

Minutes of the CPG on Disability

Tuesday 28 September 2021 at 12.30pm to 2pm

Via Zoom

Attendees:

Jeremy Balfour	MSP
Pam Duncan-Glancy	MSP
Tess White	MSP
Emma Roddick	MSP
Emma Walker	Camphill Scotland
Tina Yu	Sense Scotland
Paul Hart	Sense Scotland
C Burness	Individual Member
Clare Steel	Individual Member
Colette McDiarmid	Individual Member
Daniela Rondina	SIAA
David Martin Nicholson	Individual Member
Denis Shovlin	Falkirk Area Disability Access Panel
Alison Skillin	UK OTAD Campaign
Cate Vallis	RNIB
Carers of West Lothian	Members
Emma Scott	Disability Equality Scotland
Morven Brooks	Disability Equality Scotland
Salena Begley	Individual Member
Gavin Mcleod	Scottish Disability Sport
Helen Forrest	Children's Health Scotland
John Ballantine	Edinburgh Access Panel
Robin Wickes	Edinburgh Access Panel
Margaret Anslow	STUC
Margaret Ellis	Phone Ability
Maureen McAllister	Versus Arthritis
Patricia Hewitt	Individual Member
Peter Scott	ILF Scotland
Rebecca Scarlett	Lead Scotland
Stephen Cruickshank	Renfrewshire Access Panel
Susan Sharp	DG Voice
Terry Robinson	Inclusion Scotland
Tony Slaven	Individual Member
Celia Sweeny	Individual Member
Marg McNeil	SAB – SeearoundBritain
Ian Buchanan	Secretariat

Welcome and Apologies

The CPG was opened, and everyone welcomed by Jeremy Balfour MSP. Discussion around the future meeting format was held and it was agreed that the next two meetings will be held via Zoom. We will revisit the topic and discuss members wishes after that for a possible hybrid approach.

Today's meeting is the first formal meeting since the group has re-convened.

There are 7 MSPs who have confirmed membership of the CPG:

Jeremy Balfour	Conservative MSP
Pam Duncan-Glancy	Labour MSP
Gillian McKay	Green MSP
Emma Harper	SNP MSP
Emma Roddick	SNP MSP
Jackie Baillie	Labour MSP
Tess White	Conservative MSP

Apologies were received from:-

Sheila Duffy	ASH Scotland
Katy Clark	MSP
Olivia Carson	CIPD
Robert McGeachy	Camphill Scotland
Paul O'Kane	MSP
Elena Whitham	MSP

Confirmation of Members

If any members of the CPG ever wish to leave please inform Ian Buchanan who will remove your contact details from the mailing list otherwise you will automatically be sent the agenda for every meeting.

The following new members were confirmed:-

National Autistic
Society
Euan's Guide
David Nicholson
Celia Sweeny
Kayleigh O'Neill

If you know other individuals, groups or charities that might be interested in joining this CPG, then please contact the Secretariat for details.

Margaret Ellis requested permission to know who is in the CPG group. Advice taken from Information Commissioners Office that e-mail addresses are personally identifiable information and cannot be shared. If group members wish to contact Margaret Ellis and share their details they may do so.

Pam Duncan-Glancy MSP – Update on Disabled Children and Young People (Transitions) Bill

Pam Duncan-Glancy MSP provided an update on her transitions bill. The bill was started in the last parliamentary session and aims to give young disabled people the statutory right to a transition. Camphill Scotland and Inclusion Scotland are backing the bill and Pam Duncan-Glancy thanks them for the support they have given.

Pam Duncan-Glancy told members she is contactable via e-mail, telephone or Twitter for discussion around the bill. Jeremy Balfour MSP noted formally that he will write to all MSPs on behalf of CPG members and ask them to support the bill in principle.

Marg McNeil, See Around Britain App

Marg McNeil gave a visual presentation and update on the progress that has been made with the See Around Britain App. The app is designed to give disabled people an idea of what accessible venues or accommodation is on offer before they travel. Marg issued a call to action for more volunteers to carry out field work, to take pictures, and write reports.

Emma Walker, Camphill Scotland

Emma Walker of Camphill Scotland provided a visual presentation on the need for a covid summit as society emerges from the pandemic.

Cate Vallis described the impact of the pandemic on blind and partially sighted people and Morven Brooks CEO of Disability Equality Scotland provided an update on their weekly polls and the injustice disabled people are facing and pledged support for a national covid summit.

Margaret Ellis described the remoteness of hospitals as a particular issue that needs to be addressed and Denis Shovlin expressed his sadness that the dolphin swimming club in Falkirk is not yet fully operational.

Paul Hart, Sense Scotland

Paul Hart from Sense Scotland updated members on the work he's been doing to support disabled people with a sensory impairment during the pandemic. Technology became an important aspect of how disabled people interacted and it's envisaged this will continue for some time. There have been impacts from PPE and masks on disabled people with a sensory impairment as well as an acute impact of NHS day services being cancelled.

Items for future agenda:-

- Invite to Cabinet Secretary to December meeting – Shona Robinson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government

Close

Jeremy Balfour thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution. The dates for any future CPG meetings will be communicated by the Secretariat and will include the minutes and agenda.

The meeting closed at 1:50pm