

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP
Cross-Party Group on Children and Young People
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.)
07/06/2016
DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM
12/6/18
DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED
10/7/18
DATE OF PRECEDING AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 11-13 months of the previous AGM]
31/05/17
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.
1. Tuesday, 19 September: Child Poverty and the Use of Social Security Powers Chair: Alison Johnstone MSP

MSP Attendees: Fulton MacGregor MSP, Rachael Hamilton MSP

Attendees: Gill Westwood, Lesley Kinloch, Linz Connell, Claire Hunter, Marion Davis, Seonaid Heeps, Muriel Mowat, Paul Traynor, Heather McVeigh, Ann Clarke, Joanna Shepherd, Catherine Henderson, Lesley Kelly, Pauline Cavanagh, Laura Van Der Hoeven, Michael Shanks, Amy Woodhouse, Sarah Paterson, John Dickie, Rob Gowans, Jenny Duncan

Summary: This meeting discussed Child Poverty and the use of new Social Security powers. The CPG heard presentations on the progress of the Child Poverty Bill and about the early stages of the Social Security Bill. The meeting provided a great opportunity to learn more about these important pieces of legislation and also to discuss with our elected members how they plan to ensure they best meet the needs of children and young people in Scotland.

John Dickie highlighted the scale of child poverty in Scotland and identified the need for the Child Poverty (Scotland) Bill. John's presentation looked at what was in the Bill and any future potential amendments.

Rob Gowans presented on the Social Security (Scotland) Bill. Rob gave a summary of the Bill and how it marked the opportunity to create a better social security system. Rob also noted that the Bill in its current form did not use all powers to tackle poverty.

Jenny Duncan introduced the work of the Give Me 5 – the child benefit top up campaign. The campaign wants child benefit to be topped up by £5 a week to lift 30000 children out of poverty.

No actions were agreed following the meeting.

2. Wednesday, 13 December, The Role of The Scottish Parliament in Progressing Children's Rights

Chair: Alex Cole Hamilton MSP

MSP Attendees: Fulton MacGregor MSP, Alison Johnstone MSP

Attendees: Juliet Harris, Liz Millership, Joanna Shepard, Maria Doyle, Bruce Adamson, Amy Lee Fraoili MSYP, Cathy McCulloch, Laura Pasternak, Anne Wilson, Laura Van Der Hoeven, Agnes Mullen, Ann Clark, Robert McGeachy, Eileen Prior, Garry McGregor, Chloe Riddell, Fiona Jones, Louise Morgan, Katherine Anderson, Kay Tisdall, Patricio Cuevas Parra, Carlene McAvoy, Kirsten Harrold, Laura Armstrong, Stacey Duffy, Andressa Gadda, Chris Ross, Justina Murray, Annie McGovern, Lizzie Morton, Deva MacGinty, Marie McQuade, Karina Malca Padilla, Daniel Cosgrove, Liam Slaven MSYP

Summary: The meeting provided the opportunity to discuss the role of the Scottish Parliament in progressing children's rights. It gave delegates and MSPs the chance to hear what Scotland currently is in terms of meeting's children's rights and what the Scottish Parliament could do to improve this. It also gave those in attendance to hear about work the Scottish Youth Parliament's Rights Here, Rights Now campaign and Children's Parliaments 'What Kind of Scotland' report.

Juliet Harris discussed the role for the Scottish Parliament in progressing human rights, noted there has been progress but that more needs to be done.

Bruce Adamson discussed where Scotland currently is in terms of children's rights. Bruce identified we are at a tipping point and that the Year of Young People offers an opportunity to demand change.

Amy Lee Fraoili presented on the Scottish Youth Parliament's Rights Here, Rights Now campaign. The campaign looks to ensure that children and young people are recognized equally and ensure the UNCRC is fully incorporated.

Cathy McCulloch discussed the work of Children's Parliament and their 'What Kind of Scotland' Report

The group agreed to 3 main actions;

- Secretariat to send a letter to the Minister for Childcare and Early Years welcoming the involvement of children and young people in the report on UNCRC incorporation to the Scottish Parliament.
- The letter will also ask what support of the CPG can provide and for details on the content of the report.
- It will also ask for clarity on the proposed process and content of the audit into the incorporation of the UNCRC.
- The CPG will use the 2018 report as a programme for action. The secretariat will explore how to take this forward.
- The Secretariat will draft a letter to the Equalities and Human Rights Committee to identify how the CPG can engage with the group.

3. Tuesday, 20 February, Is the Scottish Parliament doing enough to support children and young people with additional support needs?

