SPPAC/S7/26/7/1

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee
Thursday 5 November 2026
7th Meeting 2026, (Session 6)

Cross-Party Group Applications

Introduction

1. In accordance with the provisions on Cross-Party Groups (CPGs) set out in section 6 of the Code of Conduct (the Code), proposals for the establishment of CPGs in the Scottish Parliament must be submitted to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee (the Committee) for its approval.

2. At its meeting on 5 November, the Committee will consider four proposed Groups:

- Forestry and Wood Processing Industries (formerly Wood Panel Industry in Session 6) – proposed convener Finlay Carson MSP
- Pakistan – recognition withdrawn in Session 6 – proposed convener Willie Rennie MSP
- Social Care – this is a new CPG – proposed convener Joe Long MSP
- Tourism and Hospitality (formerly Tourism in Session 6) – proposed convener Murdo Fraser MSP

Consideration by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

3. All CPGs must comply with Section 6 of the Code of Conduct. The following paragraphs outline the provisions that the Committee should consider when deciding whether to accord recognition to a group.

4. Paragraph 20 states "…one of the proposed Group's MSP office bearers (usually the Convener) will be invited to attend a meeting of the Committee to explain the justification for the proposed Group." The conveners have been invited to this meeting to discuss registration of their proposed Groups respectively.

5. Paragraph 21 states "the Committee will pay particular attention to a proposed Group's purpose. If the Committee considers that a proposed Group is not in the public interest but is intended, for example, to further particular commercial interests, the proposed Group will not be accorded recognition. The Committee will also consider whether the purpose of a proposed Group overlaps the remit of an existing Group. If there is any

overlap proposed Groups are asked to provide justification as to why their aims could not effectively be achieved within an existing Group".

6. Paragraph 9 requires group membership to include at least five MSPs, with at least one MSP from each of the parties or groups represented on the Parliamentary Bureau. The Committee has previously agreed that there should be a general waiver of this Rule in the current Session and Groups are now required to have five MSPs from five of the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau.

7. Paragraph 10 entitles groups to contain members from outwith the Parliament.

8. Paragraph 11 requires one MSP to be Convener of the Group and there to be at least one other MSP office bearer.

9. This paper will now look at each of the proposed CPG in turn.

Proposed CPG on Forestry and Wood Processing Industries

10. The registration forms submitted by proposed CPG on Forestry and Wood Processing are attached at **Annexe A.**

11. Finlay Carson MSP has been invited to the meeting to discuss registration of the proposed Group.

12. The stated purpose of the proposed Group is:

- To promote the wellbeing of the forestry and wood processing industries, and the wider health of the timber market in Scotland.

- Scotland is home to about 70% of the UK's total forestry assets as well as over thirty large-scale timber processing sites that are critical for the production of wood products. There exists an interdependence between the forestry sector, the wood processing industry, and downstream commercial users which means each faces similar challenges related to the security of timber supply and demand. Security of wood and the health of the market are therefore key for these industries to meet their objectives.

- Despite our strong forestry and timber processing industries in the UK, there is an 80% demand for imports to supply the sector. Actively supporting these industries to maintain and grow therefore means securing domestic wood supply.

13. The MSP membership (by party) of the proposed Group is as follows—

- Finlay Carson MSP, Conservative & Unionist Party (proposed Convener)
- Gary Bouse MSP, Scottish National Party (proposed Deputy Convener)
- Carol Mochan MSP, Scottish Labour Party (proposed Deputy Convener)

- Jamie Langan MSP, Reform UK (proposed Deputy Convener)
- Andrew Baxter MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats (proposed Deputy Convener)
- Emma Roddick MSP, Scottish National Party
- Steven Bonnar MSP, Scottish National Party
- Donald MacKinnon MSP, Scottish Labour Party
- Finlay Carson MSP, Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party
- Stephen Kerr MSP, Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party
- Craig Hoy MSP, Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party
- Iris Duane MSP, Scottish Green Party
- David Green MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats
- Morven-May McCallum MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats

14. The proposed Group has listed no individual members and three organisation members on the form.

15. The registration form indicates that the Group anticipates secretariat support from Invicta with contributions from the Wood Panel Industries Federation and Confer.

