

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP
Cross-Party Group on Japan
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.)
Tuesday 23 rd October 2018
DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM
Tuesday 24 th September 2019
DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED
Monday 7 th October 2019
DATE OF PRECEDING AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 11-13 months of the previous AGM]
Tuesday 23 rd October 2018
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.
Tuesday 23rd October 2018 Attendance: 4 MSPs, 4 Non-MSPs Initial Meeting – Election of office bearers and further discussion surrounding plans for the Group going forward.
Wednesday 27th February 2019 Attendance: 6 MSPs, 34 Non-MSPs

Guest Speaker: Mr Nozomu Takaoka, Consul General of Japan - The Consul General discussed the cultural ties between Scotland and Japan and how we can look to build upon the upcoming sporting events, including the Rugby World Cup in 2019 and the Olympic/Paralympic Games to be held in Tokyo in 2020, to strengthen these links. The Consul General also spoke about the current economic situation in Japan and noted that Japanese Foreign Direct Investment into the UK is at an all-time high.

Guest Speaker: Colin Loveday (Scottish Chambers of Commerce) – Colin Loveday outlined the work of the Scottish Chambers of Commerce across the world in building peer to peer and business relationships.

Guest Speaker: Kerry Bryson (University of Stirling) - Kerry Bryson gave the group an update on the work the University of Stirling is doing to enhance its engagement with Japanese students and institutions.

Tuesday 18th June 2019

Attendance: 4 MSPs, 20 Non-MSPs

Guest Speaker: Hisashi Kuboyama (Federation of Small Business) - Hisashi Kuboyama from the Federation of Small Business (FSB) gave the group a presentation on Small Business and Exporting to Japan based on research conducted by the FSB.

Guest Speaker: Kerry Bryson (University of Stirling) - Kerry Bryson (spoke to the group about some of the university's success stories and of her recent visit to Tokyo where she spoke at the British Embassy regarding the University of Stirling's relationship with Japan on ageing and dementia care.

Guest Speaker: Stuart Hamilton (Scottish Chambers of Commerce) - Stuart Hamilton from the Scottish Chambers of Commerce briefed the group on the new trade partnership named 'International Trade Partnership 2' (ITP2)

Guest Speaker: Neil Francis (Scottish Enterprise) - Neil Francis spoke to the group about the importance of collaboration in approaching SME support to export and used the example of the Nippon Foundation.

Tuesday 24th September 2019

Attendance: 6 MSPs, 22 Non-MSPs

AGM – Re-election of office bearers (Dean Lockhart MSP to continue as Convener, with Maureen Watt MSP joining as Deputy Convener alongside Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP and David Birrell to continue as Secretariat)

Guest Speaker: Mr Nozomu Takaoka, Consul General of Japan – The Consul General noted the upcoming events and collaborations due to take place between Japan and Scotland and spoke of the importance of future trading agreements.

Guest Speaker: Patrick Hughes (Seafood Scotland) – Patrick Hughes updated the Group on the work Seafood Scotland are undertaking to promote Scottish seafood in Japan.

Guest Speaker: David Whiteford (Scottish Rugby Union) – David Whiteford spoke to the Group on the ways in which Scottish Rugby is capitalising on the Rugby World Cup currently taking place in Japan.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Dean Lockhart MSP –Conservative
Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP – Conservative
Bill Bowman MSP – Conservative
Colin Smyth MSP - Labour
Liam McArthur MSP – Liberal Democrat
Pauline McNeill MSP - Labour
Maureen Watt MSP - SNP

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	Michael Graham David Birrell Thomas Heald Lesley-Anne Campbell Hisashi Kuboyama Alan Johnston Stuart Hamilton Sue Beatt Colin Loveday Pry Paulasaari Takashi Taji David Watt Professor Ian Gow OBE MA Phd DUniv FRAS FRSA
Organisations	Asia Scotland Institute Scottish Life Sciences Association University sector/ Japan Societies

	Scottish Chambers of Commerce Entrepreneurial Scotland The Whisky Ambassador Ltd The Institute of Directors Japan Society of Scotland Orkney Japan Association
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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	Dean Lockhart MSP
Deputy Convener	Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP and Maureen Watt MSP
Secretary	David Birrell
Treasurer	NA

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).

No financial or equivalent support received at all.

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

NA

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Dean Lockhart MSP
Parliamentary address	Room 2.12, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 5993