

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP
Cross-Party Group on The Caribbean
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.)
1st September 2011
DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM
11th June 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]
25th June 2013
DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED
26th June 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.
6 November 2013 Mr Ty Speer, CEO of the Commonwealth Games Executive, gave a presentation on the 2014 games which included an update on facilities, events and venues that will be open to the public. Mr Speer also informed the group about the progress of the Queen's Baton Relay and the Empire Café, which will highlight Scotland's link with New World Slavery.

The group also discussed the possibility of special flights to meet the volume of international travellers coming to Glasgow from the Caribbean, developing business links through hospitality and accommodation at the games and diaspora events ahead of the Games.

MSPs Attending: 3

Non MSPs: 11

2 April 2014

Vicki Lee outlined the plan of events for July 2014 for a two day festival on the island of Millport/Cumbrae – over 18th July weekend. This includes a Golf event with Bajan celebrity cricketer - Sir Gary Sobers, a Civic Reception, Rum dinner and a grand parade featuring Bajan steel pan and a pipe band, with a Global village with Scottish and Bajan foodstuff.

The group discussed Air Passenger Duty including the change in banding for Caribbean countries and decided to write to the Chancellor regarding the issue.

Presentations were given by Andrew Murray of West Indies Sugar and David Howatt of Forward Asset Finance.

The group decided on a future work programme for the 2014-15 year.

MSPs Attending: 1

Non MSPs: 11

[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]

11 June 2014

The group discussed a Caribbean Food event in Glasgow pre Commonwealth Games, potential for rum import from Guyana through Ian Gittens firm's association, and the potential to include the Scotch Whisky Association in the High Commissioners event in March 2015 along with other rum brands which may be imported through key whisky companies in Scotland.

The group received an update from Vicki Lee on the festivities arranged for Millport in July and on the medical aid being shipped to Barbados by way of stoma care from her charity Glitter Beach Foundation. Vicki Lee also confirmed that the twinning between Oistins Barbados and the Isle of Cumbrae is going ahead.

The group ratified the future work programme and planned for an event involving the Caribbean High Commissioners coming to Scotland to meet with us in March 2015.

MSPs Attending: 2

Non MSPs: 8

11 June 2014 - Annual General Meeting

The treasurer reported on the financial situation of the group and requested that members pay their annual subscription fees.

The following office-bearers were elected:

Convener: Margaret Mitchell MSP

Vice Conveners: Annabelle Ewing MSP

Secretary: Carol Anderson

Treasurer: Sir Geoff Palmer

MSP's Attending: 2

Non MSPs: 8

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Margaret Mitchell (Con)

Linda Fabiani (SNP)

Annabelle Ewing (SNP)

David Stewart (Lab)

Tavish Scott (Lib)

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

Ian Gittens

Carol Anderson

Sir Geoff Palmer

Jeff Gilkes

JP Cumberbatch

Janice Hogarth

Michael Lavizani

Andros Stakis

Alan White

	Brian Duffy Mark Lawson Alastair Keating Victoria Lee Bill Flockhart David Mathewson Di Stein Bryan Rankine Ali Nejafian Anne Mearns Raymond Khan Duncan Turnbull Angus McKay Alan Burnett
Organisations	The Scotch Whisky Association The Caribbean Council Visit Barbados African and Caribbean Network Glasgow City Council Scottish Passenger Agents' Association
<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	Annabelle Ewing MSP
Secretary	Carol Anderson

Treasurer	Sir Geoff Palmer
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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.

A subscription of £10 is charged to cover teas and coffees

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Margaret Mitchell MSP
Parliamentary address	M2.09, The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh
Telephone number	0131 348 5639