16. In terms of financial benefits, a budget of between £10,000 and £20,000 for in-kind secretariat support has been made available.

17. The registration form also indicates that members of the proposed Group will not be charged a subscription.

Proposed CPG on Pakistan

18. The registration forms submitted by the proposed CPG on Pakistan are attached at **Annexe B.**

19. Willie Rennie MSP has been invited to the meeting to discuss registration of the proposed Group. **This CPG had its recognition withdrawn in Session 6 due to non-compliance with Section 6 of the Code of Conduct.**

20. The stated purpose of the proposed Group is to promote and enhance understanding between Scotland and Pakistan at cultural, social, academic, political and economic levels. It also ams to develop contact with the Parliament of Pakistan and other institutions for advancing mutual interests of Scotland and Pakistan.

21. The MSP membership (by party) of the proposed Group is as follows—

- Willie Rennie MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats (proposed Convener)
- Zen Ghani MSP, Scottish National Party (proposed Deputy Convener)
- David Linden MSP, Scottish National Party
- Irshad Ahmed MSP, Scottish Labour
- Stephen Kerr MSP, Scottish Conservative Party
- Graham Simpson MSP, Reform UK Party

22. The proposed Group has listed one individual member and fourteen organisation members on the form.

23. The registration form indicates that the Group anticipates secretariat support from Nadia Aslam in an unpaid voluntary capacity.

24. In terms of financial benefits, no financial benefits are listed however the CPG intends to fundraise for a Parliamentary event in January 2027 to celebrate Pakistan day.

25. The registration form also indicates that members of the proposed Group will not be charged a subscription.

Proposed CPG on Social Care

26. The registration forms submitted by proposed CPG on Social Care are attached at **Annexe C.**

27. Joe Long MSP has been invited to the meeting to discuss registration of the proposed group.

28. The stated purpose of the proposed Group is to—

- Provide a structured, cross-party forum for discussion of the key issues in social care, and the opportunities to build a flourishing sector that can better meet the needs of people in Scotland.
- Maintain sustained and dedicated focus on social care within the Scottish Parliament through a period of immense change.
- Build understanding of social care issues and the latest research and thinking among MSPs to support their contributions to parliamentary debates, committee scrutiny and other relevant forums.
- Embed sector expertise and lived experience within parliamentary discussion by bringing together MSPs, service providers, people with lived experience, academics and other stakeholders.
- Promote discussion of social care challenges and opportunities, such as workforce issues, funding arrangements, support for different population groups, integration with other public services (inc. Health), community-based support, prevention and early intervention, digital innovations, and the long-term sustainability of the social care sector

29. The MSP membership (by party) of the proposed Group is as follows—

- Joe Long MSP, Scottish Labour Party (proposed Convener)
- Cara McKee MSP, Scottish Green Party (proposed Deputy Convener)
- Adam Harley MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats
- Helen McDade, Reform UK Party
- Heather Anderson MSP, Scottish National Party

30. The proposed Group has listed no individual or organisation members on the form however it intends to reach out to organisations to increase membership once the group is formally recognised.

31. The group does not anticipate any financial benefit to exceed £500 however they have undertaken to track this and provide further updates on their AGM return.

32.The registration form also indicates that members of the proposed Group will not be charged a subscription.

Proposed CPG on Tourism and Hospitality

33. The registration forms submitted by proposed CPG on Tourism and Hospitality are attached at **Annexe D.**

34. Murdo Fraser MSP has been invited to the meeting to discuss registration of the proposed group.

35.The stated purpose of the proposed Group —

- The purpose of the Group is to discuss the opportunities and barriers to supporting sustainable growth of the tourism and hospitality sector, focused on the importance of the visitor economy to the national economy and Scotland's international profile, and as the heartbeat of Scotland's local communities.

