

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Industrial Communities

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.)

15 June, 2011

DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

28 January, 2015

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]

22 January, 2014

DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

18 February, 2015

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.

Meetings with Ministers

The Cross-Party Group on Industrial Communities continues to be fortunate to have regular liaison meetings with Ministers within the Scottish Parliament. During 2014 one Meeting was held with the Deputy First Minister on 1st July, 2014. A further

Meeting with the Deputy First Minister was scheduled to take place on 2nd December, 2014 but was postponed as a consequence of the Cabinet reshuffle that was held in November, 2014. It has been agreed that regular meetings should now be held with Keith Brown MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities and the date of the first meeting is in the process of being scheduled.

The Meeting with the Deputy First Minister that was held on 1st July, 2014 focussed on the Report “Re-Building the Economy of Scotland’s Industrial Communities” (The Ten Point Plan) prepared by the ICA, the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund, The State of the Coalfields Report and the Report of Local Impact of Welfare Reform in Scotland.

Notes on the discussions were taken and reported to the Cross Party Group at its Meeting as on 29th September, 2014.

Cross-Party Group Meetings

The Cross-Party Group meets three times a year and generally follows a process of inviting presentations followed by a discussion of relevant issues. Meetings took place as follows:

22nd January, 2014

The key discussion related to the identification of Cross-Party Group Priorities. The Ten Point Plan prepared by the ICA which presented a set of aspirations for the ICA provided the background to the discussion. Issues including Job Creation, Rural Transport, Employability, Procurement, Zero Hour Contracts, Improving Aid to Businesses, Shale Gas Fracking and the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund were all discussed at some length.

A Report was also given on the outcome of the Meeting that had been held with the Deputy First Minister on 11th December, 2013

The Meeting was attended by 2 MSPs and 10 non MSPs.

7th May, 2014

The CPG received a presentation on the Scottish Government Energy Strategy from the Senior Policy Adviser of the Oil and Gas Team, Energy and Climate Change Division. Discussions focused on topics including, Renewable Energy such as Wind farms, Shale Gas Fracking and Coal and Gas supplies.

A presentation was then received from the Director of Business Support, Scottish Enterprise on “Supporting Economic Growth through the use of RSA and Assisted Areas”. The question and answer session that followed encouraged discussion on issues such the role that might be played by Local Authorities in facilitating development.

A discussion was also had regarding the proposed Agenda for the Meeting with the Deputy First Minister scheduled to be held on 22nd May, 2014. (Rescheduled to be

held on 1st July, 2014)

The Meeting was attended by 2 MSPs and 16 non MSPs.

29th October, 2014

The Minister for Business, Energy and Tourism, gave a presentation to the CPG. He outlined some of the forms of assistance from the Scottish Government to support businesses and outlined recent practical examples. He also detailed some of the proposals within the Plan “Reindustrialising Scotland for the 21st Century”.

In the question and answer session that followed there was a focus on issues relating to Energy Policy.

The Members then received a presentation on The People and Communities Fund from the Regeneration Strategy Team Leader and this was followed by an informative Question and Answer session.

The Members finally considered a Note of the Meeting that had been held with the Deputy First Minister on 1st July, 2014 and discussed in detail the comprehensive response from the Scottish Government to the Ten Point Plan that had been prepared by the ICA.

The Meeting was attended by 3 MSPs and 15 non MSPs.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Colin Beattie	Scottish National Party
Neil Bibby	Scottish Labour
Adam Ingram	Scottish National Party
Angus MacDonald	Scottish National Party
Cameron Buchanan	Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
Elaine Murray	Scottish Labour
Jayne Baxter	Scottish Labour
John Mason	Scottish National Party
Willie Rennie	Scottish Liberal Democrats

Individuals

Organisations

Industrial Communities Alliance
Argyll and Bute Council

	Clackmannanshire Council Coalfield Communities Federation Coalfields Regeneration Trust Dumfries and Galloway Council East Ayrshire Council East Dunbartonshire Council East Lothian Council East Renfrewshire Council Fife Council Glasgow City Council Inverclyde Council Midlothian Council National Union of Mineworkers North Ayrshire Council North Lanarkshire Council Renfrewshire Council South Ayrshire Council South Lanarkshire Council West Dunbartonshire Council
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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	Colin Beattie MSP
Deputy Convener	Neil Bibby MSP
Secretary	Industrial Communities Alliance
Treasurer	

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.

Nil

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name

Colin Beattie MSP

Parliamentary address

M3.05

Telephone number

0131 348 6374