

Proposed Cross Party Group :Arthritis and Musculo skeletal Conditions

Inaugural Meeting, The Scottish Parliament

Wednesday 14 September 2016 5.30pm(meeting started at 6pm)

- **Attending**

MSP

Rhoda Grant MSP, Brian Whittle MSP

Non MSP

Angela Donaldson -Bruce ,Arthritis Care Scotland,

Janice Johnson ,individual member,

Sheila Macleod ,National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society(NRAS)

Iain Macdonald ,National Ankylosing Spondylitis Society(NASS)

Maureen McAllister , Arthritis Care Scotland

Mhairi McIver ,individual member

Lorna Neill, Polymyalgia Rheumatica-Giant Cell Arteritis Scotland(PMR-GCA Scotland)

Anne Simpson, individual member

Ros Stewart, UNC Pharma Ltd

- **Apologies**

Alex Cole Hamilton MSP, Pauline MacNeil MSP

1.Welcome and Apologies

Rhoda Grant MSP as acting chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the support and commitment by Margaret McCulloch MSP as convenor in the previous session following on from the sad death of Helen Eadie MSP who had been so instrumental in leading the Group since first established.

2.Chair/Convenor

Rhoda indicated that Brian Whittle MSP had expressed interest in taking on role of chairperson/convenor of the Group. Rhoda would currently continue as Deputy Convenor There were no objections. Brian then moved to chair the meeting

3Convenor background

Brian provided some background to his interest in prevention of illness and promotion of good health and would wish to learn and benefit from the experience and expertise of group members representing the various conditions.

MSP for South Scotland (from May 2016) Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Spokesperson: Health Education, Lifestyle and Sport, member of CPG: Children and Young People; Deputy Convenor of CPG: Muscular Dystrophy; has spoken about importance of active lifestyle/ physical activity in children both for prevention and management of conditions "The Best Start in Life for Scotland's Children" 16 June Debate, Scottish Parliament.

4. Secretariat.

Sheila Macleod proposed Anne Simpson to take over as secretariat for this session. Anne - as now retired from post as Scotland Manager for the National Osteoporosis -happy to take on this voluntary role unless anyone else had interest. All happy for Anne to take over from Sheila. Proposed -Sheila Macleod(NRAS) Seconded- Iain Macdonald(NASS)

5. Group Purpose was read out and agreed/approved by all.

Some discussion followed with Group members describing the various topics which have been raised over previous sessions by many organisations and individuals and highlighted the large amount of activity ongoing in Scotland –all requiring attention:

Brian keen for the Group to develop a programme which will have good results/ have the biggest impact. It was agreed that this should be discussed at next meeting

6. Group actions pending registration

a)As had been initiated during last session-all members should continue to send the secretariat quarterly updates on any relevant activity –eg: new research, reports, conferences, parliamentary questions and motions.

This would be included in the quarterly report to Convenor/all members.

b)For the Convenor's background information, members representing organisations/societies should send secretariat a brief description of the work of their organisation in Scotland –

7. Next Meeting

Pending successful registration -date of next meeting provisionally booked for Wednesday 16 November 2016 5.30-7.30pm and will include:

The Impact of Social Deprivation on Inflammatory Arthritis and MSK Conditions

Mr Ali Mehdi, Lead Orthopaedic Surgeon, Borders General Hospital and Dr Stefan Siebert, Senior Lecturer in Rheumatology, University of Glasgow.

Brian thanked everyone for attending and meeting closed at 7pm

Anne Simpson(ansimpson1954@outlook.com) secretariat