- Previously the group was registered as the CPG on Tourism and adding 'hospitality' to its title will elevate the groups' importance and relevance, ensuring that it mirrors the titles of the Tourism & Hospitality Industry Leadership Group (THILG) and the Westminster All-Party Group (APPG) for Hospitality & Tourism.

- Having a CPG on Tourism and Hospitality is in the public interest as its work will help towards achieving the ambitions of the national tourism strategy, Scotland Outlook 2030, Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET), and the THILG.

36.The MSP membership (by party) of the proposed Group is as follows—

- Murdo Fraser MSP, Scottish Conservative Party (proposed Convener)
- Calum Kerr MSP, Scottish National Party (proposed Deputy Convener)
- Andrew Baxter MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats (proposed Deputy Convener)
- Alexander Burnett MSP, Scottish Conservative Party
- Rachael Hamilton MSP, Scottish Conservative Party
- Craig Hoy MSP, Scottish Conservative Party
- Finlay Carson MSP, Scottish Conservative Party
- Yi-pei Chou Turvey MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats
- Duncan Dunlop MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrat
- Neil Bibby MSP, Scottish Labour Party
- Joe Fagan MSP, Scottish Labour Party
- Daniel Johnson MSP, Scottish Labour Party
- Dawn Black MSP, Scottish National Party

- Paul McLennan MSP, Scottish National Party
- Stuart McMillan MSP Scottish National Party
- Laura Mitchell MSP, Scottish National Party
- Kim Schmulian MSP, Reform UK Party
- Graham Simpson MSP, Reform UK Party
- Jamie Langan MSP, Reform UK Party
- David Kirkwood MSP, Reform UK Party
- Laura Moodie MSP, Scottish Green Party

37.The proposed Group has listed five individual members and forty-one organisation members on the form

38.Scottish Tourism Alliance is the proposed secretariat of the group.

39.The Scottish Tourism Alliance has agreed to absorb the costs of secretariat support provided to the CPG on Tourism and Hospitality. This support is estimated to be the equivalent of 2 days across the parliamentary year (half a day of work per meeting), which comes to the total value of £700.

40.The registration form also indicates that members of the proposed Group will not be charged a subscription.

Next Steps

41.The Committee will discuss with the Conveners the applications for recognition of the proposed Cross-Party Groups. It will then consider at the next agenda item whether to accord recognition to the proposed Groups.

Clerks to the Committee
November 2026

Annexe A

Name of Cross-Party Group

Cross Party Group for Forestry and Wood Processing Industries

Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics

1. Please state the purpose of the Group.

   The purpose of the Cross-Party Group for Forestry and Wood Processing Industries will be to promote the wellbeing of the forestry and wood processing industries, and the wider health of the timber market in Scotland.

2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.

Scotland is home to about 70% of the UK's total forestry assets as well as over thirty large-scale timber processing sites that are critical for the production of wood products. There exists an interdependence between the forestry sector, the wood processing industry, and downstream commercial users which means each faces similar challenges related to the security of timber supply and demand. Security of wood and the health of the market are therefore key for these industries to meet their objectives.

Despite our strong forestry and timber processing industries in the UK, there is an 80% demand for imports to supply the sector. Actively supporting these industries to maintain and grow therefore means securing domestic wood supply.

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.

This CPG seeks to replace and extend the remit of the former CPG on the Wood Panel industry. This partnership between WPIF and Confor will provide a unified voice from the industries to more effectively convey a shared vision.

4. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.

In the forthcoming 12 months, the Cross-Party Group on Forestry and Wood Processing Industries will aim to:

- Scrutinise the Scottish Government's progress toward its woodland planting targets of meeting 18,000ha of new planting per year by 2029/30 and 21% of woodland coverage as a proportion of total land area by 2032.

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

- Promote full use of the fibre basket in wood processing and manufacturing, including virgin timber as well as recycled and reclaimed materials.

- Provide recommendations on the future of the forestry planning and approval process, which has been challenging for the sector to navigate efficiently.

- Assess and advise on the need for timber and wood panel products in the overall Scottish Economy. Highlighting the opportunities and challenges to sustainable growth of the forestry, timber and wood processing industries, with a view to securing the future of the sector.

