

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group

Cross-Party Group on Aviation

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.)

09/11/2022

Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)

15/11/2023

Date Annual Return Submitted

14/12/2023

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]

09/11/2022

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.

26 October 2023 (in person and via zoom)

Attendance 3 MSPs, 17 Non-MSPs

The group decided to continue to focus on the recovery of aviation and on the route development and connectivity combined with sustainability.

Presentations were given by Gary Cox on Route development and connectivity and this was followed by an update from Jonny Macneal from Edinburgh Airport on their progress with US Pre-clearance.

A response had been received from UK Government to the Recovery of Aviation Report submitted earlier in the year.

15 November 2023 (Meeting at Scottish Meeting at Scottish Parliament and via Zoom

Attendance: 5 MPSs, 15 Non-MSPs

AGM was held to elect conveners and secretariat for the group for the following year and minutes of the AGM from the previous year were approved. Graham Simpson and Ivan McKee were approved as Co-Chairs for the next 12 months and Janice Hogarth to continue as Secretary.

The rest of the meeting discussed ‘ Moving forwards Sustainably ‘ with presentations from Easyjet, AGS Airports and Loganair on their progress with decarbonisation of aviation and the use of alternative fuels such as SAF, Hydrogen and electric.

Discussion was held on the response from Scottish Government on the Recovery of Aviation Report submitted to UK & Scottish Government earlier this year with a follow up request for Fiona Hyslop to attend a future meeting to discuss.

Details of any other activities, such as visits undertaken by the Group or papers/report published by the Group should also be provided.

The Group held a discussion at the Festival of Politics in August on whether ‘ to Fly or not to fly ? ‘

Chaired by Graham Simpson with panellists
Gordon Dewar – Edinburgh Airport
Charandeep Singh from Scottish Chamber of Commerce
Finlay Asher – Safe Landings
Mike Robinson – Royal Scottish Geographical Society

MSP Members of The Group

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

Ivan McKee MSP Co Chair Scottish National Party
Graham Simpson MSP Co Chair Scottish Conservative
Jeremy Balfour MSP Scottish Conservative
Neil Bibby MSP Scottish Labour
Sharon Dowey MSP Scottish Conservative
Pauline McNeill MSP Scottish Labour
John Mason MSP Scottish National Party
Brian Whittle MSP Scottish Conservative

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	Jane Denholm Parliamentary Adviser Abigail Fletcher Parliamentary Researcher
Organisations	SPAA Scottish Passenger Agents' Association/ ABTA AOA Airline Operators Association Airlines UK Edinburgh Airports AGS Airports (representing Aberdeen & Glasgow Airport Scottish Chamber of Commerce Barrhead Travel NATS

	UKinbound Loganair Easyjet IAG Group (British Airways) BALPA If Only ADS Group
--	--

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	Graham Simpson & Ivan McKee
Deputy Convener	None
Secretary	Janice Hogarth
Treasurer	None

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.

Convener Contact Details

Name	Graham Simpson	Ivan McKee
Parliamentary address	Room M3:14 Scottish Parliament	Room M4:06
Telephone number	0131 348 6984	0131 348 6950