

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Building Bridges with Israel

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.)

13 September 2016

DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

26 September 2017

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]

N/A

DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

17 October 2017

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.

13 September 2016

Attendance: 7 MSPs, 19 Non-MSPs

The discussion centred around the aims and purposed of the proposed Cross Party Group and the election of the Convener, Vice Convener and Secretariat. Jackson

Carlaw MSP was elected Convener; Richard Lyle, Vice Convener and the Secretariat was to be provided by the Jewish Leadership Council.

18 January 2017

Attendance: 5 MSPs, 33 Non-MSPs

The Building Bridges with Israel Cross Party Group welcomed the 'Women and their Olive Trees' exhibition to The Scottish Parliament and heard from The Women's International Zionist Organisation speakers who had helped create the aforementioned exhibition. There was also a discussion about the contribution of the Jewish community to Scotland with a focus on the recently opened Scottish Jewish Archie Centre. This meeting was held to satisfy the culture 'work stream' that the CPG committed to dealing with in its first year.

21 June 2017

Attendance: 6 MSPs, 24 Non-MSPs

The Building Bridges with Israel Cross Party Group heard Nathan Tsrer, Minister-Counselor and Head of Economic and Trade Mission to the Israeli Embassy in London, about the opportunities for UK business in Israel and about the dynamic start up nature of the Israeli economy. In addition, there was a presentation from Leon Thompson of Visit Scotland who provided an overview of the Scotland / UK – Israel tourism market and there was a discussion about how this market could be grown. This meeting was held to satisfy the business and tourism 'work stream' that the CPG committed to dealing with in its first year.

26 September 2017

Attendance: 5 MSPs, 17 Non-MSPs

The Building Bridges with Israel Cross Party Group listened to Prof Charles French-Constant discuss regenerative medicine in the context of British – Israel joint working programme, BIRAX. Prof Gordon Matheson highlighted the opportunities for a virtual academic network of academics from both Scotland and Israel and committed to working in the future with the Cross Party Group to build this network. This meeting was held to satisfy the academia 'work stream' that the CPG committed to dealing with in its first year.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Jackson Carlaw MSP, Scottish Conservatives
Adam Tomkins MSP, Scottish Conservatives
Rachael Hamilton MSP, Scottish Conservatives
Alison Harris MSP, Scottish Conservatives
Jeremy Balfour MSP, Scottish Conservatives

Bill Bowman MSP, Scottish Conservatives
 Jamie Greene MSP, Scottish Conservatives
 Richard Lyle MSP, SNP
 John Mason MSP, SNP
 Mary Fee, Scottish Labour
 Willie Rennie, Scottish Liberal Democrats

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	Ziv Dotan Stanley Lovatt, Honorary Consul for Israel in Scotland Angus Hay Edward Green
Organisations	The Jewish Leadership Council - secretariat Centre for Scotland and Israel Relations Confederation of Friends of Israel – Scotland Scottish Council of Jewish Communities Parliamentary Prayers Scotland Christian Friends of Israel Glasgow Friends of Israel Edinburgh Friends of Israel Glasgow Jewish Representative Council Bridges for Peace Israel Britain Alliance Scottish Friends of Israel

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	Jackson Carlaw MSP
Deputy Convener	Richard Lyle MSP

Secretary	Jewish Leadership Council
Treasurer	N/A

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.

N/A

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Jackson Carlaw MSP
Parliamentary address	M2.10, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 6800