MSP Members of the Group

Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group. In doing so please note:

- Section 6 of the Code of Conduct requires there be 5 members from the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau. The SPPA Committee agreed a waiver for this session that requires 5 MSP members from 5 parties represented on the Bureau;
- MSPs can be on no more than 10 CPGs of which fulfil no more than 3 office-bearer positions;
- If the group fails to comply with MSP membership requirements, the Convener must ensure this is resolved within 90 days.

MSP	Party
Gary Bouse MSP	Scottish National Party
Emma Roddick MSP	Scottish National Party
Steven Bonnar MSP	Scottish National Party
Carol Mochan MSP	Scottish Labour Party
Donald MacKinnon MSP	Scottish Labour Party
Finlay Carson MSP	Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party
Stephen Kerr MSP	Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party
Craig Hoy MSP	Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party
Jamie Langan MSP	Reform UK
Iris Duane MSP	Scottish Green Party
Andrew Baxter MSP	Scottish Liberal Democrats

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

David Green MSP	Scottish Liberal Democrats
Morven-May McCallum MSP	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	
Organisations	Wood Panel Industries Federation (WPIF) Confederation of Forest Industries (Confor) Invicta Public Affairs
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. Please note: • No more than 3 named contacts per CPG - the Convener, the Secretary and one other individual who can provide information to the Standards Clerks about the activities of the Group. The Convener of a Group must confirm the name of this individual.	
Convener	Finlay Carson MSP
Deputy Conveners	Gary Bouse MSP Carol Machan MSP Jamie Lanagan MSP Andrew Baxter MSP

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

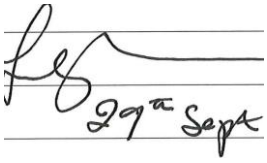
Secretary	Invicta Public Affairs
Named Contact	Calum Heron (Invicta Public Affairs)
Financial Benefits or Other Benefits Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) the Group anticipates receiving from a single source in a calendar year which has a value, either singly or cumulatively, of more than £500. This includes donations, gifts, hospitality or visits and material assistance such as secretariat support.	
The Group will receive secretariat support from Invicta Public Affairs via contributions from WPIF. Further support may also be made available from Confer. It is anticipated that the cumulative value of this support will exceed the £500 threshold for the coming calendar year. A budget of between £10,000 and £20,000 for in-kind secretariat support has been made available.	
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	
Statement on Compliance with the Code of Conduct. Must be read and signed by the Convener.	
Please read the following: • The Convener of a Group is primarily responsible for ensuring that the Group complies with the Code of Conduct;	

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

- The Convener is solely responsible for providing Standards Clerks with:
  - The names of new MSP members of the CPG and changes to office-bearers;
  - Named contact details;
  - The registration form;
  - All minutes of meetings within 30 days of the meeting being held; **(Substantially verbatim minutes will not be accepted and will be returned)**
  - The AGM return (to be submitted within 30 days of the AGM to be held within 11 - 13 months of the initial meeting).
- Groups are required to have five MSPs from five of the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau;
- CPGs must hold at least two formal meetings per year (not on the same day), where two MSPs members of the Group are present;
- CPGs must provide Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings;
- If a CPG meeting is cancelled or rearranged, notification must be provided to the Standards clerks by no later than the day after the meeting was originally scheduled to take place;
- If a Group fails to comply fully with the Code for more than one year in a row, the Committee will withdraw recognition from that Group.

I declare that I have read the above and that the Cross-Party Group on Forestry and Wood Processing Industries is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

Signed (Convener)	
Date	



Cross-Party Group Registration Form

Annexe B

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on Pakistan

Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics

1. Please state the purpose of the Group.

To promote and enhance understanding between Scotland and Pakistan at cultural, social, academic, political and economic levels. Develop contact with the Pakistan Parliament and other institutions for advancing mutual interests of Scotland and Pakistan.

2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.