Chair: Brian Whittle MSP

MSP Attendees: Alison Johnstone MSP

Attendees: Agnes Mullen, Aiden Duffy, Annie McGovern, Aqeel Ahmed, Cherie Morgan, David Johnson, Dinah Aitken, Eilidh Currie, Elizabeth Barbour, Elizabeth

May, Emma Rogan, Gill Westwood, Helen Sykes, John Loughton, Karin Tirevoll, Katie Rafferty, Lisa Ilari Fallon, Lizzie Morton, Lois Drake, Patricia Hutchison, Rachael Le Noan, Salena Bagely, Sally Cavers, Susan McKellar, Susan Wallace, Tim Rogerson, Yaritza Santos, Sara McFarlane, Anne-Marie Fleming, Sam Petrie, Sarah Paterson

Summary: The meeting of the CPG explored whether the Scottish Parliament could be doing more to support children and young people with additional support needs. Delegates heard about the challenges nationally and about the extension of rights for children and young people with additional support needs. Delegates and MSP also heard about the perspective of parents of children with additional support needs and the experiences of a young person with additional support needs who had experienced main stream school. Delegates also heard about the intersection between bullying and additional support needs.

Sally Cavers discussed the work of Enquire, the national advice service for additional support for learning. Sally outlined findings from the Enquire helpline and also emerging trends.

Susan McKellar discussed her experience as a part of a child with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Susan has set up a parent support group to ensure parents are listened to.

Aqeel Ahmed talked about his experiences of school as a young person with additional support needs and also his campaigning to improve the situation for children and young people with additional support needs.

Katie Rafferty discussed the new Anti Bullying Guidance, Respect for All. The guidance explicitly addresses prejudice based bullying. Katie identified that to effectively tackle bullying a whole school approach based round prevention and inclusion is required.

Several Actions were agreed;

- Brian Whittle recommended that the group writes to the Cabinet Secretary, with a focus on GIRFEC, to ask if we are equipping teachers through teacher training.
- Sally Cavers recommended that we could ask for the call for training from the Education and Skills committee to be progressed.
- Brian Whittle agreed, we should be asking what progress has been made with regards to recommendations.
- Brian also suggested that we write and engage with the Education Committee and COSLA and consider targeted invitations for future meetings.

4. Tuesday, 17 April, How can we best support children and young people to experience positive mental health

Chair: Fulton MacGregor MSP

MSP Attendees: Brian Whittle MSP

Attendees: May Chamberlain, Amy Woodhouse, Stella Gibson, Tiffany Mitchell, Sarah Paterson, Garry McGregor, Sophie Allan, Sarah Robertson, Nicki Wray, Sam Petrie, Jack Dudgeon MSYP, Fiona Cook, Rona Maclean Ross, Laura Pasternak, Elaine Stalker, Hazel Quinn, Harriet Hall, Carla Fyfe, Tommy Dey, Jonathon Wood, Nancy Fancott, Anna Fahlberg, Neil Young, Michael Shanks, Catherine Henderson, Zoe Mason, Elaine Leith, Annie McGovern, Carolyn Lohead, Donna Mackie, Lucia Hargasova, Lois Drake, Paul Sullivan, Mig Coupe, Mandy Morrison, Jessica Shields, Chris Purnell, Jackie Tolland, Katherine Anderson, Neil Seaton, Florence Burke, Joanna Shepard, Niamh Brett, Kay MacFarlane, Chris Sweeney, Anne Connor, Antonella Valbonesi, Linzi Clark, Andrew Sturgeon, Sharon McCluskie, Helen Reilly, Margeurite Hunter Blair, Claire Hunter, Eileen Prior, Rachel Le Noan

Summary: The meeting provided an opportunity for a roundtable between MSPs and those who provide early intervention and prevention services to support children and young people's mental health. The meeting of the CPG focused in the main on these early intervention and prevention services rather than CAMHS. The main themes identified by the chair were a need for training, the importance of family support services, there is a lack of early intervention and prevention services.

The roundtable included;

- Carolyn Lohead – SAMH – Carolyn discussed SAMH's Going to Be campaign.
- Jonathon Wood, Place2Be – Jonathon identified the importance of a whole school approach.
- Jack Dudgeon MSYP – Jack spoke about the Scottish Youth Parliament's Speak Your Mind Campaign focusing on prevention, early intervention and services and support
- Neil Young – St Paul's Youth Forum – Neil discussed the personalised approach that youth work services take to support mental health
- Zoe Mason, See Me Youth Volunteer – Zoe discussed her work as a Youth Champion for See Me, including their Education and Young People's programme.
- Harriet Hall, Children 1st – Harriet discussed the family support services that Children 1st provide to support positive mental health across the whole family.

