

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

10 Meeting 2021 (Session 6), Thursday 2 December 2021

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. There are two proposed Groups for the Committee's consideration.

Proposed CPG on Gardening and Horticulture

3. The registration form submitted by the proposed Group is attached at Annexe A to this note.

Consideration by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

4. Paragraph 18 of Section 6 of the Code 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." Rachael Hamilton MSP has been invited to the meeting to discuss registration of the proposed Group.

Purpose

5. Paragraph 19 Section 6 of the Code 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 Group will not be accorded recognition. The Committee will also consider whether the purpose of a proposed Group overlaps the purpose of an existing Group. If there is any overlap Groups are asked to provide justification as to why their aims could not effectively be achieved within an existing Group".
6. The stated purpose of the proposed Group is—
 - To promote and facilitate an understanding between representatives of the world of gardening and horticulture with members of the Scottish Parliament

7. The Group does not consider its purpose overlaps with any other existing Group.

Membership

8. Paragraph 8 of Section 6 of the Code 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 the majority of parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau. The proposed Group meets this requirement.

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

- Three Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
- One Scottish Labour Party
- Two Scottish National Party

10. Paragraph 9 of Section 6 of the Code entitles groups to contain members from outwith the Parliament. The proposed Group has listed three non-MSP members in the individual category and 15 in non-MSP member organisations.

Office Bearers

11. Paragraph 10 of Section 6 of the Code requires one MSP to be Convener of the Group and there to be at least one other MSP office bearer. The proposed Group meets this requirement: Rachael Hamilton MSP is the Convener of the Group and Christine Grahame MSP and Alex Rowley MSP are the Deputy-Conveners.

Financial Benefits and Subscription

12. The registration form indicates that the Group will receive no financial benefits.

13. The registration form also indicates that members will not be charged a subscription.

Proposed CPG on Stroke

14. The registration form submitted by the proposed Group is attached at Annexe B to this note.

Consideration by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

15. Gillian Mackay MSP has been invited to the meeting to discuss registration of the proposed Group.

Purpose

16. The stated purpose of the proposed Group is—

- To provide oversight, encouragement and support for the implementation of a progressive stroke service in all Health Boards, based on the recommendations in a new (2022) stroke action plan
- Increase political awareness of the scale and impact of stroke and the benefits which implementation of a progressive stroke service will make
- Increase political awareness that stroke is a national clinical priority and help ensure stroke is treated as a clinical priority in Health Boards

17. The Group does not consider its purpose overlaps with any other existing Group.

Membership

18. The proposed Group meets the requirement in relation to MSP membership which is as follows —

- One Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
- One Scottish Green Party
- Two Scottish Labour Party
- Two Scottish National Party.

19. The proposed Group has listed no non-MSP members in the individual category and one in non-MSP member organisations. The Group is intending on inviting a number of external organisations to be members but have not formally approached any as yet. The Group intends to update the membership when external bodies join.

Office Bearers

20. The proposed Group meets the requirement in relation to office bearers: Gillian Mackay MSP is the Convener of the proposed Group and Paul O’Kane MSP is the Deputy-Convener.

Financial Benefits and Subscription

21. The registration form indicates that the proposed Group will receive the following financial benefits—

- As majority of meetings will be held virtually via either Zoom or MS Teams we do not anticipate any catering or additional costs however if there are any costs then they will be covered by the Stroke Association.

- Secretariat support is estimated to comprise approximately 5 days of work for each meeting of the Cross-Party Group at an approximate value of £80 per day. Assuming the CPG convenes for the intended 4 meetings during a 12-month period, financial benefits received are therefore estimated at £1,600.

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

Next Steps

23. At agenda item 1 the Committee is invited to discuss any aspects of the application for recognition of the proposed Cross-Party Groups on—

- Gardening and Horticulture with Rachael Hamilton MSP; and
- Stroke with Gillian Mackay MSP.

24. At agenda item 2 the Committee will discuss whether to accord recognition to the proposed Groups.

Sam Currie
Support Manager
Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee
November 2021

CROSS-PARTY GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP
Cross-Party Group on HORTICULTURE AND GARDENING
PURPOSE OF THE GROUP AND PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TO PROMOTE AND FACILITATE AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORLD OF GARDENING AND HORTICULTURE WITH MEMBERS OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT 2. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) GREEN SPACES CAN HAVE A POSITIVE EFFECT ON MENTAL WELL BEING https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/health-and-wellbeing/articles/why-gardening-makes-us-feel-better https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/pdf/climate-and-sustainability/urban-greening/gardening-matters-urban-greening.pdf B) FOOD/HEALTHY LIVING. According to a nationally representative YouGov survey commissioned by the HTA in 2019, 31% of British adults with a garden – approximately 14 million people - grew their own fruit and vegetables. C) CLIMATE CHANGE – Gardening & Horticultural sectors are essential in fulfilling the Scottish Government’s Environment Plan and the wider ambitions around climate change. D) VALUE TO SCOTTISH ECONOMY - The Scottish garden retail sector has a total impact on GDP of £277 million annually (directly & indirectly) and supports 6,700 jobs directly. The Scottish ornamental horticulture sector as a whole supports 53,900 jobs directly and contributes £1.3 billion annually directly to GDP. Scottish consumer spending on ornamental horticultural goods total £580 million per annum, while the Scottish ornamentals grower sector is worth £38 million per annum. 3. NONE 4. CLIMATE CHANGE, GARDEN TOURISM, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELLBEING

