

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse

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.)

28th June 2011

DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

13th August 2014

DATE OF PRECEDING AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 12 months of the previous AGM]

18th September 2013

DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

15th September 2014

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.

15th January

Margaret Mitchell MSP provided an update on the proposed Rape Victim's Pilot Scheme (Amendment to the Victim's and Witnesses' Bill), which was rejected by Parliament. The CPG members conceded to keep the pressure up for its consideration as this scheme will make a positive difference for the rape victims.

An update on the issue of corroboration was discussed. It was confirmed that the group's overall view is against the abolition of corroboration, while one member, SAY Women, was in favour of removal of corroboration.

Sarah Nelson reported on the Scottish Parliament Public Petitions' Committee inquiry into child sexual exploitation (CSE) focussing on a number of recommendations made in the report. The report had been presented to the government for review and consideration of the recommendations made.

The second half of the meeting focussed on proposals for future priority programme of the CPG. The group agreed on the following key tasks for the year: presentation by David Stewart MSP, Convenor of the Public Petitions' Committee Inquiry into CSE; review of the National Strategy for Survivors of Childhood Abuse; compilation of case studies on programmes for female perpetrators; and inviting representatives from Police Scotland the COPFS to understand their process and investigations into CSA and CSE cases.

MSPs attending: 1

Non-MSPs: 17

[Clerks note: this meeting was inquorate and therefore classed as an informal meeting. No minutes will be posted onto the CPG webpage and this meeting does not count towards the requirements set out in the Code of Conduct that all Groups must hold two meetings per year]

2nd April

Taking forward the issue of the Scottish Parliament Public Petitions' Committee Inquiry into CSE that was discussed at the previous CPG meeting, David Stewart MSP, provided a comprehensive presentation on the committee's report and recommendations. Amongst 28 recommendations made by the committee, the lack of unified upfront Strategy to address the issue of CSE in Scotland was emphasised. While the committee is hopeful that all the recommendations would be accepted, the CPG was informed that the report would be discussed again in the Parliament when response to the recommendations from the government is received. Some of the key issues discussed by the group with David included the need for legislative scrutiny; disappointment about little focus on the Scottish ethnic minorities (SEM) in the report; limited research on CSE in Scotland especially amongst the rural population, young men and SEMs; and need for higher funding for research on issues of CSA and CSE in the country.

A sub-group of three members was formed at the January CPG meeting to review the National Strategy for Survivors of Childhood Abuse on completion of its ten-year lifetime. The sub-group provided a brief update of their discussion and ideas. It was agreed that the sub-group would develop these ideas and plan of action to be presented at the next CPG meeting.

MSPs attending: 3

Non MSPs: 24

13th August

This meeting incorporated the AGM. The Convenor, Margaret Mitchell MSP presented a report of the activities undertaken by the group in the year 2013-2014, followed by brief review of accounts, and the election of the office bearers.

Ken Macintosh MSP highlighted an issue raised by a constituent regarding the lack of appropriate trauma services within the constituent's area and in particular, the lack of choice in accessing suitable services. The CPG decided to write a letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Alex Neil, highlighting the disparities and concerns about the delay in accessing proper traumatic services, and lack of choice for the survivors in accessing services appropriate to their needs.

An update on the plans for review and recording achievements of the National Strategy for Survivors of Childhood Abuse was provided by the sub-group. One of the sub-group's members is in the process of developing a précis on the review of the strategy over past 10 years in a format for MSPs and Ministers. It would be presented at the next CPG meeting.

MSPs attending: 3

Non-MSPs: 15

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Margaret Mitchell- Scottish Conservative

Kenneth Gibson- SNP

Alison McInnes- Scottish Liberal Democrats

Elaine Smith- Scottish Labour

Jackie Baillie- Scottish Labour

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

Sarah Nelson
Javita Narang
Andrew Campbell
Dr R. Eric Swanepoel
Anke Kossurok
Dr. Sandra Ferguson
Emma Ducklin
James Evans
Elayne McBride
Carol Willson

	Lorna-Ann Deans Linda Hutton John Nelson Jenny Svanberg Martin Henry Marnie Collin
Organisations	Moira Anderson Foundation Open Secret Safe Space Kingdom Abuse Survivors Project Roshni Barnardo's Cornerstone Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance (SIAA) SAY Women Circle Stop It Now Survivor Scotland Break the Silence SAMH Health in Mind Harris Howard Children 1 ST Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (Perth & Kinross) Relationships Scotland Safe, Strong and Free NHS Borders NHS Lothian SCRA Quarriers 18 and Under Rape and Sexual Abuse Line, Dingwall SAVI British Psychological Society Crisis Counselling Services
<p>GROUP OFFICE BEARERS</p> <p>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.</p>	
Convener	Margaret Mitchell MSP

Deputy Convener	Kenneth Gibson MSP
Vice Conveners	Sarah Nelson, Martin Henry
Secretary	Javita Narang
Treasurer	Marnie Collin

FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE GROUP

Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) received 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.

Details of material support should include the name of the individual providing support, the value of this support over the year, an estimate of the time spent providing this support and the name of the organisation that this individual is employed by / affiliated to in providing this support.

Groups should provide details of the date on which the benefit was received, the value of the benefit and a brief description of the benefit.

If the Group is not disclosing any financial information please tick the box to confirm that the Group has considered the support received, but concluded it totalled under the threshold for disclosure (£500).

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

Please provide details of the amount charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.

£15.00 per parliamentary year for refreshments at meetings and travel expenses of speakers. Organisation members of the CPG who wish to contribute more are able to do so. Students members pay a fee of £5 per parliamentary year.

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Margaret Mitchell MSP
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Parliamentary address	M2.09 Scottish Parliament EH99 1SP
Telephone number	85639