

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN 2019

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Drug and Alcohol Misuse

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.)

26th October 2016

DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

3rd December 2019

DATE OF PRECEDING AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 12 months of the previous AGM]

4th December 2018

DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

4th December 2019

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.

AGM 4th December

4 MSPs present 20 others

Stigma experienced by families when a loved one has died as a result of alcohol harm.

The speakers are:

- Justina Murray, Chief Executive Officer,

Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol & Drugs

- Sadie Prior, Director,
Family Addiction Support Service (FASS)

26th February 2019

2 MSPs present and 21 others

1 Street Benzodiazepines use

The meeting heard from the three presenters:

- *Benzodiazepines use in Lothian*
- Dr Paul Cawood, NHS Lothian
- *Challenges in benzodiazepines use in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde*
- Jo McManus, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- *Benzodiazepine supply and enforcement issues for Police Scotland*
- Kevin Plank, Police Scotland.

Their presentations are attached to the minute.

A wide ranging discussion followed. Key conclusions were that:

- It was important to appropriately monitor trends and that this needs to be as close to real time data as it was possible to get.
- That the vast majority of benzodiazepine use was the use of illicit substances obtained through illegal supply. This meant that the market was entirely unregulated and meant people using benzodiazepines could not be certain of the particular benzodiazepine they were using or its strength. It was therefore important to explore the potential for the prescribing of benzodiazepines alongside opioid use in order try and minimize the harm to individuals.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

John Finnie MSP, Green Party Monica

Lennon MSP, Labour Party

Miles Briggs MSP, Conservative and Unionist Party

Stuart McMillan MSP, SNP

Tom Arthur MSP, SNP

Michelle Ballantyne MSP, Conservative and Unionist Party

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

Rowan Anderson
Biba Brand
Alistair Brown
Sian Fiddimore
Laura Hoskins
Dr David Johnson
Cath Logan
Liam Mehigan
Arun Menon
Paul Mooney
Stephanie Morrison
Uday Mukherji
Dr Eunice Reed
Cameron Scally
Tracey Stewart
Michael Trail

Organisations

Scottish Drugs Forum
Alcohol Focus Scotland
Big Lottery Fund
CDPS Edinburgh
Circle
Community Justice Scotland
Community Pharmacy Scotland
CREW
East Lothian Substance Misuse Service
Glasgow Council on Alcohol
Howard League
MRC/CSO Social & Public Health Sciences Unit. Uni of Glasgow
NHS Borders
NHS Fife Addiction Services
NHS GGC
NHS Health Scotland
NHS Lothian
NHS Tayside
NSPCC
Police Scotland
Rise Recovery Cafe
Robert Gordon University
Royal Pharmaceutical Society
Salvation Army
Scotch Whisky Association
Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance
Scottish Parliament
Scottish Youth Parliament
Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol & Drugs
Stirling ADP
Signpost Recovery
Stirling University
The Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Glasgow
Turning Point Scotland
University of the West of Scotland
West Lothian Drug & Alcohol Service

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	John Finnie MSP – co-Convener Monica Lennon MSP – co-Convener
Deputy Convener	Miles Briggs MSP, Conservative and Unionist Party Stuart McMillan MSP, SNP Tom Arthur MSP, SNP
Secretary	Secretariat: Scottish Drugs Forum
Treasurer	

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).

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	John Finnie MSP –co-Convener Monica Lennon MSP – co-Convener
Parliamentary address	The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 6484