

The Scottish Parliament

CROSS PARTY GROUP ON DEAFNESS

Meeting Notes of the Annual General Meeting of the Cross Party Group on Deafness held in the Scottish Parliament, Holyrood, Edinburgh on Tuesday 11th June 2013 at 5.40pm

PRESENT: Jenny Marra MSP (Convenor)
Dennis Robertson MSP (Deputy Convenor)
Ann Robertson (NESS)
Dennis Arnold (Dumfries & Galloway Hard of Hearing Group)
Carly Brownlie (SASLI)
Sheila MacKenzie (University of Edinburgh)
Janis Sugden (University of Edinburgh)
Alison Brownlie (Deafblind Scotland)
Anne Lennon (NDCS Scotland)
Mandy Reid (SCoD)
Donald Richards (Donaldson's School)
Rebecca Norton (Hearing Link)
Liz Scott Gibson (Deaf Action)
Bert Smale (ATLA)
Carol Thomson (BATOD)
Lilian Lawson (SCoD & CPGD Secretariat)

Also in attendance: Willie MacFadyen (Hayfield Support Services), Donald Bethune (Deaf Action), Robert Malone, Lotte Vanbricken, Ross McKenzie (Jenny Marra's Assistant), Andrew Dewey and Lisa Stapleton (BSL/English Interpreters) and Deloris Cowan (Notetaker).

CPGD/AGM/13/01 APOLOGIES: Apologies for non-attendance had been received from Drena O'Malley (Deafblind Scotland), Delia Henry (Action on Hearing Loss), Fiona Jarvis (RCSLT Scotland), Doug Bradley (Signature), Pam Bruce (Tayside Deaf Forum), Elizabeth Adam (Tayside Deaf Links) and Annabelle Ewing MSP.

CPGD/AGM/13/02 REPORT: The Convenor read her report on the past year activities which included:

- Informative presentations on a range of issues, such as the principles of inclusive communication by Sense Scotland and the Scottish Government and others.
- A rolling brief to changes on Welfare Reform including Atos and PIP.
- Regular updates from Mark Griffin MSP on the BSL Bill.
- Engaged with Ministers including participation by deaf athletes in the Commonwealth Games.
- Raised issues on funding for aftercare, cochlear implant and

- local authority language plans.
- Supported the DCAMHS campaign which had been launched in the Scottish Parliament.
 - A Parliament debate was held and a motion was lodged and event held in Parliament.
 - The Convenor had represented the CPGD at the British Society of Health and Mental Health and at a hearing guide group in Dundee.
 - Have joined forces with other cross party groups, including AoHL and Sense Scotland for older people.

CPGD/AGM/13/03 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS: An election of office bearers had taken place; Jenny Marra MSP and Dennis Robertson MSP were both unanimously re-elected as Convenor and Vice-Convenor respectively. Jenny Marra MSP and Dennis Robertson MSP thanked the CPGD for their support and confidence in them.

CPGD/AGM/13/04 SECRETARIAT: It was unanimously agreed that SCoD should continue to provide the secretariat support to the CPGD.

CPGD/AGM/13/05 CLOSURE: There being no further business, the Convenor moved to close the AGM.