

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Postal Issues

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.)

14 June 2012

DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

9 June 2015

DATE OF PRECEDING AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 12 months of the previous AGM]

17 June 2014

DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

3 July 2015

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.

Meeting on 30th September 2014 – Citizens Advice Scotland provided updates on work on the Post Office Network Transformation Programme, Post Office Card Accounts and Parcel Deliveries in remote and rural Scotland, and this was followed by a discussion on mail market competition.
Attendance: 2 MSPs, 9 non-MSPs

Meeting on 2nd December 2014 – Frank McKillop from the Association of British Credit Unions Ltd provided an update on Post Office and Credit Union partnership working. Citizens Advice Scotland led a discussion of mail market competition and the USO.

Attendance: 2 MSPs, 11 non-MSPs

Meeting and AGM on 9th June 2015 – AGM re-elected Hugh Henry MSP and Kenneth Gibson MSP as co-convenors for another year. Chris Rowsell from Ofcom gave a presentation on issues around regulation and competition in the end to end postal market.

Attendance: 2 MSPs, 13 non-MSPs

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Roderick Campbell, SNP

Jamie McGrigor, Scottish Conservatives

Hugh Henry, Scottish Labour

Kenneth Gibson, SNP

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

Communications Consumer Panel
 Society of Chief Officers of Trading Standards in Scotland
 Whistl
 National Federation of Sub-Postmasters
 Post Office Ltd
 Ofcom
 Ofcom Advisory Panel
 Communication Workers Union
 Royal Mail
 Competition and Markets Authority
 Citizens Advice Scotland

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	Kenneth Gibson MSP co-convenor Hugh Henry MSP co-convenor
Deputy Convener	
Secretary	Citizens Advice Scotland
Treasurer	

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).

Secretariat support is provided by Citizens Advice Scotland. The value of this support is estimated to be £900 over the year, based on one day per month at £75 per day. Catering costs are approximately £150 per meeting, so £450 over the year. The budget for catering was provided by Citizens Advice Scotland. Therefore the total financial benefit received from Citizens Advice Scotland over the year is estimated at £1350.

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

Kenneth Gibson MSP

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