

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

### NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Housing

**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.)

7<sup>th</sup> September 2011

### DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

6<sup>th</sup> November 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]

14<sup>th</sup> November 2013

### DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

14<sup>th</sup> November 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.

To allow housing organisations and MSPs to share information and gather knowledge on all matters relating to housing.

#### **Thursday 20th February 2014**

Main Item: Universal Credit – discussion led by Caroline Day, Musselburgh Job Centre.

2 MSPs present. 14 non-MSPs present

**Thursday 24th April 2014**

Main Item: Issues in the Private Rented Sector (PRS) – discussion led by James Battye, Shelter Scotland.

4 MSPs present. 19 non-MSPs present.

**Thursday 19th June 2014**

Main Item: Digital Inclusion

- The challenge of getting more people online – Sally Dyson, Programme Manager, SCVO

- Digital Links! (or Keep Taking the Tablets!) – Craig Sanderson, Chief Executive, Link Housing Association

2 MSPs present. 13 non-MSPs present.

**Thursday 6th November 2014**

Main Item: Thematic Inquiry into Housing Options and Homelessness Prevention – discussion led by Michael Cameron, Chief Executive, Scottish Housing Regulator.

4 MSPs present. 20 non-MSPs present.

**MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

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

Alex Johnstone, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Bob Doris, Scottish National Party

Elaine Murray, Scottish Labour

Gordon MacDonald, Scottish National Party

Hugh Henry, Scottish Labour

James Dornan, Scottish National Party

John Mason, Scottish National Party

Marco Biagi, Scottish National Party

Margaret McCulloch, Scottish Labour

Margaret McDougall, Scottish Labour

Mark McDonald, Scottish National Party

Maureen Watt, Scottish National Party

Mike MacKenzie, Scottish National Party

Patrick Harvie, Scottish Green Party

Paul Martin, Scottish Labour

Rhoda Grant, 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	N/A
Organisations	Scottish Land and Estates Scottish Federation of Housing Associations Scottish Association of Landlords Chartered Institute of Housing Scottish Churches Housing Action Shelter Scotland Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in Scotland Tenants Participatory Advisory Service Tenants Information Service Consumer Focus Scotland Electrical Safety Council Scottish Solicitors Property Centre National Association of Landlords Capability Scotland Scottish Council for Development and Industry Life Changes Trust Housing Options Scotland Homeless Action Scotland Leonard Cheshire Disability

## 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	Margaret MacDougall MSP
Deputy Convener	Patrick Harvie MSP and Gordon MacDonald MSP
Secretary	Tenants Information Service

Treasurer	N/A
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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).

Secretariat support is provided by Lynda Johnstone, Development Manager, and Leanne Blunsden, Marketing Officer, of the Tenants Information Service.

The Tenants Information Service contract rate for work is £80 per hour which includes professional Development Manager support and includes a dedicated and full administration service; liaison with the Convenor, meeting preparation and calling notices, minute taking and preparation, liaising with members, point of contact for speakers,

For each meeting:

- 1) Preparation for the meeting – agenda setting, preparation of the minutes, calling notices – 3 hours (£240)
- 2) Attendance at the meeting – 3 hours (£240)
- 3) Total - £480

The Cross Party Group on Housing hold 4 meetings a year, therefore the total cost of Secretariat support is £1,920 annually, however this is offered in kind from the Tenants Information Service.

### **SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP**

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

N/A

**CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS**

Name	Margaret MacDougall MSP
Parliamentary address	MG12, Scottish Parliament
Telephone number	01294 311976