

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on Older People, Age & Ageing
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.)
19 January 2022
Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)
12 March 2025
Date Annual Return Submitted
18 March 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]
06 March 2024
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.
06 March 2024 - AGM

Subjects discussed:

A recent publication by the World Health Organisation (2023) recognises intergenerational contact as one of three key recommendations for tackling ageism. It's vital, that at a time of drastic demographic change, we do everything in our power to (re)connect generations, to combat the growing prominence of ageism. Generations Working Together will share key findings from this report and will also introduce the group to Global Intergenerational Week, a campaign in April that aims to raise awareness for intergenerational practice across the world. – Ruairidh Smith, Policy Officer, Generations Working Together

3 MSPs and 23 non- MSPs were in attendance.

05 June 2024

Subjects discussed:

An update on the Commissioner for Older People Bill proposal and consultation – Colin Smyth MSP

A consultation on Ageing & Frailty Standards- Draft standards for the care of older people – Rachel Hewitt, Programme Manager and Silas McGilvray, Project Officer, Healthcare Improvement Scotland

Discussion on key challenges facing older people in Scotland and potential collective action from CPG – Adam Stachura, Associate Director of Policy, Communications and External Affairs, Age Scotland

2 MSPs and 33 non- MSPs were in attendance.

11 September 2024

Subjects discussed:

Independent Review of Adult Disability Payment - Edel Harris, Chair of the Independent Review of Adult Disability Payment

Housing and the impact on older people – Independent Age's report - Homing in: How to improve the lives of older renters in Scotland - Morgan Vine, Head of Policy and Influencing and Louise Brady, Scotland Policy & Public Affairs Office, Independent Age

Discussion on key challenges facing older people in Scotland and potential collective action from CPG – Andrea Ma, Policy Officer, Age Scotland

3 MSPs and 43 non- MSPs were in attendance.

04 December 2024

Subjects discussed:

Update on the Commissioner for Older People (Scotland) Bill and Proposal – Colin Smyth MSP

How the new measures to charity law in the Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023, due to come into force in 2025 will impact upon charities in Scotland – OSCR (Scottish Charity Regulator)

Care Home Improvement Programme and Dementia Improvement Projects - Care Inspectorate

Quality Improvement Managers:

Aidan McCrory from Care Home Improvement Project (CHIP)

Lynn Flannigan from Practical Dementia Resources Improvement Project

A presentation on IncludeAge Project, a research project on the challenges and solutions to community inclusion of mid-older aged people who are Learning Disabled or are LGBT+ – Professor Judith Sixsmith, University of Dundee

2 MSPs and 43 non- MSPs were in attendance.

12 March 2025 - AGM

Subjects discussed:

AGM appointment of office bearers

Liz Forbat – University of Stirling - Palliative Care in Care Homes
Presentation on research conducted in Scotland and England by the University of Stirling.

The research focuses on palliative care provision within care homes and delivers on 32 recommendations within “My Health, My Care, My Home - healthcare framework for adults living in care homes” and

helps address other core matters on Parliament's business around the Right to Palliative Care Bill, and the national care service.

3 MSPs and 36 non- MSPs were in attendance.

MSP Members of The Group

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

Jeremy Balfour MSP – Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party

Katy Clark MSP – Scottish Labour Party

Richard Leonard MSP – Scottish Labour Party

Fulton MacGregor MSP – Scottish National Party

Colin Smyth MSP – Scottish Labour Party

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

Councillor Beverly Clark
Ian Clement
Diana Findlay
Joan Fraser
Councillor Isabelle MacKenzie
Martin Robertson
Donna Scott

Organisations

Age Scotland
Agile Scotland
Association of British Insurers
Befriending Network
Borders Older Peoples Forum

<p>British Deaf Association</p> <p>British Geriatric Society</p> <p>Camphill Communities</p> <p>Care Inspectorate</p> <p>Carers Trust Scotland</p> <p>Chest, Heart & Stroke Scotland</p> <p>Church of Scotland</p> <p>Cyrenians</p> <p>Food Standards Scotland</p> <p>Food Train</p> <p>Generations Working Together</p> <p>Gilead Sciences UK & Ireland Ltd</p> <p>Heriot Watt University</p> <p>Home Instead</p> <p>Horizon Housing Association</p> <p>Housing Options Scotland</p> <p>Hourglass</p> <p>IFIC Scotland (International Foundation for Integrated Care)</p> <p>Independent Age</p> <p>Intergenerational Network</p> <p>Irvine Seniors Forum</p> <p>LGBT Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>LifeCare Edinburgh</p> <p>Linking Lives</p> <p>Lothian Older People's Psychology Service (LOPPS)</p> <p>Luminate</p> <p>Meeting Centres Scotland</p> <p>National Federation of Occupational Pensioners</p> <p>Obesity Action Scotland</p> <p>Outside the Box</p>

	Partners in Advocacy Playlists for Life Police Scotland RoSPA – Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents Royal Pharmaceutical Society Royal Voluntary Service RSJ Equality Consultancy Salvation Army Scottish Association of Social Work Scottish Autism Scottish Fire & Rescue Scottish Older Peoples Assembly (SOPA) Scottish Pensioners Forum Shared Lives Plus Sikh Sanjog Simeon Care for the Elderly University of Dundee University of Edinburgh University of Highlands & Islands University of Strathclyde Vegetarian for Life Voice of Experience Forum Voluntary Centre East Ayrshire
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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	Jeremy Balfour MSP
Deputy Convener	Colin Smyth MSP
Secretary	Age Scotland
Treasurer	Rose Jackson – Scottish Pensioners Forum
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.	
N/A	
Convener Contact Details	
Name	Jeremy Balfour MSP
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