Cross Party would represent the interest of people/ organisations with Pakistani background living and working in Scotland and act as a forum for the Community living in Scotland. Already a sister organisation in Pakistan has been established called "Friends of Scotland" in the Pakistani Parliament, and Lahore Chamber of Commerce have established a committee on Scotland to work with the CPG.

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.

There are no overlaps

4. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.

Future topics include development of educational initiatives between Scotland and Pakistan and parliamentary event to celebrate Pakistan Day proposed for 5th January and Eid event proposed for Mid-June 2027.

MSP Members of the Group

Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group. In doing so please note:

- Section 6 of the Code of Conduct requires there be 5 members from the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau. The SPPA Committee agreed a waiver for this session that requires 5 MSP members from 5 parties

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

represented on the Bureau;

- MSPs can be on no more than 10 CPGs of which fulfil no more than 3 office-bearer positions;
- If the group fails to comply with MSP membership requirements, the Convener must ensure this is resolved within 90 days.

MSP	Party
Willie Rennie MSP	Scottish Liberal Democrats
Irshad Ahmed MSP	Scottish Labour
Zen Ghani MSP	Scottish National Party
David Linden MSP	Scottish National Party
Stephen Kerr MSP	Scottish Conservative Party
Graham Simpson MSP	Reform UK Party

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	Muhammad Munir
Organisations	University of Glasgow University of West of Scotland Consulate of Pakistan British Council Scottish Pakistani Association Church of Scotland Amina Muslim Women's Resource Centre Scottish Ahle Sunnah Society British Pakistan Foundation Glasgow Citizens Advice Bureau National Library of Scotland Public Health Scotland Yorkhill hospital Scottish Asian Business Chamber

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

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.

Please note:

- No more than 3 named contacts per CPG - the Convener, the Secretary and one other individual who can provide information to the Standards Clerks about the activities of the Group. The Convener of a Group must confirm the name of this individual.

Convener	Willie Rennie MSP
Deputy Convener	Zen Ghani MSP
Secretary	Nadia Aslam (Unpaid voluntary position)
Named Contact	Cheryl Krueger

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.

Fundraising for Parliamentary event in January 2027 to celebrate Pakistan 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.

Nil

Statement on Compliance with the Code of Conduct. Must be read and signed by the Convener.

Please read the following:

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

- The Convener of a Group is primarily responsible for ensuring that the Group complies with the Code of Conduct;
- The Convener is solely responsible for providing Standards Clerks with:
  - The names of new MSP members of the CPG and changes to office-bearers;
  - Named contact details;
  - The registration form;
  - All minutes of meetings within 30 days of the meeting being held; **(Substantially verbatim minutes will not be accepted and will be returned)**
  - The AGM return (to be submitted within 30 days of the AGM to be held within 11 – 13 months of the initial meeting).
- Groups are required to have five MSPs from five of the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau;
- CPGs must hold at least two formal meetings per year (not on the same day), where two MSPs members of the Group are present;
- CPGs must provide Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings;
- If a CPG meeting is cancelled or rearranged, notification must be provided to the Standards clerks by no later than the day after the meeting was originally scheduled to take place;
- If a Group fails to comply fully with the Code for more than one year in a row, the Committee will withdraw recognition from that Group.

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

Signed (Convener)	
Date	7.10.26

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

Annexe C

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on Social Care
Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics 5. Please state the purpose of the Group. This Cross-Party Group (CPG) will provide a structured, cross-party forum for discussion of the key issues in social care, and the opportunities to build a flourishing sector that can better meet the needs of people in Scotland. It will: - Maintain sustained and dedicated focus on social care within the Scottish Parliament through a period of immense change. - Build understanding of social care issues and the latest research and thinking among MSPs to support their contributions to parliamentary debates, committee scrutiny and other relevant forums. - Embed sector expertise and lived experience within parliamentary discussion by bringing together MSPs, service providers, people with lived experience, academics and other stakeholders. - Promote discussion of social care challenges and opportunities, such as workforce issues, funding arrangements, support for different population groups, integration with other public services (inc. Health), community-based support, prevention and early intervention, digital innovations, and the long-term sustainability of the social care sector. 6. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest. Social care is currently dispersed across a range of portfolios, including health, public service reform, local government, education, finance, justice and housing. Related issues are considered across multiple parliamentary committees and debates, and there is currently limited dedicated cross-party space for sustained strategic consideration of social care in its own right. A CPG on social care is firmly in the public interest. Social care enables

people to live independently and with dignity, connected to family, community, education and work. It supports reductions in inequalities and improved life outcomes for people of all ages. It is the cornerstone of Scotland's public services and a major contributor to a healthy economy.