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP	
Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group.	
Christine Grahame, Alex Rowley, Jackson Carlaw, Annabelle Ewing, Sharon Dowey, Rachael Hamilton	
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	Alan Titchmarsh Jim McColl Lewis Normand Scottish Allotments & Gardens Society HTA National Trust for Scotland The Scottish Gardeners' Forum Scottish Rock Garden Club Arboricultural Association The Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society British Association of Landscape Industries Keep Scotland Beautiful Hopetoun House & Historic Houses Scotland Garden for Life Forum Get Scotland Growing Greenspace Scottish Environment Link Scotland's Garden Scheme
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	Rachael Hamilton MSP
Deputy Conveners	Alex Rowley MSP and Christine Grahame MSP

Secretary	HTA
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.	
n/a	
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	Rachael Hamilton MSP
Parliamentary address	M3.18, The Scottish Parliament, EH991SP
Telephone number	0131 348 6972

STATEMENT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT	
I declare that the Cross-Party Group on HORTICULTURE AND GARDENING is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.	
Signed	
Date	01/10/2021

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on Stroke
Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide oversight, encouragement and support for the implementation of a progressive stroke service in all Health Boards, based on the recommendations in a new (2022) stroke action plan • Increase political awareness of the scale and impact of stroke and the benefits which implementation of a progressive stroke service will make • Increase political awareness that stroke is a national clinical priority and help ensure stroke is treated as a clinical priority in Health Boards <p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are over 128,000 people in Scotland living with the side effects of stroke and this is only going to increase, estimated to rise to 175,000 by 2035. • Stroke is a leading cause of severe adult disability with 65% of stroke survivors leaving hospital with a disability. • There is recognition that stroke outcomes in Scotland need to improve. We have an opportunity to now work together to create something better which generates improvements in stroke care and outcomes in Scotland. <p>3</p> <p>We do not consider that there is an overlap with any existing Group</p> <p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific topics to be confirmed once the 'Progressive Stroke Pathway' document is published in December. However; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each meeting will resemble a mini-Committee meeting. We will hear from invited speakers on one topic area, or on part of the improvement work. The CPG will take 'evidence'. Debate. Draw

<p>conclusions and define recommendations: What does the CPG think and what does it want to see happen?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All topics in all meetings will be attached to the current improvement work (and the implementation plan we look forward to welcoming). ○ A short report with key action points and recommendations will be produced by the secretariat after each meeting which will be sent, in the CPG's name to all relevant stakeholders ○ The CPG secretariat will work between each CPG meeting to encourage progress on those key action points with relevant stakeholders 	
<p>MSP Members of the Group</p> <p>Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group.</p>	
<p>Gillian MacKay (Scottish Green Party) [Convenor] Paul O'Kane (Scottish Labour) [deputy Convenor] Pam Duncan-Glancy (Scottish Labour) Paul McLennan (Scottish National Party) James Dornan (Scottish National Party) Alexander Stewart (Scottish Conservatives)</p>	
<p>Non-MSP Members of the Group</p> <p>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.</p>	
Individuals	
Organisations	Stroke Association
<p>Group Office Bearers</p> <p>Please provide names for all office bearers. The minimum requirement is that two of the office bearers are MSPs and one of these is Convenor – 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.</p>	
Convenor	Gillian MacKay MSP
Deputy Convenor	Paul O'Kane MSP
Secretary	Stroke Association
Treasurer	N/A
<p>Financial Benefits or Other Benefits</p>	

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.	
As majority of meetings will be held virtually via either Zoom or MS Teams we do not anticipate any catering or additional costs however if there are any costs then they will be covered by the Stroke Association. Secretariat support is estimated to comprise approximately 5 days of work for each meeting of the Cross Party Group at an approximate value of £80 per day. Assuming the CPG convenes for the intended 4 meetings during a 12 month period, financial benefits received are therefore estimated at £1,600.	
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	Gillian MacKay MSP
Parliamentary address	The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Telephone number	<u>0131 348 6341</u>

Statement on Compliance with The Code Of Conduct	
I declare that the Cross-Party Group on Stroke is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.	
Signed	Gillian MacKay
Date	27/10/2021