

# Cross-Party Group on Islands (Proposed)

14 December 2022 – 13:00

## Initial Meeting Minute

### Present

#### MSPs

Dr Alasdair Allan MSP  
Donald Cameron MSP  
Finlay Carson MSP  
Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP  
Beatrice Wishart MSP

### Invited guests

None

### Non-MSP Group Members

Jack Norquoy, Office of Liam McArthur MSP, Scottish Parliament  
Dovydas Kuliešas, Office of Emma Roddick MSP, Scottish Parliament  
Ashley Atkins, Office of Edward Mountain MSP, Scottish Parliament  
Max Bannerman, Office of Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP, Scottish Parliament  
David Gardiner, Secretary

### Apologies

Jenni Minto MSP

### Welcome

Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP welcomed attendees to the meeting.

### Name and purpose of the Group

- (i) Agreed that name of the proposed group will be the Cross-Party Group on Islands.
- (ii) Agreed that the purpose of the cross-party group is to provide a forum for the discussion of issues relevant to Scotland's islands and the residents of island communities, and to improve links between the Scottish Parliament and island communities.

## Election of officebearers

- (i) Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP was elected as convener.
- (ii) Jenni Minto MSP (nominated by Dr Alasdair Allan MSP) was elected as vice-convener.

## Discussion of work programme

A discussion was held on the future work programme of the group, with the following proposed areas for future work emerging:

- Island transport (particularly ferries)
- Energy (particularly offshore and remote island energy arrangements)
- Population and depopulation (including economy and jobs)

## Confirmation of membership and consideration of external invitees

Membership was confirmed and the list of external invitees referenced.

The convener invited attendees to consider the external invitees list and make suggestions of any further potential non-MSP members.

## AOCB

None.

## Date of next meeting

Further discussions to be held on regular dates and times given conflicts, pending the parliamentary approval of the proposed cross-party group.

Alasdair Allan pointed out that Tuesday lunchtimes conflicted with the SNP group meeting. The convener noted that Tuesdays may be used by more remote members for travelling to Edinburgh on sitting weeks.