

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group

Cross-Party Group on Building Bridges with Israel

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.)

26/10/2021

Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)

15/11/2023

Date Annual Return Submitted

28/11/2023

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]

24/10/2022

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.

13/09/2023: CPG Formal Meeting (in person): Presentation from Oren Marmorstein on his visit to Scotland; his background as a diplomat before becoming Israel's Deputy Ambassador to the UK; on the geopolitical shift that has occurred in Israel due to progress in establishing and promoting diplomatic relations in the Middle East; on the opportunities and cooperation between Israel and Scotland re energy, eco and health technology; followed by Q&A. Toast to Rosh Hashanah. (6 MSPs, 21 others)

09/05/2023: CPG Formal Meeting (via Zoom): Update from Hodaya Avzada from the Israeli Embassy and Q&A; Presentation from Ambassador Gideon Behar on Israel's foreign policy on climate change, creating climate resilience, water solutions, renewable energies and technologies, cultured meats and reforestation; followed by Q&A. (8 MSPs, 20 others)

24/10/2022: CPG Formal Meeting & AGM (via Zoom): Election of office bearers for session 2022-23; Update from Hodaya Avzada from the Israeli Embassy and Q&A; Presentation from Gal Sabo, Choreographer & Movement Director, on ties in the Arts between Israel and Scotland and performing at the Edinburgh Fringe. (6 MSPs, 22 others)

MSP Members of The Group

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

Jackson Carlaw MSP (Con)

Fergus Ewing MSP (SNP)

Paul O'Kane MSP (Lab)

John Mason MSP (SNP)

Rachael Hamilton MSP (Con)

Douglas Ross MSP (Con)

Jamie Greene MSP (Con)

Murdo Fraser MSP (Con)

Jeremy Balfour MSP (Con)

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	Stanley Lovatt Bill Bowman Edward Green
Organisations	Scottish Council of Jewish Communities International Christian Embassy Jerusalem Highland Friends of Israel Glasgow Jewish Representative Council United Jewish Israeli Appeal Bridges for Peace National Prayer Breakfast for Scotland Scottish Friends of Israel Conservative Friends of Israel Labour Friends of Israel Lib Dem Friends of Israel Centre for Scotland Israel Relations Israel Britain Alliance Glasgow Friends of Israel Dundee Friends of Israel

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	Jackson Carlaw MSP
Deputy Convener	Fergus Ewing MSP
Secretary	Stanley Lovatt (Honorary Consul for Israel in Scotland)
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.

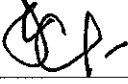
N/A

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 Building Bridges with Israel, 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	√
Held at least 2 quorate meetings in the last 12 months	√
Held an AGM within 11-13 months of the date of registration or the last AGM	√
Submitted an annual return form within 30 calendar days of the AGM	√

Provided Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings	√
Provided minutes of all meetings	√
Signed	
Date	28 11 13