

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

### NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Challenging Racial and Religious Prejudice

### PURPOSE OF THE GROUP AND PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Please state the purpose of the Group.
2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.
3. Please also provide details of any overlaps with the purpose of existing Cross-Party Groups and an explanation of why, regardless of any such overlap, the Group should be established.
4. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.

1-The purpose of the Group will be to bring together elected members from all political parties, agencies and individuals working on issues of racial and religious prejudice in order to explore the nature and extent of these issues in Scotland and how they can be challenged and overcome. The group recognises that the issue of racism and religious prejudice presents specific challenges that have received relatively little attention in the Scottish context. It will seek to monitor the issue of racial and religious hatred in Scotland and develop strategies for tackling it. The group's main purpose will be to inform Parliament of the work that it does in the hope of increasing awareness about racism and religious intolerance in Scotland and to ensure such matters are engaged with where necessary in policy and practice.

2-The proposed purpose of the CPG will be to inform Parliament about the issue of racial and religious prejudice in Scotland, monitoring incidents, raising awareness and exploring ways in which it can be challenged. The CPG will be taking evidence from Police Scotland, community councils, researchers, voluntary and community groups and local Government officials.

The group can then take evidence to the Scottish Parliament for scrutiny and to develop new ideas for how to raise awareness about racism and religious intolerance and work to challenge them.

This Group is in the public interest as Scotland has a growing ethnic minority population and there has been minimal attention on the issue of racial and religious hatred to date. The public would be updated on Parliamentary discussions and to consider new ways to tackle racial and religious intolerance. This would also create a platform for local residents, researchers and agencies to present their concerns and proposed solutions to Parliamentarians.

3-The proposed CPG will not overlap with other active CPGs. There will be individual CPGs whose work will be relevant to the issues that this group will focus on but there is a need to recognise the unique challenges that racial and religious prejudice presents to Scottish society and the desire to raise awareness of this issues, develop a knowledge base about it and propose tailored policy solutions.

We recognise there will be common issues with other CPGs especially on Race Equality. We will seek to find common themes and work together where appropriate.

4-We have agreed to explore the following 4 themes over the next 12 months: anti-Semitism and Scottish society; a review of progress regarding sectarianism; Islamophobia and anti-Muslim hatred; and intersections of racial and religious intolerance with other forms of discrimination.

### **MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

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

Foysol Choudhary – Scottish Labour Party  
Katy Clark – Scottish Labour Party  
Alex Cole-Hamilton – Scottish Liberal Democrats (Deputy Convenor)  
Pam Duncan Glancy – Scottish Labour Party  
Pam Gosal – Scottish Conservative Party (Deputy Convenor)  
Anas Sarwar – Scottish Labour Party (Convenor)  
Kaukab Stewart – Scottish National Party (Deputy Convenor)

## **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	Nauman Dar Fateen Hameed
Organisations	Active Life Church of Scotland Equality and Human Rights Commission Midlothian Council Fife Centre for Equalities Glasgow Jewish Representative Council Interfaith Glasgow Muslim Council of Scotland Scottish Ahlul Bayt Society Show Racism the Red Card Scottish Council of Jewish Communities Scottish ahl e Sunnah Society West of Scotland Regional Equality Council

## **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	Anas Sarwar MSP
Deputy Convener	Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP Pam Gosal MSP Kaukab Stewart MSP
Secretary	Peter Hopkins, Newcastle University
Treasurer	

**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.

**SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP**

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

**CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS**

Name	Anas Sarwar MSP
Parliamentary address	M1.07
Telephone number	0131 348 5830

**STATEMENT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

I declare that the Cross-Party Group on Challenging Racial and Religious Prejudice is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

Signed



Date

28/10/21