

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

### NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Social Science

### 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.

The Group will provide a forum to draw together social science research on policy topics of interest to MSPs. Doing so will further broaden the evidence base for debate of contemporary issues and the scrutiny of legislation. In addition it will help strengthen the relationships between parliamentarians and academics, encouraging interaction beyond those subjects specifically discussed by the group.

The public has an interest both in improving the evidence base available to policymakers but also in ensuring that publically-funded research is put to use for the public good.

The group will agree policy areas of particular interest at any given time and then identify, through the secretariat or other means, researchers currently investigating those issues. As a result it is quite likely that there will be overlap with other CPGs in terms of the content of discussion but that this Group will frequently take a different approach. As a result, joint meetings with other CPGs are not only anticipated but enthusiastically awaited.

Possible topics for discussion include homelessness, education, 'What is productivity', budgetary scrutiny, the impact of robots in the workplace on policymaking, detailed analysis of who actually makes up Scotland's workforce, what can domestic policymaking learn from the experience of international development, how can sustainable development goals be applied across the policymaking agenda, what would a rights-based approach to policymaking look like, the current health of social science in Scotland.

### MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Jackie Baillie MSP (Lab),  
 Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP (LD),  
 Daniel Johnson MSP (Lab),  
 Richard Leonard MSP (Lab),  
 Andy Wightman MSP (Grn)

**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

Organisations

[Academy of Government](#) (University of Edinburgh),  
[Centre for Remote and Rural Studies](#) (University of the Highlands and Islands),  
[Centre for Science, Knowledge and Policy \(SKaPE\)](#) (University of Edinburgh),  
[Centre on Constitutional Change](#) (Universities of Aberdeen, Stirling & Edinburgh),  
[Fraser of Allander Institute](#) (University of Strathclyde),  
[Institute for Social Policy, Housing, Equalities Research](#) (Heriot Watt University),  
[International Public Policy Institute](#), (University of Strathclyde),  
[Ipsos MORI Scotland](#),  
[Policy Scotland](#) (University of Glasgow),  
[Public Services and Governance Research Group](#) (University of Stirling),  
[ScotCen](#),  
[RSE Young Academy of Scotland](#),  
[SRUC Rural Policy Centre](#) (Scotland's Rural College),  
[What Works Scotland](#) (Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh)

**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

Daniel Johnson MSP

Deputy Convener

Andy Wightman MSP

Secretary

Nick Bibby, Campaign for Social Science

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.

Nick Bibby's time is donated by his employer, the University of Edinburgh School of Social and Political Science at £156/day.

**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.

None

**CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS**

Name

Daniel Johnson MSP

Parliamentary  
addressMG.02  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh, EH99 1SPTelephone  
number

0131 348 6462 / 07803 150057

**STATEMENT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

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

Signed	Johnson D (Daniel), MSP Daniel.Johnson.msp@parliament.scot
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Date	13 March 2017
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