

Cross-Party Group on Housing Initial Meeting

11 August 2026, 18:30-19:00

Minute

Present

MSPs

Graham Simpson MSP
Gary Bouse MSP
Iris Duane MSP

Invited guests

None

Non-MSP Group Members

Gareth James
Moir Bayne
Ken Gibb

Apologies

Tim Eagle MSP
Mark Griffin MSP
Lloyd Melville MSP
David Linden MSP

Agenda item 1: Welcome

Gareth James welcomed everyone and outlined the purpose of the meeting which was to begin the process of re-establishing the CPG on Housing.

Agenda item 2: Re-election of Office Bearers

Graham Simpson MSP was elected Convenor.

Gary Bouse MSP was elected Deputy Convenor.

Housing Options Scotland was appointed secretariat.

Agenda item 3: Priorities for 2026-27

The group discussed some initial priorities for 2026-27 that could be picked up in future meetings:

- **Housing emergency:** Where are we now, what is needed to move out of emergency conditions, and how will we know when the emergency has ended?
- **Immigration and housing allocations:** In light of recent protests in Glasgow, consider how to challenge misinformation and improve understanding of social housing allocation.
- **Housing standards and quality:** Explore how new homes can meet a range of needs while also delivering high standards of quality, accessibility and environmental performance.
- **More Homes Scotland:** Consider progress, delivery and the programme's contribution to meeting housing need.
- **Rent control:** Develop a clearer working definition, identify data requirements, and consider the criteria and process for declaring rent pressure areas/zones.

Agenda item 4: AOB & Date of Next meeting

No other business.

Date of next meeting TBC. Possibly November 2026.