

Cross-Party Group on Diabetes

Friday 12 December 2025, 1.00pm

Minute

Present

MSPs

Emma Harper MSP (Co-convenor)

Paul O’Kane MSP (Co-convenor)

Non-MSP Group Members

Ian Aitken

Vicki Cahill

Bethany Farmer

Norma Fraser

Gillian Frayling-Kelly

Jenn Hall

Michael Houghton

Syed Kerbalai

Dr Robert Lindsay

Stuart McLaughlan

Caroline Miller

May Millward

Mary Moody

Carolyn Oxenham

Grant Reilly

Lesley Ross

Ian Sloan

Alison Templeton

Apologies

Michelle Brogan

Ruth Chapman

Jason Henry

Prof Brian Kennon

Sheila Minty

Sheila Reith

Bushra Riaz

Christine Ritchie

Agenda item 1

Emma Harper MSP welcomed everyone to the meeting in her role as Co-convenor of the Cross Party Group on Diabetes. Emma agreed to undertake the role of chair for today's meeting in agreement with Paul O'Kane MSP, the group's other Co-convenor.

Emma outlined the agenda for the meeting, noting that it would be brief but would cover the necessary aspects of an Annual General Meeting to meet parliamentary criteria for the continuation of the group through to the end of the parliamentary term.

Agenda item 2

Emma advised attendees that a brief overview of the Cross Party Group's activities in 2024/25 will be circulated among members of the group. This will include a summary of key focus areas over the last 12 months and plans for the group in 2026 and beyond.

Agenda item 3

Emma highlighted the success of the group and its collaborative approach through the current arrangement of co-convenors and indicated her agreement to be considered for re-election as a co-convenor of the group. Paul indicated his agreement to be considered for re-election.

Emma Harper MSP and Paul O'Kane MSP were re-elected as Co-Convenors. Proposed by Ian Sloan and seconded by Lesley Ross.

Diabetes Scotland was re-nominated as Secretariat for the group. Proposed by Emma Harper MSP and seconded by Paul O'Kane MSP.

Agenda item 4

Emma indicated that a further meeting of the group will be organised to be held in early 2026, proposing a hybrid meeting to enable members to meet either in-person at the Scottish Parliament or online. Emma noted that while previous meetings have been hosted in the evening, the parliamentary schedule ahead of the upcoming election means that there is more limited scope for a meeting at this time since extended chamber business may result in the last-minute cancellation of a meeting, and a lunchtime meeting was suggested as an alternative to enable this to go ahead.

Lesley Ross noted that a meeting during the working day may limit opportunities for people with lived experience of diabetes to attend a meeting at this time. Emma recognised the challenge of finding a suitable time to meet to maximise participation. It was agreed that the Secretariat will liaise with the offices of both co-convenors to determine an agreed date and time for the next meeting. Members will be informed about the date of the next meeting as soon as possible.