

CROSS-PARTY GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Colleges and Universities

PURPOSE OF THE GROUP AND PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Please state the purpose of the Group.
2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.
3. Please also provide details of any overlaps with the purpose of existing Cross-Party Groups and an explanation of why, regardless of any such overlap, the Group should be established.
4. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.

Purpose of the Group: To consider and discuss the future of further and higher education in Scotland.

The CPG provides an opportunity for MSPs, students and staff within the further and higher education sectors, stakeholders, and the general public engage in the work of colleges and universities.

The CPG has a range of topics, which have been suggested by members, that the Group would like to discuss in the forthcoming 12 months. They include:

- The Commission on Widening Access and its final report, 'A blueprint for Fairness'.
- The relationship between colleges and universities and best practice about collaboration on the learner journey.
- How new technologies are being used in rural communities to help people access higher education and, in particular, older learners.
- Explore what is being done to attract young people into creative and cultural courses, particularly at the small specialist institutions.
- The contribution of further and higher education to the creative industries.
- A presentation from the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) on its work and remit.
- How universities and colleges engage with their local communities, including community relations and additional community contributions such as teaching and research.

- How universities and colleges develop an international outlook in their students to fit them for a 'global' future, including language provision and exposure to overseas students.
- Post-study work for international students studying in Scotland.
- The HE & FE contribution to wider agendas such as health and wellbeing, or culture, or climate change/sustainability/UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Members have been encouraged to submit any ideas for topics.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Ms Liz Smith MSP (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Member for Mid Scotland and Fife)

Mr Jeremy Balfour MSP (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party: Member for Lothian)

Mr Ross Thomson MSP (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party: Member for North East Scotland)

Mr Brian Whittle MSP (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party: Member for South Scotland)

Mr Iain Gray MSP (Scottish Labour: Member for East Lothian)

Ms Pauline McNeill MSP (Scottish Labour: Member for Glasgow)

Ms Monica Lennon MSP (Scottish Labour: Member for Central Scotland)

Mr Graeme Dey MSP (Scottish National party: Member for Angus South)

Mr Tavish Scott MSP (Scottish Liberal Democrats: Member for Shetland Islands)

Mr Liam McArthur MSP (Scottish Liberal Democrats: Member for Orkney Islands)

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

Professor Mr Matthew Maclver

Mr Terry Brotherstone

Organisations

Abertay University

Colleges Scotland

City of Glasgow College

	Dundee & Angus college Educational Institute Of Scotland (EIS) Edinburgh Napier University Edinburgh University Students' Association (EUSA) Glasgow Caledonian University Glasgow Clyde College Heriot-Watt University Higher Education Academy in Scotland LEAD Scotland North East Scotland College NUS Scotland Open University in Scotland Pagoda PR Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh Robert Gordon University Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Scotland China Education Network (SCEN) Scottish Development International Scottish Enterprise Skills Development Scotland (SDS) sparqs - Student Participation in Quality Scotland Thorntons Law LLP UCU Scotland University of Aberdeen University of Dundee University of Edinburgh University of Glasgow University of the Highlands & Islands University of St Andrews University of Strathclyde University of the West of Scotland
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	Universities Scotland West College Scotland
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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	Ms Liz Smith MSP
Deputy Convener	Mr Iain Gray MSP
Secretary	Universities Scotland provides secretariat support
Treasurer	N/A

FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS

Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) the Group anticipates receiving 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.

Universities Scotland will provide secretariat support to the Group for the CPG's meetings for 2016/17 We have estimated that cost, in kind, for the secretariat function for the four meetings of the CPG in the year would amount to approximately £320. This would cover approximately 5 hours of secretariat work per meeting by Universities Scotland, including: - preparation prior to meeting; note taking during the meeting; writing of the minute afterwards.

We estimate that Colleges Scotland and Universities Scotland would pay for between one and two lunches each in the year (in the region of £175.00 for catering). We will try and seek financial support from other CPG members for the lunch for this meeting

The estimated total cost of secretariat support +hospitality provided by Universities Scotland (if we meet catering costs for two meetings) amounts to £665.00 in a calendar year.

Colleges Scotland's support amounts to less than £500.

That provided by other organisations (individual colleges, universities and/or enterprise and skills agencies) amounts to less than £500.

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

N/A

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Ms Liz Smith MSP
Parliamentary address	M3.20 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 6762

STATEMENT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT

I declare that the Cross-Party Group on <SUBJECT> is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

Signed

Date