The CPG will provide a platform for the voices of people who receive and deliver social care services, strengthening engagement between decision makers and those directly affected by plans for improvement. It will also introduce members to the latest thinking in the social care field to support wider work given the significant focus on social care reform.

7. 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.

There could be some overlap with the Cross-Party Group on Housing and that on Unpaid Carers. Rather than compete, we believe these CPG's would be complimentary. The primary lens for the Social Care CPG is to focus on the social care system and people's experience of receiving or providing care. Housing can be a factor affecting social care outcomes however it is only one of many. Unpaid carers are an important part of the social care system but there is also the paid care workforce. The focus of these groups is sufficiently different and they involve different policy systems, stakeholders, legislation and funding mechanisms to warrant separate groups.

8. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.

- Governance – existing and future
- Funding arrangements – challenges and opportunities
- Workforce issues

- Integration with other public services
- Examples of good practice in social care in other nations

MSP Members of the Group

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group. In doing so please note:

- Section 6 of the Code of Conduct requires there be 5 members from the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau. The SPPA Committee agreed a waiver for this session that requires 5 MSP members from 5 parties represented on the Bureau;
- MSPs can be on no more than 10 CPGs of which fulfil no more than 3 office-bearer positions;
- If the group fails to comply with MSP membership requirements, the Convener must ensure this is resolved within 90 days.

MSP	**Party**
Joe Long	Labour
Adam Harley	Liberal Democrats
Helen McDade	Reform
Heather Anderson	SNP
Cara McKee	Greens

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 No confirmed organisations as yet however intentions are to reach out to organisations to increase membership once group formally recognised.	

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.

Please note:

- No more than 3 named contacts per CPG - the Convener, the Secretary and one other individual who can provide information to the Standards Clerks about the activities of the Group. The Convener of a Group must confirm the name of this individual.

Convener	Joe Long MSP
Deputy Convener	Cara McKee MSP
Secretary	Rachel Cackett - Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland (CCPS)
Named Contact	Gemma Letton, Office of Joe Long MSP

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.

We do not expect to exceed £500 however we will track this and provide further updates on our AGM return.

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

Statement on Compliance with the Code of Conduct. Must be read and signed by the Convener.

Please read the following:

- The Convener of a Group is primarily responsible for ensuring that the Group complies with the Code of Conduct;

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

- The Convener is solely responsible for providing Standards Clerks with:
  - The names of new MSP members of the CPG and changes to office-bearers;
  - Named contact details;
  - The registration form;
  - All minutes of meetings within 30 days of the meeting being held; **(Substantially verbatim minutes will not be accepted and will be returned)**
  - The AGM return (to be submitted within 30 days of the AGM to be held within 11 – 13 months of the initial meeting).
- Groups are required to have five MSPs from five of the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau;
- CPGs must hold at least two formal meetings per year (not on the same day), where two MSPs members of the Group are present;
- CPGs must provide Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings;
- If a CPG meeting is cancelled or rearranged, notification must be provided to the Standards clerks by no later than the day after the meeting was originally scheduled to take place;
- If a Group fails to comply fully with the Code for more than one year in a row, the Committee will withdraw recognition from that Group.

I declare that I have read the above and 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 (Convener)	
Date	8.10.26

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

Annexe D

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on Tourism and Hospitality

Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics

1. Please state the purpose of the Group.

"To work together to support and promote the objectives of the national tourism strategy and missions of the Tourism and Hospitality Industry Leadership Group to sustainably grow the sector's economic value and positively enhance the benefits of tourism and hospitality – delivering the very best for our visitors, businesses, people, communities, and environment."

