

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP
Cross-Party Group on Tibet
DATE GROUP APPROVED
7 March 2013
DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED
27 February 2014
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.
6 March 2013 CPG AGM. MSPs 4. Non-MSP 26. Talk by Mr Thubten Samdup, the Dalai Lama's representative for northern Europe, on short-term actions while HHDL is still alive, the importance of building links with Chinese students in the UK, the investments the Tibetans in exile have made in democracy, and how the international support for nonviolence and the Tibetan community in exile must support Tibetans in Tibet. The Group noted their thanks to Marco Biagi MSP for a parliamentary motion on the 100 th anniversary of the Tibetan declaration of independence. The AGM was held and officers were elected to their following positions: Linda Fabiani - Convener Anne McTaggart - Deputy Convener Iain Thom - Secretary 22 April 2013 CPG meeting. MSPs 3. Non-MSP 13. Samantha May of the University of Aberdeen provided an update on the on-going self-immolations in Tibet. At the point of the meeting 77 people had been known to have died self-immolating. Self-immolation has been a method of protesting a verity of grievances from religious persecution to land grabs by the Chinese government. Samantha touched on a developing trend where the state had begun a system of

collective punishment persecuting people linked to the immolators by charging them with intentional homicide.

Tim Loughton MP visited the CPG to talk about the work of the All Party Parliamentary Group in Westminster. He discussed his experience during the last visit of HHDL where he had been prevented from meeting the religious leader.

2 October 2013 CPG meeting. MSPs 4. Non-MSP 15.

Dr. Martin Mills presented a briefing paper on self-immolations in Tibet. Minor changes were suggested and the briefing was adopted unanimously pending those changes being made. The Group discussed the opportunity to bring a members' debate on this issue and there was a wide discussion on what the debate should cover, including self-immolations, trade, the HR situation and relations with surrounding countries.

Max Rollins was elected as the secretary for the CPG.

The Group noted the death of Robert Ford on 20th Sept 2013, aged 90. Robert Ford was one of the very few westerners in Tibet during the invasion where he continued to work as a radio operator and spent time in jail for doing so.

4 February 2014 Members Debate (relevant activity but not a CPG meeting)

Members debate on Motion S4M-08842 in the name of Maureen Watt MSP on self-immolations in Tibet.

Official report of the debate is available here:

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8922&mode=html#iob_80459

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

Please provide names of all MSP members of the Group. Note that only names need to be provided, no party designation or other information is required.

Convener: Linda Fabiani

Deputy Convener: Anne McTaggart

Adam Ingram

Alison Johnstone

Alison McInnes

Annabelle Ewing

Christina McKelvie

Dennis Robertson
 Hugh Henry
 Jamie McGrigor
 Kenneth Gibson
 Kevin Stewart
 Margaret Mitchell
 Maureen Watt
 Richard Lyle
 Rob Gibson
 Roderick Campbell
 Sandra White

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

Jenni Campbell
 Elaine Yip
 Linda Hendry
 Iain Thom
 Michael Collie
 Roger Eames
 Kirsteen Currie

Organisations

University of Aberdeen
 United Nations of a Free Tibet
 Edinburgh University Tibet Society
 Tibet Support Group Grampian
 Amnesty International
 University of St Andrews
 Edinburgh Interfaith Association

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	Linda Fabiani
Deputy Convener	Anne McTaggart
Secretary	Maxwell Rollins
Treasurer	n/a

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.

n/a

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

None

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

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