

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group

Cross-Party Group on Colleges and Universities

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.)

21 September 2021

Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)

02 October 2025

Date Annual Return Submitted

08 October 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]

03 October 2025

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.

Thursday 19 September 2024

Tertiary Funding

MSPs: 4

Non MSPs: 22

Thursday 16 January

Role of HE and FE in supporting the NHS

MSPs: 2

Non MSPs: 36

Thursday 3 April

Overview from SFC

MSPs: 3

Non MSPs: 26

Thursday 12 June

Digital infrastructure, evolution and resilience in HE and FE.

MSPs: 2

Non MSPs: 27

MSP Members of The Group

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

Liz Smith (Convener)

Michael Marra (Vice Convener)

Clare Adamson

Beatrice Wishart

Pam Duncan-Glancy

Maggie Chapman

Audrey Nicoll

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

Judith McClure

Organisations	Abertay University Architecture & Design Scotland City of Glasgow College Dundee & Angus college Educational Institute Of Scotland (EIS) Edinburgh Napier University Edinburgh University Students' Association (EUSA) Glasgow Caledonian University Glasgow Clyde College Heriot-Watt University Higher Education Academy in Scotland Jisc LEAD Scotland North East Scotland College NUS Scotland Open University in Scotland Pagoda PR Perth College UHI Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh Robert Gordon University Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Scotland China Education Network (SCEN) Scottish Development International Scottish Enterprise Scottish Funding Council Skills Development Scotland (SDS) sparqs – student partnerships in quality Scotland Thorntons Law LLP UCAS UCU Scotland Unite the Union
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	University of Aberdeen University of Dundee University of Edinburgh University of Glasgow University of the Highlands & Islands University of St Andrews University of Stirling University of Strathclyde University of the West of Scotland West College Scotland
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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	Liz Smith MSP
Deputy Convener	Michael Marra MSP
Secretary	Universities 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.

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 <X>, 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	X
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Held at least 2 quorate meetings in the last 12 months	X
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Held an AGM within 11-13months of the date of registration or the last AGM	X
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Submitted an annual return form within 30 calendar days of the AGM	X
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Provided Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings	X
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Provided minutes of all meetings	X
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Signed	
Date	15/10/2025