

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on <Towns and Town Centres>

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.)

6 February 2013

DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

19 March 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 February 2013

- Presentation by Malcolm Fraser on the Town Centre Review progress.
- Iain Scott, Scotpreneur presented short film clips sharing town stories.
- Ross Martin, CSPP, outlined the role of Scotland's Towns Partnership.

MSPs 6

Non MSPs 38

17 April 2013

- Presentation on '21st Century High Streets' from David Martin, Scottish Retail Consortium.
- Presentation by Phil Prentice, East Renfrewshire Council, on 'Local Solutions' illustrating three approaches adopted in East Renfrewshire towns.
- Highlighting of Test Towns competition by Jim Metcalfe of Carnegie UK
- An appeal by Ian Davison Porter of BIDs Scotland to support campaigns to save local post offices.

MSPs 4

Non MSPs 25

12 June 2013

Theme of meeting – Town Centre Performance – Resilience & Opportunities – introduced by Ross Martin, with presentations from Chris Wade, Action for Market Towns, on Benchmarking+ and by David Stewart, National Skills Academy for Retail, promoting 'Independents Day'.

MSPs 4

Non MSPs 33

17 July 2013 – Study visit to East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire towns as a follow on to April presentations by Phil Prentice on 'Local Solutions'.

MSPs 4

Non MSPs 29

11 September 2013

- Report and discussion from summer Study Visit
- Presentation by Malcolm Fraser on the final town centre review report from the External Advisory Group.
- Ross Martin highlighted key upcoming high points for towns – the Scotland's Towns Conference, Scotland's Towns Week and the Christmas trading period.

MSPs 4

Non MSPs 26

13 November 2013

- The Convener, Minister for Towns, BIDs Scotland Director and Professor Leigh Sparks gave interviews for a video media release ahead of Scotland's Towns Week (18 – 24 November 2013) and Scotland's Towns Conference at which the Leigh Sparks would host and the Minister will address.
- Minister for Towns discussed the government's response (Town Centre Action Plan - TCAP) to the Review.
- Leigh Sparks gave an analysis of the three key towns reports in circulation now – Portas, Grimsey and Fraser.

Professor Sparks set the CPG a task ,“ to hold the TCAP to account”. At a 22nd January Office Bearers’ meeting, it was discussed that the Group should uphold this challenge.

MSPs 3

Non MSPs 31

19 February 2014

- AGM Business incorporating re-election of Office Bearers and Review and Forward Plan
- Presentation by Alexander Nicoll, ATCM/INTU
- Presentations and Discussion around: ‘How do we overcome the barriers to implementing the Town Centre Action Plan?’ featuring public, private and community perspectives from respectively, Jim Galloway, City of Edinburgh Council/SLAED, Malcolm Brown, Scotmid/Queensferry Ambition BID and Tom Sneddon, Development Trusts Association Scotland/Scotland’s Towns Partnership.

MSPs 3

Non MSPs 35

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.

Alex Ferguson MSP
Alex Johnstone MSP
Alison Johnstone MSP
Angus MacDonald MSP
Annabelle Ewing MSP
Chic Brodie MSP
Elaine Murray MSP
Graeme Dey MSP (Deputy Convener)
Jackie Baillie MSP
James Dornan MSP
Jamie Hepburn MSP
John Pentland MSP
John Scott MSP
Margaret McCulloch MSP(Convener)
Margaret McDougall MSP
Mark Griffin MSP

Mary Fee MSP
 Michael McMahon MSP
 Mike MacKenzie MSP
 Neil Bibby MSP
 Patricia Ferguson MSP
 Siobhan McMahon MSP
 Willie Rennie MSP

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.

<p>Individuals</p>	<p>Andrew Dixon Ben Murray Colin Kelly Dan Smith Dennis Rodwell Dr Beria Rodwell Gordon Bell Gordon Reid Iain Scott Iain Thom Ian McLelland James Trolland Kirsteen Currie Malcolm Fraser Nick Wright Professor Leigh Sparks Sheena Cleland Vivien Collie Willie Miller</p>
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<p>Organisations</p>	<p>WSP 7N Architects Alliance Boots Architecture + Design Scotland Association of Town & City Management BIDs Scotland Calderwood Community Council Carnegie UK Trust Centre for Scottish Public Policy City of Edinburgh Council Colliers International CraftTown Scotland Development Trusts Association Scotland Dunfermline Delivers East Dunbartonshire Council East Renfrewshire Council</p>
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Economic Development Association (Scotland)
 Ltd
 Ernst & Young LLP
 Falkirk Council
 Falkirk Delivers BID
 Federation of Master Builders
 Fife Council
 First UK Bus
 FSB Scotland
 GVA
 Halcrow
 Highland Retail Academy
 Keep Scotland Beautiful
 Living Streets
 McClure Naismith
 National Skills Academy for Retail
 New Consensus Communications
 Pagoda PR
 Paisley BID
 Paths for All
 Perth & Kinross Council
 Planning Aid for Scotland
 Planning Aid Scotland
 Planning Community
 PPS Group
 RTPI Scotland
 SCDI
 Scottish Borders Council
 Scottish Business in the Community
 Scottish Business Resilience Centre
 Scottish Chamber of Commerce
 Scottish Chamber of Commerce
 Scottish Contemporary Art Network
 Scottish Retail Consortium
 Scottish Small Towns Group
 Scottish Tourism Alliance
 Space Unlimited
 Stirling Council
 Sustrans
 Tactran
 Towns Alive
 Transform Scotland
 USDAW
 William Hill

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	Margaret McCulloch MSP
Deputy Convener	Graeme Dey MSP Tom Sneddon, Development Trusts Association Scotland and Scotland's Towns Partnership Sunil Varu, ATCM
Secretary	Elaine Bone, Scotland's Towns Partnership
Treasurer	Elaine Bone maintains financial records as part of role of Secretary. Craig McLaren, RTPi Scotland and Scotland's Towns Partnership acts in adviser capacity to Convener

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.

Only Donation over £500 – Scotland's Towns Partnership

Total value of support - £2,404.05

Breakdown:

In kind donation of time by Elaine Bone, Secretary to the CPG, on behalf of Scotland's Towns Partnership to the value of £2,156.25 for 8.625 days work over the course of the year, including managing all communications with office bearers, members, speakers, supporters; planning agendas and related arrangements; attendance and Minute taking at all CPG and Office Bearer meetings; and fulfilling Code of Conduct and Best Practice requirements. For 6 CPG meetings, AGM and

study visit.

Supporting catering direct cost for 11 September CPG meeting, £247.80

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

No subscription is charged by the Group.

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name

Margaret McCulloch MSP

Parliamentary
address

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The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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