Rennie MSP

Chair

Maurice Corry; Councillor Argyll & Bute

Secretary

Jim Wilson; Veterans Scotland

Treasurer

Jim Wilson; Veterans Scotland

If the Group is not disclosing any financial information please tick the box to confirm that the Group has considered the support received, but concluded it totalled under the threshold for disclosure (£500).

Subscription Charged by the Group

Please provide details of the amount charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.

Nil

Convener Contact Details

Name

Maurice Golden MSP

**Parliamentary
address**

The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

**Telephone
number**

0131 348 6148