

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 ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

17 July 2013

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.

14 June 2012 – initial meeting to discuss remit of group and elect office bearers. 5 MSPs and 16 representatives from external organisations attended.

13 November 2012 – presentation on postal issues in Scotland with discussion around significant issues for vulnerable consumers. 2 MSPs and 14 representatives from external organisations attended.

26 February 2013 – Presentation and discussion on parcel delivery issues in Scotland. 2 MSPs and 14 representatives from external organisations attended.

24 April 2013 – Presentations and discussions around protecting the universal service obligation and on transactional mail. 1 MSP and 12 representatives from external organisations attended.

18 June 2013 – Presentations and discussions on current and upcoming changes to the post office network and parcel delivery services. Annual General Meeting to elect office bearers. 1 MSP and 11 representatives from external organisations attended.

As the meeting on 18 June was inquorate, and therefore not a formal meeting, the annual return form and re-election of office-bearers were approved by the Group at the meeting on 24 September 2013.

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.

Kenneth Gibson
Hugh Henry
Roderick Campbell
Patricia Ferguson
Aileen Campbell
Jamie McGrigor

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

Post Office LTD
National Federation of Sub Postmasters (NFSB)
Age Scotland
Communication Workers Union
Citizens Advice Scotland
Society of Chief Officers of Trading Standards in Scotland (SCOTSS)
Highland Council Trading Standards
Office of Fair Trading
Royal Mail
TNT Express
OFCOM

	<p>Consumer Focus Scotland</p> <p>Federation of Small Businesses</p> <p>Action on Hearing Loss</p> <p>Royal National Institute of Blind People</p> <p>Scottish Disability Equality Forum</p>
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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
Deputy Convener	Hugh Henry MSP
Secretary	Karen Jordan, Communications Manager, Consumer Futures
Treasurer	Sarah Beattie-Smith, Policy and Parliamentary Officer, Citizens Advice 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.

Secretariat support is provided by Karen Jordan, Communications Manager at Consumer Futures. It is estimated that Karen spends approximately 1 working day per calendar month providing this support, reducing slightly during periods of recess.

The value of this support over the year is estimated at £1950.

Catering is provided for the Group's meetings and the cost of this over the year was £865. The budget is provided by Consumer Futures.

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Kenneth Gibson (Co-Convenor)
Parliamentary address	M4.08
Telephone number	86536