

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group

Cross-Party Group on Skills

Date Group Established (the date of establishment is the date in this parliamentary session that the Group held its initial meeting, where the office bearers were elected and not the date that the Group was accorded recognition. All Groups should hold their AGMs on, or before, the anniversary of this date.)

27 October 2021

Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)

14 November 2025

Date Annual Return Submitted

14 November 2025

Date of Preceding AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 11 to 13 months of the previous AGM]

3 November 2024

Group Meetings and Activities

Please provide details of each meeting of the Group including the date of the meeting, a brief description of the main subjects discussed and the MSP and non-MSP attendance figures.

Details of any other activities, such as visits undertaken by the Group or papers/report published by the Group should also be provided.

28 February 2025

Topic: How Community Learning and Development supports skills, education and training across all 32 Local Authorities in Scotland

Description: Steven MacLennan, Development Officer, CLD Standard Council Scotland gave a presentation.

MSP Attendees: Dr Pam Gosal MBE MSP and Stephen Kerr MSP

Non-MSP Attendees: Joanne Buchan, Colleges Scotland; Vikki Manson, Federation of Small Businesses; Ibiyemi Omeihe, University of the West of Scotland; Lauren Pennycook, CITB; Victoria Manson, Federation of Small Businesses; Kate Young, Enginuity; Georgia Marks, UCAS; Jason Miles-Campbell, Jisc; Robert Bruce, Enginuity; Rachael Nicholls, University of Strathclyde; Katherine Shaw Nelson, Scottish Parliament; Aimee Logan, Universities Scotland; George Brown, SQA; Kellie Zdanowicz, Scottish Training Federation; Alix McDonald, University of Strathclyde; Pauline Ratcliffe, SCQF Partnership; Barron-Majerik, Lantra Scotland; Kevin Kelman, NHS Education for Scotland; Kirsty Summers, The Scotch Whisky Association; Fiona Harper, Sectt; Greg Cullen, ITC Training Academy; Keith Robson, The Open University; Iain McCaskey, Building Engineering Services Association [BESA]; and Calum McNairney, Scottish Funding Council.

30 May 2025

Topic: Offshore Wind Skills

Description: Presentations were heard from Kirsty MacAulay, Stakeholder Engagement Manager and Kirstin Gove, Communications Manager, Thistle Wind Partners (TWP); Jim Brown, Director, Energy Skills Partnership (ESP); and Andrew Aveyard, Business Development Executive for Energy, Edinburgh Innovations, University of Edinburgh.

MSP Attendees: Dr Pam Gosal MBE MSP; Stephen Kerr MSP; Miles Briggs MSP; and Paul Sweeney MSP.

Non-MSP Attendees: Tom Hall, Colleges Scotland; Joanne Buchan, Colleges Scotland; Andy Witty, Colleges Scotland; James McKean, Colleges Scotland; Wendy Burton, Scottish Trade Union Congress; Siobhan Wilson, City of Glasgow College; Stuart McKenna, Scottish Training Federation; Fiona Harper, Scottish Electrical Charitable Training Trust; Nicola Smith, Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework; George Brown, Scottish Qualifications Authority; Robert Bruce, Enginuity; Joshua Farnham, The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS); Ibiyemi Omeihe, University of the West of Scotland; Derek Young, Institute of Physics; Jack Norquoy, Scottish Renewables; Victoria Manson, Federation of Small Businesses; Kellie Zdanowicz, JBM; Simon Shedden, Office of Ben Macpherson MSP; Rachael Nicholls, University of Strathclyde; Elodie Lemaire Nowinski; Calum McNairney, Scottish Funding Council; Steven MacLennan, CLD Standards Council; and Kevin Kelman, NHS Education for Scotland.

26 September 2025

Topic: Innovation

Description: Presentations were heard from Jason Miles-Campbell, Director, Scotland and Northern Ireland; Alison Muckersie, Programme Director for Data-driven Innovation Skills Gateway, University of Edinburgh; and Alistair Rodgers, Director of Enterprise Development, Ayrshire College.

MSP Attendees: Dr Pam Gosal MBE MSP; Sharon Dowey MSP; Alexander Stewart MSP; Miles Briggs MSP; and Paul Sweeney MSP.

