

Cross-Party Group on Space

Tuesday 29 April 2025, 10:00 – 11:30, online

Minutes

Present

MSPs

- Colin Beattie MSP
- *Jenny Gray - Office of Colin Beattie MSP*
- *Scott Steele - Office of Colin Beattie MSP*

Non-MSP Group Members

- Alison McLure
- Andy Nolan
- Christie Maddock
- Derek Harris
- Derek Young
- Julian Dines
- Ed Fyfe
- Andrew Fournet
- Frank Strang
- Kelly Hardman
- Jenni Doonan
- John Edward
- Karen Wilson
- Matthew Revett
- Fergus McGowan
- Pamela Smith
- Phil Mclachlan
- Stephanie Ayres
- Victoria Mills
- Yvette Hopkins

Apologies

- Keith Robson
- John Bone
- Grant Lewis

Agenda item 1

Opening remarks and approval of previous minutes

Minutes approved from meeting held 18 February 2025.

Agenda item 2

Guest speaker: Pamela Smith, VP Future Programmes, AAC Clyde Space

‘INFLECIION: A Game Changer in Global Maritime Operations’

A newly launched initiative supported by ESA and the UK Space Agency under a public-private partnership. Focused on the blue economy, the programme aims to enhance maritime domain awareness (MDA) using satellite technologies, including V-DES communications, signal intelligence, and synthetic aperture radar (SAR). These systems work together to detect anomalies and support real-time decision-making. Phase One is underway, defining system architecture and use cases across communications, maritime security, and sustainability. The programme involves multiple UK-based partners and targets applications such as vessel tracking, anti-smuggling, offshore asset protection, and route optimisation, with future phases planned for implementation and demonstration.

Agenda item 3

Guest speaker: student from Dundee University

‘Questions to the CPG from a student’

A Dundee University student joined the group for the session, and the group shared their knowledge with him, answering the questions he put to the attendees.

Agenda item 4

- **Relevant updates on outstanding actions**
 - **Graeme Dey, the Scottish Government Minister for Higher and Further Education, will be invited to the next meeting to discuss skills and education.**
 - Senior rep will be invited in his place.
 - **Festival of Politics 2025**
 - Group advised we are not partaking this year.
 - **Proposed new members**
 - Meeting invites sent to approved new members
 - **Timing of future meetings**
 - Lunchtime meetings to be trialled for ease of MSP attendance.

Agenda item 6

AOB

Connected working - APPG and CPG to explore ways of working together.

- Victoria actioning.

Arrange MSP Site visit to AAC Clyde Space (Fridays or Mondays)

- After recess, Victoria to connect with Pamela Smith to host, and Jenni Doonan to support with the 'ask' for support for further education, innovation centres, or national program. Ed Fyfe has offered to support with messaging and potential flyers.

Next meeting Wednesday 25 June, 12:15 – 13:45, online