

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

<b>NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP</b>
Cross-Party Group on Visual Impairment
<b>DATE GROUP ESTABLISHED</b> (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.)
15 September 2011
<b>DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM</b>
11 March 2015
<b>DATE OF PRECEDING AGM</b> [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 12 months of the previous AGM]
12 March 2014
<b>DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED</b>
31 March 2015
<b>GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES</b>  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.
<b>1. 11 March 2015 (Meeting and AGM)</b>  Attendance:  MSP: 3

Non-MSP: 37

Topics / guest speakers:

- Election of Office Bearers
- Access Support National Ophthalmology Workstream update: Margaret Duncan, Jacquie Dougall, Alex Bowerman, Scottish Government
- Extending access to Library, Council and Community Services: Paul McCloskey, City of Edinburgh Council
- Accessible Health Information: Dr Hazel McFarlane, RNIB Scotland

## **2. 4 December 2014 (Joint meeting with CPG on Deafness)**

Attendance:

MSP: 5

Non MSP: 65

Topics / Guest speakers:

- BSL Bill: Jenny Marra MSP
- Equality, Access and Inclusive Communication: Hilary Third, Scottish Government
- Joint Sensory Strategy: Angela Bonomy, Scottish Government

## **3. 4 December 2014 (Joint reception with CPG on Deafness)**

Attendance:

MSP: 8

Non MSP: 90

Networking reception addressed by Maureen Watt MSP, Minister for Public Health and featuring Solar Bear, accessible youth theatre group.

#### **4. 8 October 2014 (Meeting)**

Attendance:

MSP: 3

Non MSP: 33

Topics / guest speakers:

- Educational attainment for VI children: Monica McGeever, Education Scotland
- Transitions: Kate Storrow, RNIB Scotland
- Doran Review: Colin Spivey, Scottish Government
- Haggeye Bus Campaign: Caroline Macleod, Haggeye
- Scottish Vision Strategy: Ken Reid, UK Vision Strategy

#### **5. 28 May 2014 (Meeting)**

Attendance:

MSP: 2

Non MSP: 40

Topics / guest speakers:

- “Eye Right” – Getting IT right for VI children in Scotland: Mairi Graham, SAVIE and Sarah McLean, University of Glasgow student
- VINCYP – the MCN for Children: Dr Kathy Spowart, GGC NHS and lead clinician, VINCYP (Visual Impairment Network for Children and Young People)
- Scottish Vision Strategy: Ken Reid, UK Vision Strategy

#### **6. 28 May 2014 (Reception)**

Attendance:

MSP: 2

Non MSP: 93

Networking reception and launch of "Let Me Play", a short film created by RNIB Scotland, Scottish Sensory Centre and the Royal Blind School which demonstrates successful engagement methods and play techniques to assist with the early development of blind and partially sighted children.

### **MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

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

Neil Bibby MSP - Scottish Labour

James Kelly MSP - Scottish Labour

Stuart McMillan MSP - Scottish National Party

Nanette Milne MSP - Scottish Conservative and Unionist

Dennis Robertson MSP - Scottish National Party

Dr Richard Simpson MSP - Scottish Labour

### **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

- Sam Brown
- Amanda Burt
- Tracy Christie
- Hilary Davies
- Cindy Godfrey-McKay
- Iain Mackinnon
- Anne McLean
- James Mowat
- Rod Murchison
- James O'Rourke

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Margaret O'Rourke</li> <li>• Hussein Patwa</li> <li>• Mary Rasmussen</li> <li>• Susan Robinson</li> <li>• Terry Robinson</li> <li>• Alex Scott</li> <li>• Ken Swa</li> <li>• Allen Thurston</li> <li>• Sandra Wilson</li> </ul>
Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcon</li> <li>• Allergan</li> <li>• Angus Council</li> <li>• Association of Scottish Talking Newspapers (ASTN)</li> <li>• Audio Description Association (Scotland)</li> <li>• British and Irish Orthoptic Society</li> <li>• CEC Libraries</li> <li>• Community The Trade Union</li> <li>• Disability Agenda Scotland</li> <li>• Dundee Blind and Partially Sighted Society</li> <li>• Eyecare Scotland</li> <li>• Fife Society for the Blind</li> <li>• Guide Dogs</li> <li>• Haggeye</li> <li>• Insight Radio</li> <li>• Lead Scotland</li> <li>• Leonard Cheshire Disability</li> </ul>

- The Macular Society
- National Federation of the Blind Scotland
- National League of Blind and Disabled
- North Ayrshire Council
- North East Sensory Services
- Novartis
- Optometry Scotland
- VisionPK - Perth and Kinross Society For the Blind
- Police Scotland
- RNIB Scotland
- Royal Blind
- Scottish Association for Visual Impairment Education (SAVIE)
- Scottish Council on Visual Impairment
- Scottish Government
- Scottish Sensory Centre
- Scottish Vision Strategy
- Scottish Division of Education Psychologists (SDEP)
- Sight Action
- Social Work Scotland
- VI Scotland
- Visibility
- Vision2020UK
- VISION2020UK Counselling and Emotional Support Services Group
- Visualise

## 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	Stuart McMillan MSP
Deputy Convener	Neil Bibby MSP Dennis Robertson MSP
Secretary	James Adams, RNIB Scotland
Treasurer	James Adams, RNIB Scotland

## 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).

### The following costs were met by RNIB Scotland

Staffing:	
James Adams (6 days)	£879.61
Helen Wilkinson (4 days)	£433.74

Caitlin Howie (2 days)	£114.24
Meeting / events	
11 Mar 2015 meeting	£279.30
4 Dec 2014 meeting / reception	£1841.40
8 Oct 2014 meeting	£287.70
28 May 2014 meeting	£2362.25
Total	£6,198.24

### 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	Stuart McMillan MSP
Parliamentary address	
Telephone number	