

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

### NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

**Cross Party Group on Adult Learning**

### PURPOSE OF THE GROUP AND PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Please provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.
2. Please also provide details of any overlaps with the purpose of existing Cross-Party Groups and an explanation of why, regardless of any such overlap, the Group should be established.
3. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.

There are some extraordinarily creative and interesting things happening within adult learning right across Scotland, and the need and desire for adult learning is greater than ever. There are any number of issues impacting on the adult learning sector; for example, our ageing population, an increasing virtual learning environment, the changing nature of family and intergenerational learning, and, of course, ever-changing skills demands from the labour market.

Against this background, the purposes of the CPG of Adult Learning are:-

- To create a much-needed space for MSPs to debate and discuss with adult learners, directly, on how best to protect and promote adult learning provision in the future and to provide an opportunity where the hopes and expectations of learners can be a driver in influencing adult learning policy.
- To showcase how lives are being transformed through adult learning and celebrate innovation within the sector, from around Scotland and internationally.

There are two related existing CPGs at Holyrood; 'Colleges/Universities' and 'Skills'. However, much of the problem when discussing adult learning policy in the past has been that people view it through a narrow lens. Adult Learning policy covers many things and should not simply be considered within the context of formal education or skills. Family learning, community learning and development, informal learning and other areas all contribute to making adult learning dynamic and worthwhile and promote the voice of the learner.

It is important, therefore, that policy makers think and plan for adult learning in that same holistic way, for and with all kinds of adult learners. An overarching Cross Party Group on Adult Learning to explore all elements of adult learning will help connect learners directly with policy makers, an opportunity that would be very welcome and worthwhile. The adult learners we have spoken to have expressed their excitement at the possibility of being able to come to the Scottish Parliament,

meet with their MSPs and to share their experiences and expertise around adult learning.

A Cross Party Group on adult learning will promote the Scottish Parliament's founding principles of openness and accessibility with a wide ranging group of individuals and interests.

In support of this application we would also like to submit a video put together by learners expressing their reasons why a CPG on adult learning would be a good thing for MSPs to create – a few minutes long. <https://vimeo.com/68612410> (password SLP2013)

Topics likely to be discussed in the forthcoming 12 months:

- Consistency across Scotland in the level and quality of provision.
- Research into the wider benefits of adult learning.
- Impact of educational policy on adult learning.
- Effects of learning on learners' wellbeing.
- Celebrating success stories - identifying good practice (esp. during Adult Learners' Week).
- Participation rates and investment.
- Raising awareness of adult learning opportunities.
- How best to join up provision in ways which benefit learners.

#### **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.

Jean Urquhart  
Neil Findlay  
Sarah Boyack  
Clare Adamson  
George Adam  
Murdo Fraser  
Helen Eadie  
Alison Johnstone  
Alex Fergusson  
Anne McTaggart  
Margaret McCulloch  
Hugh Henry

#### **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	Adult learners wishing to register for the CPG on Adult Learning (all adult learners):  F                      Adams
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	M	Allan
	A	Anderson
	L	Andrews
	M	Anwar
	M	Anwar
	A	Armstrong
	M	Bilsland
	A	Bisset
	J	Brown
	C	Butterly
	M	Campbell
	M	Carruthers
	T	Cavanagh
	J	Clelland
	Y	Collins
	M	Cormack
	M	Craig
	M	Crosbie
	R	Cunningham
	A	Cunningham
	H	Currie
	B	Currie
	J	Currie
	R	Dalgleish
	V	Devine
	M	Drummond
	Y	Duncan
	F	Fairfield
	C	Fairgrieve
	L	Feehan
	F	Finnigan
	E	Gilmour
	K	Graham
	J	Griffiths
	E	Hamilton
	J	Hannah
	S	Harvey
	W	Hay
	J	Hookway
	J	Horsburgh
	D	Hunter
	G	Ingils
	M	Johnston
	E	Kerr
	M	Lau
	C	MacDonald
	J	MacLean
	M	Magill
	M	Matson
	M	McAuley

	C M G I A C V E A B G L L M W D A C P J M E M L D P M M S I J D Z M L R K L P	McCartney McCutcheon McCutcheon McDonald McGeough McGregor McGregor McIntyre McKinnon McLean McLean McManus McManus Meechan Milne-Emslie Morrison Murgatroyd Nowbaveh Orr Paton Paton Pollock Prentice Reid Reid Rennie Rodger Rollo Scott Sheldon Smith Smith Templeton Thompson Waddell Wallace Wallace Wetherill Wilson
Organisations	From the initial meeting held on 19 June 2013:  National Learners Forum Scotland's Learning Partnership College Development Network WEA Scotland Universities Scotland STUC Nifty Fifties School of Communities & Learner Development Business Lab	

	ABE Fife LEAD Scotland Museums Galleries Scotland West Lothian Council Dundee City Council Clackmannanshire Council City of Edinburgh Council The Moray Council Kilmarnock College Stow College Fife Mining Heritage National Learners' Forum (Stirling rep)
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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	Jean Urquhart MSP
Deputy Convener	Clare Adamson MSP, Sarah Boyack MSP, Neil Findlay MSP, Margaret Allan (adult learner), Chris Fairgrieve (adult learner)
Secretary	Fiona Boucher (Scotland's Learning Partnership)
Treasurer	Lee Callaghan (Scotland's Learning Partnership)

### FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS

Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) the Group anticipates receiving from a single source in a calendar year that 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.

Scotland's Learning Partnership will provide secretariat support to the Group and meet the associated costs of the group up to £1000. This money will cover the catering and AV costs of the group and the travel expenses of individual learners who may wish to travel to Edinburgh for CPG meetings.

### SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

A one off subscription charge of £50 for private and public sector organisations and a one off subscription charge of £25 for voluntary sector organisations. No charge

for individual adult learner members.

### **CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS**

Name	Jean Urquhart MSP
Parliamentary address	Room M3.20
Telephone number	0131 348 5053

### **STATEMENT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

I declare that the Cross-Party Group on Adult Learning is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

Signed

Date