2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.

The purpose of the Group is to discuss the opportunities and barriers to supporting sustainable growth of the tourism and hospitality sector, focused on the importance of the visitor economy to the national economy and Scotland's international profile, and as the heartbeat of Scotland's local communities.

Previously the group was registered as the CPG on Tourism and adding 'hospitality' to its title will elevate the groups' importance and relevance, ensuring that it mirrors the titles of the Tourism & Hospitality Industry Leadership Group (THILG) and the Westminster All-Party Group (APPG) for Hospitality & Tourism.

Having a CPG on Tourism and Hospitality is in the public interest as its work will help towards achieving the ambitions of the national tourism strategy, Scotland Outlook 2030, Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET), and the THILG.

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

As one of Scotland's leading industries, the sector is central to local communities, particularly in rural and island areas – generating jobs, supporting businesses, supporting infrastructure projects, and making communities better places to live, work, study and visit.

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.**

There is no other overarching tourism and hospitality CPG that currently exists. Instead, in the previous parliament term there were a small group of CPGs focused on specific sub-sectors such as marine tourism, beer and pubs, and aviation.

The CPG on Tourism and Hospitality is an evolution of the original CPG on Tourism that was previously registered.

It is also the CPG on Tourism and Hospitality's intention to better link with other CPGs to help jointly support our work, along with hosting a joint session with the Westminster APPG for Tourism and Hospitality.

4. **Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.**

At the initial meeting held on 28 September 2026, the following topics were raised:

- The implementation of the visitor levy (urban vs rural experience of levy, such as Edinburgh and Highland comparison; introduction in other parts of the UK; impact on industry balanced with benefits of levy spending; using data collection to inform levy spending decisions)
- Tourism-related infrastructure projects implemented by public bodies and community groups, which are enhancing the tourism offer and at the same time helping address pressures on local communities. This should include barriers from central and local government to these projects (e.g. planning)

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- Growing golf tourism and wider benefits to local economy, e.g. East Lothian area
- Rates re-evaluation impact on sector
- Visitor dispersal and understanding what the visitor economy looks like from a regional perspective, spreading the benefits of tourism (e.g. cruise tourism), and extending visitor season – including unique challenges and opportunities in areas like South of Scotland
- Accumulative burden on sector from multiple policy interventions at Scottish and UK levels
- Sector data collection, including analysis of visitor spend and how this benefits communities
- Growing Scotland's competitiveness as a visitor destination
- Profitability of sector businesses, where cost of doing business is so high that the price point has risen but quality isn't matching this
- UK and Scottish Budgets

It is also envisioned that the group will consider topics related directly to the missions of the THILG, which includes: workforce and skills, sustainable transport, community-led tourism, data and technology empowerment, and pathway to net zero. Some of the topics raised at the initial meeting complement these missions.

It will also look to discuss emerging challenges and opportunities for the sector, such as the impact on the sector following the current review of the local authority landscape.

The CPG on Tourism and Hospitality is also keen to look at international best practice.

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MSP Members of the Group

Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group. In doing so please note:

- Section 6 of the Code of Conduct requires there be 5 members from the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau. The SPPA Committee agreed a waiver for this session that requires 5 MSP members from 5 parties represented on the Bureau;
- MSPs can be on no more than 10 CPGs of which fulfil no more than 3 office-bearer positions;
- If the group fails to comply with MSP membership requirements, the Convener must ensure this is resolved within 90 days.