Non-MSP Attendees: Tom Hall, Colleges Scotland; Anastasia Kourtis, Scottish Conservatives; Yvonne Wilson, Select; Victoria Manson, Federation of Small Businesses; Stuart McKenna, Scottish Training Federation; Paul Zealey, Skills Development Scotland; Fiona Harper, Select; Wendy Burton, Scottish Trade Union Congress; Al Walker, National Farmers Union Scotland; Keith Robson, Open University; Jim Millar, Scottish Land and Estates; Aimee Logan, Universities Scotland; Georgia Marks, Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS); Ibiyemi Omeihe, University of the West of Scotland; Fiona Stewart, Skills Development Scotland; Sean Cameron, Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland; Stuart Farmer, Institute of Physics; Shona Matthews, Chartered Banker Institute; Robert Bruce, Enginuity; Kevin Kelman, NHS Scotland Academy; and Liz Barron-Majerik, Lantra Scotland.

14 November 2025

Topic: Annual General Meeting

Description: Completion of Annual General Meeting and Election of Officer Bearers and Secretariat. Dr Pam Gosal MBE MSP and Stephen Kerr MSP re-elected as Convenor and Deputy Convenor. Colleges Scotland re-confirmed as Secretariat for the CPG.

MSP Attendees: Dr Pam Gosal MBE MSP; Sharon Dowe MSP; Michelle Thomson MSP; and Paul Sweeney MSP.

Non-MSP Attendees: Aimee Logan, Universities Scotland; Kellie Zdanowicz, JBM; Anastasia Kourtis, Scottish Conservatives; Jason Miles-Campbell, Jisc; Steven MacLennan, CLD Standards Council; Paul Zealey, EDAS; Kevin Kelman, NHS Scotland Academy; William Hardie, Robert Gordon University; George Brown, Scottish Qualifications Authority; Georgia Marks, UCAS; Nathan Tyler, West College Scotland; Donnie Wood, Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Partnership; Sean Cameron, Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland; Rachael Nicholls, University of Strathclyde; Keith Robson, Open University Scotland; Victoria Manson, Federation of Small Businesses and Alastair Roden, Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Partnership.

MSP Members of The Group

Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group.

Dr Pam Gosal MBE MSP

Stephen Kerr MSP

Clare Adamson MSP

Paul Sweeney MSP

Beatrice Wishart MSP

Sharon Dowe MSP

Michelle Thomson MSP

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Barnardo's ScotlandBio RelianceBritish Psychological SocietyBSE SkillsBuilding Engineering Services Association [BESA]Carnegie Trust for the Universities of ScotlandCastle Douglas Community IT CentreCECA ScotlandChartered Banker InstituteCITBCity of Glasgow CollegeCivil Engineering Contractors Association (Scotland)CLD Standards CouncilClose the GapCollege Development NetworkColleges ScotlandEconomic Development Association Scotland (EDAS)Energy & Utility SkillsEnginuityEssential Skills Plus LtdFederation of Small BusinessesFife CollegeHomes for Scotland

	Improve Limited Institute of Physics IPPR Scotland ITC Training Academy Jisc Lantra Scotland Lifeskills Centres Loch Lomond & Trossachs Community Partnership National Trust for Scotland Nesta NHS Education for Scotland Nithcree Training and Scottish Road Haulage Group Perth College UHI Robert Gordon University Scottish Building Scottish Contractors Group Scottish Decorators' Federation Scottish Enterprise Scottish Funding Council Scottish Land and Estates Scottish Qualifications Authority Scottish Retail Consortium Scottish Schools Education Research Centre (SSERC) Scottish Training Federation SCQF Partnership SECTT SELECT Servelec Skills Development Scotland SNIPEF
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	SQA Accreditation STUC The Institute of the Motor Industry The Open University in Scotland The Scotch Whisky Association UCAS Universities Scotland University of the West of Scotland Venture Trust West College Scotland University of Strathclyde
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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.

Convener	Pam Gosal MSP
Deputy Convener	Stephen Kerr MSP
Secretary	Colleges Scotland
Treasurer	N/A

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.

N/A	
Convener Contact Details	
Name	Pam Gosal MSP
Parliamentary address	M2.09 The Scottish Parliament EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 5950