Cross-Party Group Registration Form

Please read Section 6 of the Code of Conduct before completing this form.

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on Social Care
Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics 1. Please state the purpose of the Group. This Cross-Party Group (CPG) will provide a structured, cross-party forum for discussion of the key issues in social care, and the opportunities to build a flourishing sector that can better meet the needs of people in Scotland. It will: - Maintain sustained and dedicated focus on social care within the Scottish Parliament through a period of immense change. - Build understanding of social care issues and the latest research and thinking among MSPs to support their contributions to parliamentary debates, committee scrutiny and other relevant forums. - Embed sector expertise and lived experience within parliamentary discussion by bringing together MSPs, service providers, people with lived experience, academics and other stakeholders. - Promote discussion of social care challenges and opportunities, such as workforce issues, funding arrangements, support for different population groups, integration with other public services (inc. Health), community-based support, prevention and early intervention, digital innovations, and the long-term sustainability of the social care sector. 2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest. Social care is currently dispersed across a range of portfolios, including health, public service reform, local government, education, finance, justice and housing. Related issues are considered across multiple

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parliamentary committees and debates, and there is currently limited dedicated cross-party space for sustained strategic consideration of social care in its own right.

A CPG on social care is firmly in the public interest. Social care enables people to live independently and with dignity, connected to family, community, education and work. It supports reductions in inequalities and improved life outcomes for people of all ages. It is the cornerstone of Scotland's public services and a major contributor to a healthy economy.

The CPG will provide a platform for the voices of people who receive and deliver social care services, strengthening engagement between decision makers and those directly affected by plans for improvement. It will also introduce members to the latest thinking in the social care field to support wider work given the significant focus on social care reform.

3. Please also provide details of any overlaps with the purpose of existing Cross-Party Groups and an explanation of why, regardless of any such overlap, the Group should be established.

There could be some overlap with the Cross-Party Group on Housing and that on Unpaid Carers. Rather than compete, we believe these CPG's would be complimentary. The primary lens for the Social Care CPG is to focus on the social care system and people's experience of receiving or providing care. Housing can be a factor affecting social care outcomes however it is only one of many. Unpaid carers are an important part of the social care system but there is also the paid care workforce. The focus of these groups is sufficiently different and they involve different policy systems, stakeholders, legislation and funding mechanisms to warrant separate groups.

4. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.

- Governance – existing and future
- Funding arrangements – challenges and opportunities
- Workforce issues

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- Integration with other public services - Examples of good practice in social care in other nations

MSP Members of the Group

Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group. In doing so please note:

- Section 6 of the Code of Conduct requires there be 5 members from the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau. The SPPA Committee agreed a waiver for this session that requires 5 MSP members from 5 parties represented on the Bureau;
- MSPs can be on no more than 10 CPGs of which fulfil no more than 3 office-bearer positions;
- If the group fails to comply with MSP membership requirements, the Convener must ensure this is resolved within 90 days.

MSP	**Party**
Joe Long	Labour
Adam Harley	Liberal Democrats
Helen McDade	Reform
Heather Anderson	SNP
Cara McKee	Greens

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	
Organisations	

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No confirmed organisations as yet however intentions are to reach out to organisations to increase membership once group formally recognised.	

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.

Please note:

- No more than 3 named contacts per CPG - the Convener, the Secretary and one other individual who can provide information to the Standards Clerks about the activities of the Group. The Convener of a Group must confirm the name of this individual.

Convener	Joe Long MSP
Deputy Convener	Cara McKee MSP
Secretary	Rachel Cackett - Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland (CCPS)
Named Contact	Gemma Letton, Office of Joe Long MSP

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.

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We do not expect to exceed £500 however we will track this and provide further updates on our AGM return.
Subscription Charged by the Group Please provide details of the amount to be charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.
N/A
Statement on Compliance with the Code of Conduct. Must be read and signed by the Convener.

Please read the following:
• The Convener of a Group is primarily responsible for ensuring that the Group complies with the Code of Conduct;
• The Convener is solely responsible for providing Standards Clerks with:
  ○ The names of new MSP members of the CPG and changes to office-bearers;
  ○ Named contact details;
  ○ The registration form;
  ○ All minutes of meetings within 30 days of the meeting being held; **(Substantially verbatim minutes will not be accepted and will be returned)**
  ○ The AGM return (to be submitted within 30 days of the AGM to be held within 11 – 13 months of the initial meeting).
• Groups are required to have five MSPs from five of the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau;
• CPGs must hold at least two formal meetings per year (not on the same day), where two MSPs members of the Group are present;
• CPGs must provide Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings;
• If a CPG meeting is cancelled or rearranged, notification must be provided to the Standards clerks by no later than the day after the meeting was originally scheduled to take place;

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• If a Group fails to comply fully with the Code for more than one year in a row, the Committee will withdraw recognition from that Group. I declare that I have read the above and that the Cross-Party Group on <SUBJECT> is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

Signed (Convener)	
Date	8.10.26

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