The CPG agreed to prepare a report for the convenors to lodge a debate in parliament after the summer recess. This report will be completed by the end of June.

5. Tuesday, 12 June, Year of Young People Showcase

Chair: Kezia Dugdale MSP & Axa Ali (Communic18 member)

MSP Attendees: Fulton MacGregor MSP, Alex Cole Hamilton MSP, Alison Johnstone MSP, Maree Todd MSP

Attendees: Antonella Valbonesi, Rhys McCole, Evie Henderson, Eileen Prior, Pauline Lynch, Finlay Slessor, Janet Cormack, Kieran Ashton, Alice Ferguson, Janet Morton, Cherie Morgan, Ellie Roy, Rhona Cunningham, Marguerite Hunter Blair, Nina Al – Gailani, Rowan Anderson, Amy Johnson, Mhairi McCann, Elaine Leith, Garry MacGregor, Marcus, Katy MacFarlane, Chris Ross, Martha Kibby, Jayne Scotland, Amy Woodhouse, Remy Woodhouse, May Chamberlain, Sarah Paterson, Jane Miller, Agnes Mullen, Lois Drake, Henry Millar, Zoe Thomson, Catherine Henderson, Flora Mitchell, Bethany Wong, Rae Cahill, Karina Malca Padilla, Graham Richardson, Chloe Riddell, Callum Holt, Joanna Shepard, Axa Ali (Co-chair), Lynzy Hanvidge, Daniel Cosgrove, Emmie Main, Ryan McShane, Mahado Hassan Duale, Robert McCall, Danielle McKirdy, Ruwayda Haroub, Aaron Fernandez, Chloe Wyper, Florida Demiraj, Alyssa Faulnker, Anna Young, Martin Canavan, Callum Brown, Justina Murray, Mylo Turnbull, Louise Slorance, Lucy Gallagher

Summary: The meeting formed both the AGM and a meeting of the Cross Party Group. The main body of the meeting was a showcase of work being conducted by young people for the Year of Young People. This meeting was co-designed by the Secretariat and Communic18 (the steering group of young people for the Year). The panel was entirely made up of children and young people other than a presentation by Minister for Childcare and Early Years, Maree Todd.

At the AGM the membership;

- agreed to continue the CPG
- confirmed the minutes from the April meeting of the CPG
- agreed to re-elect Kezia Dugdale MSP as convenor
- agreed to re-elect Alison Johnstone MSP, Fulton Macgregor MSP and Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP as co convenor
- agreed to elect Brian Whittle as co-convenor of the CPG.
- agreed to continue with the joint secretariat provided by YouthLink Scotland and Children in Scotland

During the main body of the meeting we heard from;

- Axa Ali, Communic18 – on why YOYP is important
- Maree Todd, Minister for Childcare and Early Year
- Rhys McCole, YOYP Ambassador – Rhys discussed his experience of disability sport and his work to make sport more inclusive for children and young people with additional support needs

- Aberlour Guardianship Service – We heard from 3 young women with experience of Aberlour’s Guardianship Service. We heard the positive impact the service has on young refugee’s and asylum seekers. The group also discussed the event they are running on the Isle of Bute.
- Kieran Ashton, Education Scotland Inclusion Ambassadors – Kieran introduced his work as part of the Inclusion Ambassadors (a group of young people with additional support needs who work to make Scottish Education more inclusive). Kieran also introduced the film they produced in 2017.
- 1000 Voices campaign – Lynzy Hanvidge talked about her experience as care experienced young person and her work as part of the 1000 Voices campaign. The campaign aims to make sure they young people are being listened to and actively included.
- Bethany Wong & Anna Young, Edinburgh Science Festival Youth Consultation Group – Bethany and Anna discussed their work as part of the group and their efforts to increase the engagement of young people with the science festival.

We also heard from 3 children from Sciennes Primary school who introduced their work around child health. The discussed issues such as improving access to sport, better support for children and young people with additional support needs and parenting support to improve healthy eating.

