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 Tourism and Hospitality
Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics **1. Please state the purpose of the Group.** "To work together to support and promote the objectives of the national tourism strategy and missions of the Tourism and Hospitality Industry Leadership Group to sustainably grow the sector's economic value and positively enhance the benefits of tourism and hospitality – delivering the very best for our visitors, businesses, people, communities, and environment." **2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.** The purpose of the Group is to discuss the opportunities and barriers to supporting sustainable growth of the tourism and hospitality sector, focused on the importance of the visitor economy to the national economy and Scotland's international profile, and as the heartbeat of Scotland's local communities. Previously the group was registered as the CPG on Tourism and adding 'hospitality' to its title will elevate the groups' importance and relevance, ensuring that it mirrors the titles of the Tourism & Hospitality Industry Leadership Group (THILG) and the Westminster All-Party Group (APPG) for Hospitality & Tourism. Having a CPG on Tourism and Hospitality is in the public interest as its work will help towards achieving the ambitions of the national tourism strategy, Scotland Outlook 2030, Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET), and the THILG.

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As one of Scotland's leading industries, the sector is central to local communities, particularly in rural and island areas – generating jobs, supporting businesses, supporting infrastructure projects, and making communities better places to live, work, study and visit.

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 is no other overarching tourism and hospitality CPG that currently exists. Instead, in the previous parliament term there were a small group of CPGs focused on specific sub-sectors such as marine tourism, beer and pubs, and aviation.

The CPG on Tourism and Hospitality is an evolution of the original CPG on Tourism that was previously registered.

It is also the CPG on Tourism and Hospitality's intention to better link with other CPGs to help jointly support our work, along with hosting a joint session with the Westminster APPG for Tourism and Hospitality.

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

At the initial meeting held on 28 September 2026, the following topics were raised:

- The implementation of the visitor levy (urban vs rural experience of levy, such as Edinburgh and Highland comparison; introduction in other parts of the UK; impact on industry balanced with benefits of levy spending; using data collection to inform levy spending decisions)
- Tourism-related infrastructure projects implemented by public bodies and community groups, which are enhancing the tourism offer and at the same time helping address pressures on local communities. This

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should include barriers from central and local government to these projects (e.g. planning)

- Growing golf tourism and wider benefits to local economy, e.g. East Lothian area
- Rates re-evaluation impact on sector
- Visitor dispersal and understanding what the visitor economy looks like from a regional perspective, spreading the benefits of tourism (e.g. cruise tourism), and extending visitor season – including unique challenges and opportunities in areas like South of Scotland
- Accumulative burden on sector from multiple policy interventions at Scottish and UK levels
- Sector data collection, including analysis of visitor spend and how this benefits communities
- Growing Scotland's competitiveness as a visitor destination
- Profitability of sector businesses, where cost of doing business is so high that the price point has risen but quality isn't matching this
- UK and Scottish Budgets

It is also envisioned that the group will consider topics related directly to the missions of the THILG, which includes: workforce and skills, sustainable transport, community-led tourism, data and technology empowerment, and pathway to net zero. Some of the topics raised at the initial meeting complement these missions.

It will also look to discuss emerging challenges and opportunities for the sector, such as the impact on the sector following the current review of the local authority landscape.

The CPG on Tourism and Hospitality is also keen to look at international best practice.

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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
• Murdo Fraser	• Scottish Conservatives
• Andrew Baxter	• Scottish Liberal Democrats
• Calum Kerr	• SNP
• Neil Bibby	• Scottish Labour
• Dawn Black	• SNP
• Alexander Burnett	• Scottish Conservatives
• Yi-pei Chou Turvey	• Scottish Liberal Democrats
• Joe Fagan	• Scottish Labour
• Rachael Hamilton	• Scottish Conservatives
• Craig Hoy	• Scottish Conservatives
• Daniel Johnson	• Scottish Labour
• David Kirkwood	• Reform UK
• Paul McLennan	• SNP
• Stuart McMillan	• SNP
• Laura Mitchell	• SNP
• Kim Schmulian	• Reform UK
• Graham Simpson	• Reform UK

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• Jamie Langan • Duncan Dunlop • Finlay Carson • Laura Moodie	• Reform UK • Liberal Democrat • Scottish Conservatives • Scottish 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	• Dr Jane Ali-Knight, Professor in Festival and Event Management at Edinburgh Napier University • Dr Derek Bryce, Senior Lecturer at Department of Marketing, University of Strathclyde Business School • Sam Bracken, Office of Murdo Fraser MSP • Lyn Jardine, Office of Paul McLellan MSP • Orchid Liu, Contributing Correspondent for UK Chinese Times
Organisations	• The Scottish Tourism Alliance (Secretariat) • Argyll & the Isles Tourism Cooperative • Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers • Carey Tourism • Country Sport Scotland • Cruise Lines International Association

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	• Diageo • Expedia Group, London • Hart Holidays Limited • Heritage Railway Association • Highlands and Islands Enterprise • Holiday and Residential Parks Association • Hostelling Scotland • Loch Melfort Hotel/ Red Roof Business Support Ltd • Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park • Mercat Tours • Moffat Centre for Travel and Tourism Business Development, Glasgow Caledonian University • North Coast 500 Limited • RuralDimensions Ltd • Scotch Whisky Association • Scotrail • Scottish Agritourism • Scottish Bed and Breakfast Association • Scottish Chambers of Commerce • Scottish Hospitality Group • Scottish Land & Estates • Scottish Tourist Guides Association • South of Scotland Destination Alliance • Springboard UK • The Association of Scotland's Visitor Attractions

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	• The Golden Lion • The National Lottery Heritage Fund – Scotland • The Scottish Licensed Trade Association • UKHospitality Scotland • UKinbound • VisitAberdeenshire • VisitArran & The Arran Trust • VisitScotland • Walking Scotland • Wild Scotland • Women in Tourism

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	Murdo Fraser MSP
Deputy Convener	Andrew Baxter MSP
Deputy Convener	Calum Kerr MSP
Secretary	Elaine Wilson, Scottish Tourism Alliance
Named Contact	Murdo Fraser MSP

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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.
The Scottish Tourism Alliance has agreed to absorb the costs of secretariat support provided to the CPG on Tourism and Hospitality. This support is estimated to be the equivalent of 2 days across the parliamentary year (half a day of work per meeting), which comes to the total value of £700.
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.

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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;
- 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	29/09/2026

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