MSP	Party
• Murdo Fraser	• Scottish Conservatives
• Andrew Baxter	• Scottish Liberal Democrats
• Calum Kerr	• SNP
• Neil Bibby	• Scottish Labour
• Dawn Black	• SNP
• Alexander Burnett	• Scottish Conservatives
• Yi-pei Chou Turvey	• Scottish Liberal Democrats
• Joe Fagan	• Scottish Labour
• Rachael Hamilton	• Scottish Conservatives
• Craig Hoy	• Scottish Conservatives
• Daniel Johnson	• Scottish Labour
• David Kirkwood	• Reform UK
• Paul McLennan	• SNP
• Stuart McMillan	• SNP
• Laura Mitchell	• SNP
• Kim Schmulian	• Reform UK
• Graham Simpson	• Reform UK

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• Jamie Langan • Duncan Dunlop • Finlay Carson • Laura Moodie	• Reform UK • Liberal Democrat • Scottish Conservatives • Scottish Greens
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	• Dr Jane Ali-Knight, Professor in Festival and Event Management at Edinburgh Napier University • Dr Derek Bryce, Senior Lecturer at Department of Marketing, University of Strathclyde Business School • Sam Bracken, Office of Murdo Fraser MSP • Lyn Jardine, Office of Paul McLellan MSP • Orchid Liu, Contributing Correspondent for UK Chinese Times
Organisations	• The Scottish Tourism Alliance (Secretariat) • Argyll & the Isles Tourism Cooperative • Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers • Carey Tourism • Country Sport Scotland • Cruise Lines International Association

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	• Diageo • Expedia Group, London • Hart Holidays Limited • Heritage Railway Association • Highlands and Islands Enterprise • Holiday and Residential Parks Association • Hostelling Scotland • Loch Melfort Hotel/ Red Roof Business Support Ltd • Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park • Mercat Tours • Moffat Centre for Travel and Tourism Business Development, Glasgow Caledonian University • North Coast 500 Limited • RuralDimensions Ltd • Scotch Whisky Association • Scotrail • Scottish Agritourism • Scottish Bed and Breakfast Association • Scottish Chambers of Commerce • Scottish Hospitality Group • Scottish Land & Estates • Scottish Tourist Guides Association • South of Scotland Destination Alliance • Springboard UK • The Association of Scotland's Visitor Attractions

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	• The Golden Lion • The National Lottery Heritage Fund – Scotland • The Scottish Licensed Trade Association • UKHospitality Scotland • UKinbound • VisitAberdeenshire • VisitArran & The Arran Trust • VisitScotland • Walking Scotland • Wild Scotland • Women in Tourism

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.

Please note:

- No more than 3 named contacts per CPG - the Convener, the Secretary and one other individual who can provide information to the Standards Clerks about the activities of the Group. The Convener of a Group must confirm the name of this individual.

Convener	Murdo Fraser MSP
Deputy Convener	Andrew Baxter MSP
Deputy Convener	Calum Kerr MSP
Secretary	Elaine Wilson, Scottish Tourism Alliance
Named Contact	Murdo Fraser MSP

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

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.
The Scottish Tourism Alliance has agreed to absorb the costs of secretariat support provided to the CPG on Tourism and Hospitality. This support is estimated to be the equivalent of 2 days across the parliamentary year (half a day of work per meeting), which comes to the total value of £700.
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
Statement on Compliance with the Code of Conduct. Must be read and signed by the Convener.
Please read the following: • The Convener of a Group is primarily responsible for ensuring that the Group complies with the Code of Conduct; • The Convener is solely responsible for providing Standards Clerks with: ○ The names of new MSP members of the CPG and changes to office-bearers; ○ Named contact details; ○ The registration form; ○ All minutes of meetings within 30 days of the meeting being held; **(Substantially verbatim minutes will not be accepted and will be returned)** ○ The AGM return (to be submitted within 30 days of the AGM to be held within 11 – 13 months of the initial meeting). • Groups are required to have five MSPs from five of the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau; CPGs must hold at least two formal meetings per year (not on the same day), where two MSPs members of the Group are present;

- CPGs must provide Standards Clerks with 10 calendar days' notice of all meetings;
- If a CPG meeting is cancelled or rearranged, notification must be provided to the Standards clerks by no later than the day after the meeting was originally scheduled to take place;
- If a Group fails to comply fully with the Code for more than one year in a row, the Committee will withdraw recognition from that Group.

I declare that I have read the above and 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 (Convener)	
Date	29/09/2026