

Cross-Party Group on Beer and Pubs

22 June 2026 at 10.30am

Minute

Present

MSPs

Craig Hoy MSP
Finlay Carson MSP
Liam Kerr MSP
Jamie Langan MSP
Colm Merrick MSP
Graham Simpson MSP
Office of Colm Merrick MSP (Chris White)
Office of Craig Hoy MSP (Katie Mackie)

Invited guests

Jacob Coad (Portman Group)
Jon Dale (Punch Pubs)
Paul Edgworth (CAMRA)
Josh Green (Heineken)
Rita King (All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group)
Andrew Lawrence (Molson Coors)
David McBride (Greene King)
Stephen Montgomery (Scottish Hospitality Group)
Chris Rafferty (Punch Pubs)
David Saer (Portman Group)
Anne Toms (Budweiser Brewing Group)
Barry Watts (SIBA)

Non-MSP Group Members

N/A

Apologies

Iris Duane MSP
Mark Simpson MSP
Paul Sweeney MSP
Paul Tognieri (SBPA)
Colin Wilkinson (SLTA)
Leon Thompson (UK Hospitality)

Agenda item 1

Election of Officers

Craig Hoy MSP was elected as Convener. Proposed Graham Simpson MSP, seconded Finlay Carson MSP.

Paul Sweeney MSP was elected Deputy Convener. Proposed Craig Hoy MSP, seconded Graham Simpson MSP and Finlay Carson MSP.

Agenda item 2

Appointment of Secretariat

CAMRA, SIBA and the All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group were nominated to provide the Secretariat to the CPG. Proposed Craig Hoy MSP, seconded Graham Simpson MSP.

The CPG expressed its thanks to the Secretariat for their support during the previous Parliament.

Agenda item 3

Proposed CPG Activity 2026/27

The Convenor proposed the following activities for consideration:

- Welcome Event (September/October – in Parliament or nearby pub)
- Annual CPG Pub Quiz (November)
- Brewery Visit (March/April)
- CPG Chairman's Dinner (June)

The Convener added that the CPG had also published two Inquiries in the previous Parliament and invited members to consider potential topics (such as business rates for example), for a similar piece of work in the coming year.

Agenda item 4

Any other business

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 10.40am.