Following the meeting the secretariat and convenors will work to lodge a question in parliament about ensuring all children learn about their rights in school.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Ruth Maguire - SNP

Jeremy Balfour – Scottish Conservatives

Rachael Hamilton – Scottish Conservatives

Kezia Dugdale MSP – Scottish Labour Party

Alex Cole Hamilton MSP – Scottish Liberal Democrats

Alison Johnstone MSP – Scottish Green Party

Fulton MacGregor MSP – SNP

Brian Whittle MSP – Scottish Conservatives

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	David Ashford Rozanne Chorlton Bill Cook Kirsty Craig Gerry Croall Jackie Doig Susan Elsley Mairi Ferris Margot Gillon Tracy Griffen Fiona Henderson Clare Lally Kenny Lindsay Katy MacFarlane Kirsteen MacKay Donna Mackie Louise Marrayat Vicky McGraw Robert McHarg John McKinney Martine Miller Pat Salter Jayne Scotland Neil Seaton Carolyn Wilson Mark Wong Kit Wyeth
Organisations	Children in Scotland and YouthLink Scotland - secretary and treasurer A & M Training Aberlour Action Duchenne Action for Children Scotland Action for Children's Arts Action for Sick Children Scotland) Afacic Scotland Alcohol Focus Scotland The ALLIANCE Article 12 in Scotland Association of Family Therapist in Scotland The Barn Youth Centre

Barnardo's Scotland
Beat
Befriending Networks
Bellenden
Big Lottery Fund
BMA Scotland
British Association for Adoption and Fostering
British Psychological Society Division of Clinical Psychology in Scotland
Caledonia Consulting
Central Scotland Rape Crisis & Sexual Abuse Centre
CAHRU - University of St Andrews
CALL Scotland
Camphill
Capability Scotland
Carers Trust
CCPS
Centre for Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland
Changing Faces Scotland
CHAS
Child Brain Injury Trust
Child Poverty Action Group
Children 1st
Children's Hearings Scotland
Children in Need
Children's Parliament
Church of Scotland Committee on Education
Circle
CI@n Childlaw
CLIC Sargent
Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Partnership
College of Occupational Therapists
Columba 1400
Common Thread
Contact a Family Scotland
COSCA
Covey Bfrriending
Crossroads Youth and Community Association
Diabetes UK
Division of Forensic Psychology - Scotland
DofE
Downs Syndrome Scotland
Edinburgh Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre
Enable
Engender
Enquire
Families First St Andrews
Families Need Fathers
Families Outside
Family Fund

Fife Gingerbread
Firsthand
The Fostering Network
Foursquare
Girlguiding Scotland
Grounds for Learning
GYP Borders
Highland Children Forum
Home Link Family Support
I Can
Includem
In train
Keys to Inclusion
Kibble
Kids VIP
KIND (Scotland)
Legal Services Agency
LGBT Youth
Licketyspit
Living Streets
Lothian Autistic Society
Mindroom
National Autistic Society
National Deaf Children's Society
NewsDirect
NHS Health Scotland
The Notre Dame Centre
NSPCC Scotland
Ocean Youth Trust Scotland
One Parent Families Scotland
Open Secret
PAMIS
Parenting Across Scotland
Partners in Advocacy
Partners in Play
Personalised Education Now
The Place 2Be
Play Scotland
PlayTalkRead
Prince's Trust
Quarriers
Rathbone
Real World Learning Scotland
Relationships Scotland
Resolve ASL
Rising Stars
RNIB
Roshni
RoSPA
Royal College of Nursing

Royal College of Paediatric and Child Health
Royal College of Psychiatrists
Royal College of Speech and Language Therapy
Samaritans
Save the Children
Sense Scotland
Scotcen
Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People
Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils
Scottish Child Law Centre
Scottish Child Psychotherapy Trust
Scottish Childminding Association
Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
Scottish Children's Services Coalition
Scottish Council of Independent Schools
Scottish Division of Education Psychology
Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems
Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance
Scottish Natural Heritage
Scottish Parent Teacher Council
Scottish Pre-School Play Association
Scottish Sports Association
Scottish Throughcare and Aftercare Forum
Scottish Women's Aid
Scottish Youth Parliament
Shelter Scotland
Sick Children's Hospital
Skills Development Scotland
Smart Play Network
Sound Lab
Spark of Genius
Strathcarron Hospice
STUC
TACT
Tartan Silk
The Salvation Army
The Spark
Together Scotland
UK ADHD Partnership
University of Edinburgh – CAHRU, CRFR, NSPCC Centre
Vocal
West Lothian Youth Action Project
Who Cares? Scotland
Working on Wheels
YWCA Scotland
Young Scot
Your Voice
Youth Bus
Youth Scotland
Zero Tolerance

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	Kezia Dugdale MSP
Deputy Convener	Alex Cole Hamilton MSP, Alison Johnstone MSP, Fulton MacGregor MSP, Brian Whittle MSP
Secretary	Children in Scotland
Treasurer	YouthLink Scotland

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).

COST OF MATERIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE SECRETARIAT (paid for by the organisations who make up the joint secretariat)

YouthLink Scotland – time of one staff member £2,950

Children in Scotland – time of one staff member £2,950

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

£0

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name

Kezia Dugdale

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