

Cross-Party Group on Lung Health

10.30am-12pm, 24 February 2023

The live recording of the meeting can be found at [Asthma + Lung UK Scotland Facebook Videos](#)

Present

MSPs

Emma Harper MSP (Co-Convenor)
Alexander Stewart MSP (Co-Convenor)

Invited guests

Andreja Šajnić, Founding Member and President Respiratory Nurses (ICRN)
Dr Karen Marshall, Founding Member and Treasurer (ICRN)
Dr Miguel Padilha, General Assembly Member (ICRN)

Non-MSP Group Members

Gareth Brown (Secretariat)
Agnes Whyte
Alison Stewart
Amanda
Andy Currie
Anna Francis
Carol Thomson
Colin Brett
Craig Easdale
Damian Crombie
Dianne Foster
Dr Nicola Roberts
Dr Phyllis Murphie
Esme Allen
Garry McDonald
George Davidson
Grace Beaumont
Hannah Bray
Helen Reilly
Karis Baker
Liz Mason
Martin Charters
Morgan Rodgers
Olivia Fulton
Sally Hughes
Vicki McGrain Rae
Willie McGhee
Zeida Taylor

Apologies

Mark Ruskell MSP
Miles Briggs MSP
Monica Lennon MSP
Neil Bibby MSP
Anne Ritchie
Arlene Shaw
Dr Ann McMurray
Emily Kennedy
Julie MacDonald
Kirsty Murray
Lesley Hill
Linda Gray
Linda McLeod
Pauline Waugh

Welcome and Introductions

- Alexander Stewart (AS) welcomed members to the first CPG meeting in 2023 and thanked members for their work over the last year to raise the profile of the CPG and lung health in the Scottish Parliament, paying tribute to Gareth Brown (GB) and Emma Harper MSP (EH) for their continued support.
- AS then outline the agenda for the meeting today.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

- AS asked GB for any issues regarding the minutes of the previous meeting (November 2022). None were noted.
- GB asked if any corrections were required then they could be emailed or left in the chat function of the Zoom call.
- EH moved and AS seconded the minutes of the previous meeting.

International Coalition of Respiratory Nurses

- AS welcomed members of the International Coalition of Respiratory Nurses by announcing to the group who the speakers were.
- Dr Karen Marshall (KM) started the presentation on behalf of ICRN by announcing that Dr Miguel Padilha (MP) would have to leave the meeting earlier.
- MP thanked the CPG for the invite and gave a brief outline of what ICRN does and how nurses across Europe can support respiratory and the importance of the international coalition.
- KM presented on the International Coalition of Respiratory Nurses.
 - KM started with the definition of a respiratory nurse and the crucial role they have for the physical and psychological wellbeing of people with respiratory conditions.

- KM talked about the skills of respiratory nurses that was needed for the coronavirus pandemic and how the education and training of respiratory nurses is essential.
- KM then handed over to Andreja Šajnić (AŠ)
- Andreja Šajnić (AŠ) gave a short history of how the ICRN started in Europe.
 - AŠ stated that the role of specialist respiratory nurses needs to be recognised by healthcare systems across Europe and the need for harmonising nursing education in respiratory care – outline preliminary results from a global survey.
 - The survey confirmed a wide variation in nursing education and respiratory nursing education and the finding supported the need for core curriculum requirements for respiratory nursing education.
 - AŠ showed images from a range of online and in-person conferences.
- AŠ then handed the presentation back to KM.
 - KM spoke about why the ICRN organisation was established and needed, discussing the support to individual respiratory associations of each country in the ICRN.
 - KM thanked EH for her support in the Scottish Parliament in previous years and to have a politician so supportive is great for ICRN.
- KM ended the presentation before AS thanked the ICRN for their presentation.
- AŠ discussed further the beginnings of ICRN in 2019 and support from across respiratory, not just nurses or respiratory clinicians.
- AS opened the meetings to questions from members.
- Olivia Fulton (OF) made a comment about supporting ICRN and respiratory nurses from her other positions in severe asthma group with European Respiratory Society (ERS).
- GB asked AŠ and KM about working with graduates or those starting nurse education/training. AŠ responded.
- Dr Phyllis Murphie (PM) highlighted that the ICRN website went live that morning and encourages members to visit to read more about ICRN and resources.
- Garry MacDonald (GM) raised in the chat about nurses starting their education and training at a younger age in other countries, some while at high school.
- AŠ said that was her experience as she started her nurse education at 13 years old as that is possible in Croatia where she is from.
- AS thanked AŠ, KM and ICRN for their presentation and time to attend the CPG on Lung Health.

Severe Asthma Support Group

- AS then introduced Olivia Fulton (OF) to present on the Severe Asthma Support Group.
- OF began her presentation talking about how she started the group with the support of Asthma + Lung UK and then talked about why the group exists.
 - OF discussed how often meetings take place and what is discussed, including presentations from guest speakers.

- OF highlighted one of the guest speakers' presentations on the impact of oral corticosteroids on the adrenal gland and how the talk had supported people to be identified with adrenal insufficiency.
- OF raised some of the highlights of the group so far, such as connecting people with severe asthma and sharing lived experiences, as well as boosting confidence in people to manage their condition.
- OF pointed members to other Asthma + Lung UK Support Groups.
- AS thanked OF for her presentation and repeated OF's point about the necessity of peer support and how vital it is for people in AS's region.
- EH also thanked OF for her presentation and said she would be in touch ahead of World Asthma Day in May 2023.

AOCB

Parliamentary Update

- AS asked GB for a parliamentary update.
- GB pointed to a youth vaping debate that was discussed previously in September, led by Siobhian Brown MSP. GB also raised that Gillian Mackay MSP is working to tackle the environmental problems associated with disposable vapes.
- GB then spoke about changes to the Scottish Government following the resignation of the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon and his hope that Maree Todd MSP would continue as Public Health Minister due to her support for lung health.
- Referring to a comment in the chat function, GB spoke about the RCAP, although noting that Dr Tom Fardon was not on the call, he spoke about a progress report that is due in the coming months on implementation progress.
- GB made members aware that Asthma + Lung UK Scotland will be organising a parliamentary event to mark two years since the Respiratory Care Action was published and more details would be announced.
- Finally, GB spoke about clean air work, including the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee inquiry on air pollution and the re-established Healthy Air Scotland coalition, led by Asthma + Lung UK Scotland.
- AS thanked GB for his update.
- AS thanked members for attending before closing the meeting.
- The date of the next meeting was suggested for 26 May 2023, and for the Annual General Meeting take place then.

END OF MEETING