

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on Social Work
Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics
1. Please state the purpose of the Group. To promote understanding of the complexities of the social work profession, bring together its voice and positively raise its profile.
2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest. The social work profession is a single profession, very connected to, but separate from, social care. Social workers hold specific duties for welfare and have statutory powers to intervene where necessary. The governance of social work is spread across local authorities, the independent sector and health and social care partnerships. It can be challenging to bring these diverse experiences and voices together, to support and influence national policy and legislation. There can be a lack of, or stereotypical public understanding of the profession, often negatively perpetuated by the media. This CPG will provide a space to collaboratively address issues and work towards solutions in the profession, for people who use social work services, their families, and communities - and for social workers themselves. It will also seek to raise awareness of the profession and to raise its profile in a positive way, to better enable the public to understand the key role that social workers' play in people's lives. This becomes even more significant as Scotland moves towards establishing a National Care Service, of which social work will play an integral part.
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.

Social workers work across adults, children, and justice services and, of course, many of the individuals and families they work with have needs that cut across all these specialisms. There are connections with the CPG on disability and on learning disability and the CPG on carers, given social workers support and protect individuals and families from within these groups. However, these groups are unlikely to explore the social work role in these contexts and whilst there are relevant links, they are not 'overlaps' in purpose, per se. The CPG on social work is the first of its kind since the establishment of the Scottish Parliament.

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

- Public perceptions of social work
- The National Care Service
- Poverty
- Drugs deaths
- Self-Directed Support

MSP Members of the Group

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

Fulton MacGregor (SNP)

Jeremy Balfour (Con)

Paul O’Kane (Lab)

Collette Stevenson (SNP)

Emma Harper (SNP)

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

British Association of Social Workers

Social Work Scotland

	<p>UNISON</p> <p>SWU</p> <p>COSLA</p> <p>Care Inspectorate</p> <p>CJVSF</p> <p>HSCS</p> <p>CCPS</p> <p>Scottish Care</p> <p>The Alliance</p> <p>Iriss</p> <p>SSSC</p> <p>OCSWA</p> <p>Children in Scotland</p> <p>SASW Committee</p> <p>SWA</p> <p>Barnardos</p> <p>Families Outside</p> <p>Children's Commissioners office</p> <p>Mental Welfare Commission</p> <p>Scottish Human Rights Commission</p> <p>Community Justice Scotland</p> <p>Poverty Alliance</p> <p>Civil servants - directorates with an interest in social work</p>
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	<p>Inclusion Scotland</p> <p>ILF (Independent Living Fund)</p> <p>SDS Scotland (Self-Directed Support Scotland)</p> <p>SAMH (Scottish Association of Mental Health)</p> <p>Shubanna, Carers Coalition</p>
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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	Fulton MacGregor MSP
Deputy Convener	Jeremy Balfour MSP Paul O’Kane MSP
Secretary	Emily Galloway (British Association of Social Workers)
Treasurer	Alison Bavidge (British Association of Social Workers)

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

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

Convener Contact Details	
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Name	Fulton MacGregor
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Parliamentary address	M3.07 Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH991SP
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Telephone number	0131 348 5797
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Statement on Compliance with The Code Of Conduct	
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I declare that the Cross-Party Group on Social Work is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.	
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Signed	Fulton MacGregor MSP
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Date	27/10/2021
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