

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on the Wood Panel Industry
Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Please state the purpose of the Group.2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.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.4. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.
<p>The purpose of the Cross-Party Group on the Wood Panel Industry will be to support the sustainability and growth of the wood panel industry in Scotland.</p> <p>Three of the UK's six wood panel manufacturing plants are located in Scotland (50% of the UK industry), demonstrating the disproportionate importance of the industry to the Scottish economy. The Cross-Party Group on the Wood Panel Industry will work to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Highlight and promote the significant contribution made by wood panel manufacturers in Scotland; by providing high-quality jobs (both direct and indirect) and producing wood panel products which are ubiquitous in domestic and commercial settings across Scotland, most notably in construction, furniture production, kitchen unit production and flooring.● Provide a forum for parliamentarians and senior industry leaders to discuss the challenges around wood security and the hierarchy of wood use, as well as potential long-term strategies to address these issues; within the context of the Scottish Government's ambition to plant 18,000 hectares of woodland by 2024/25 and the Net Zero ambition.● Highlight the opportunities and challenges for the wood panel industry arising from the decarbonisation agenda, with a view to securing the future sustainability of the sector and ongoing economic benefits. <p>The proposed Group does not consider its remit overlaps with any other existing Group.</p>

Anticipated discussion topics for the Group include:

- Work to highlight the vital contribution that wood panel manufacturers make to the Scottish economy and to promote policies to secure the sustainable growth of this domestic industry.
- Support for increased forestry investment in commercial species to ensure that the wood panel industry enjoys security of domestic wood supply in the medium to longer term.
- Ways to unlock barriers to the drive to achieve Net Zero for the wood panel industry in Scotland; principally through establishing the best use of virgin and waste wood, reducing reliance on fossil fuels in the manufacturing process, and modal shift to low carbon transport systems.
- Ways to maintain UK-wide and global competitiveness by benchmarking the regulatory barriers that may impact the wood panel industry here in Scotland, that may not exist elsewhere.

MSP Members of the Group

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

Fergus Ewing MSP (SNP)
Stephen Kerr (Con)
Colin Smyth (Lab)
Elena Whitham (SNP)
Emma Harper (SNP)
Evelyn Tweed (SNP)
Finlay Carson (Con)
Foyso Choudhury (Lab)
Jim Fairlie (SNP)
Maurice Golden (Con)
Sharon Dowey (Con)

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	n/a
Organisations	The Wood Panel Industries Federation Invicta Public Affairs

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	Fergus Ewing MSP
Deputy Convener	Stephen Kerr MSP Colin Smyth MSP
Secretary	The Wood Panel Industries Federation
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.

The Group will receive secretariat support via the Wood Panel Industries Federation. It is anticipated that the cumulative value of this support will exceed the £500 threshold for the coming calendar year.

A maximum budget of £5,000.00 has been allocated for the provision of secretariat support for the coming calendar year, based on an expectation of 4 to 5 meetings being held.

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

Name	Fergus Ewing MSP
Parliamentary address	M5.03 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 5732

Statement on Compliance with The Code Of Conduct	
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I declare that the Cross-Party Group on the Wood Panel Industry 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	
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Date	
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