Minutes from initial meeting of the CPG on Long Covid

4pm Monday 21st September – Virtual (Teams)

Attendees

Jackie Baillie MSP
Miles Briggs MSP
Fulton Macgregor MSP
Helen McDade MSP
Stuart McIver (Long Covid Scotland)
Jane Ormerod (Long Covid Scotland)
Stuart Stevenson (Note taker, Jackie Baillie staffer)

Minutes

- Jackie Baillie opened the meeting to welcome attendees
- Purpose of the meeting suggested to be to welcome Miles Briggs as a member of the fifth party in order to make the CPG quorate.
- Jackie offers that herself and Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP remain as co-convenors as was the case in the previous parliamentary session.
    - No objections.
    - Prior agreement had been issued by Alex Cole-Hamilton to remain as a co-convenor.
- Helen McDade, Fulton Macgregor, Miles Briggs are happy to be named members.
    - Alan Brown MSP has also indicated willingness to become a named member.
- Jackie Baillie nominates Long Covid Scotland as secretariat.
    - No objections. Long Covid Scotland, represented by Stuart McIver and Jane Ormerod, happy to accept.
- Stuart McIver suggests topics of future meetings.
    - Suggests that a scene-setter might be useful for new MSPs.

    - Children with Long Covid would be useful as it is much ignored.
    - Bringing in broader long-term health concerns by having a meeting on the Scottish Government's long-term conditions review and associated advisory groups. ME / CFS as well as Lyme disease are noted as long-term conditions with a strong degree of crossover and are included under umbrella regulations by the Scottish Government.
- Jackie Baillie suggests that a written briefing might be a better medium for informing newer MSPs. Notes also that where constituents are members of Long Covid Scotland, that they should be encouraged to write to their MSP and ask them to be involved in the CPG. Notes that the lived experience aspect is very important.
- Fulton MacGregor suggests that the CPG should aim to do some cross-party work first, and should then seek to coordinate a wider parliamentary event to highlight these efforts.
- Jackie Baillie suggests that the suggestions are a good starting point to inform Long Covid Scotland in deciding a steer for the first few meetings.
- Meeting closes.