

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

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| NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP |
| Cross-Party Group on Pakistan |
| 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.) |
| 8 June 2016 |
| DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM |
| 19 June 2019 |
| DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED |
| 24 June 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] |
| 26 June 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, 26th June 2018, James Dornan MSP Murdo Fraser MSP, 4 Non MSP Attendees |

A very busy event had taken place with the Community Welfare Attaché from the Consulate General of Pakistan in Manchester, at which a large number of questions had been asked.

A successful reception had been hosted by the Scotland Office in Melville Street, with Lord Duncan welcoming guests. This had been timed to coincide with Pakistan National Day in March. It was proposed that the current office bearers should continue, namely James Dornan, Murdo Fraser, Anas Sarwar and Willie Rennie as Co-Convenors, with Amer Masood as Secretary.

This was unanimously agreed.

There was discussion about future activities for the group and a number of suggestions were made, as follows: a. There is a new Consul General for Pakistan in Glasgow and a meeting with the CG would be of interest. Given the large numbers of the Pakistani community in Scotland being based in and around Glasgow, the group wanted to investigate whether this meeting could be held in the Consulate in Glasgow, which might attract more members from the Glasgow area to attend. The group would be interested in hearing more about the current political situation in Pakistan.

Devin Scobie is a trustee of Starfish Asia, who support education in Pakistan, and would suggest some possible speakers. This could also cover the question of treatment of minority communities in Pakistan in areas such as education. Once a new External Affairs Minister is appointed in the Scottish government, it would be interesting to get their perspective on Pakistan. Also a speaker from DFID could be invited who had experience of DFID programmes in the country.

19 March 2019

MSPs Present:

Murdo Fraser (Co Convenor of the CPG)

Finlay Carson MSP

Chief Guest Mr Rhuman Ahmed , Consul General of Pakistan Scotland

40 Non MSP Attendees

Murdo Fraser, MSP welcomed everyone and introduced himself and Finlay Carson MSP. Murdo Fraser highlighted that the occasion of this CPG event is to celebrate Pakistan Day which will be on 23 March 2019.

Murdo Fraser also introduced Mr Ruhman Ahmed –Consulate General of Pakistan, Glasgow as the Chief Guest for the evening.

Murdo Fraser before starting the CPG event offered condolences due to the tragic incident in Christchurch and loss of innocent lives. Murdo Fraser proposed to send a letter of condolence to New Zealand on behalf of the CPG on Pakistan. This was agreed by all present.

Murdo Fraser highlighted that in 2018 we celebrated Pakistan Day at the Scotland Office in Edinburgh. This was first ever such event held to mark Pakistan Day at a UK Government building in Scotland. Murdo Fraser wanted to record note of thanks to Lord Duncan of Springbank, Minister at the Scotland Office for hosting the event in 2018. Murdo Fraser highlighted this year we are celebrating this at the Scottish Parliament and Murdo Fraser thanked members of the Pakistani community attending from Dundee, Perth, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Murdo Fraser told the audience that Pakistan Day is when the Lahore Resolution passed on 23 March 1940 and the adoption of the first constitution of Pakistan making Pakistan the world's first Islamic republic. Murdo Fraser then handed over to the Chief Guest Mr Ruhman Ahmed –Consulate General of Pakistan, Glasgow. Mr Ruhman Ahmed – read the message out marking the occasion of Pakistan Day and he was happy to be celebrating with the community and he thanked Murdo Fraser and Finlay Carson for making and ensuring that CPG on Pakistan is not only looking at community issues in Scotland but promoting opportunities between two countries.

Mr Ruhman Ahmed also offered his condolence at what happened at Christchurch last week and he appreciated Murdo Fraser's gesture of sending a note of condolence on behalf of the CPG. Mr Ruhman Ahmed also gave a briefing to the CPG on Pakistan on the latest Political events in Pakistan and giving details about the situation with India which nearly brought the two countries to conflict. Mr Ruhman Ahmed, Murdo Fraser and Finlay Carson took questions from the audience arranging from community issues to Brexit. Murdo Fraser highlighted that Pakistan and Scotland can develop trade and other opportunities together. This was seconded by the Consul-General of Pakistan. Audience asked Murdo Fraser, Finlay Carson and the Consulate of Pakistan on the role of social media showing the coverage of the tragic events in Christchurch.

The panel responded and addressed the audience's questions on this. Murdo Fraser, Consul-General of Pakistan and Finlay Carson cut the cake which was presented by Pakistan Social Club to mark the Pakistan Day. Local Pakistani Singers sang Pakistani National Songs. Media from Geo, Ary News, Dunya News and Channel 44 local Pakistan news channels covered the event and interviewed Murdo Fraser, Finlay Carson and the Consulate General of Pakistan to mark the occasion of Pakistan Day. AOB – Murdo Fraser mentioned that the next AGM will be notified in due course. Murdo Fraser thanked everyone for attending and closed the CPG with special thanks to the Chief Guest the Consul General of Pakistan.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Murdo Fraser MSP – Conservative

Anas Sarwar MSP – Labour
Finlay Carson MSP – Conservative
Willie Rennie MSP – Liberal Democrat
James Dornan 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.

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| Individuals | Amer Masood Nadeem Ashraf Malik Masood Hassan Shah Bukhari Abid Raja M Bashir Ch Mehmood Hussain Mehmoob Ditta Ch Fakhar Fareed Ansari Ch Nasir Ahmed Iftikhar Hussain Khalid Mir Ch Sahifq Ahmad Malik Abid Tariq Mian Zeeshan Saeed Syed Khan Parveen Khalid Khalida Hussain Khalid Mir Muhammed Tanvir Muhammed Iqbal Muhammed Hameed Saad Sikandar Mohammed Imran |
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| | <p>Khursid Bukhair Irfan Majeed Zahira Hassan Shazia Nadeem Mohammed Javed Javed Iqbal Mohammed Kabir Anila Ansari Mohammed Mohsin Fatima Bajwa Mohammed Kabir Dr Amjad Mehboob Ditta Ehtansham Danish Awan Amjad Butt (Lahore based) Naveed Ghafoor Devin Scobie Azar Hussain</p> |
| Organisations | <p>NHS Tayside NHS 24 University of Stirling Scottish Chambers of Commerce Scottish Pakistan Foundation Central Scotland Racial Equality Council Scottish Ambulance Service Victim Support Pakistan Community Centre and Mosque, Edinburgh Scottish Police International Police Scotland Scottish Development International Mercy Corps Consulate of Pakistan Scottish and Pakistan Economic Relations Committee, Lahore Chamber of Commerce</p> |

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| | <p>Community Welfare Attaché, Consulate General of Pakistan, Manchester</p> <p>K A JAVID & CO Accountants</p> <p>Sturrock, Armstrong & Thomson Solicitors</p> <p>Turkish Airlines</p> <p>CODE Charity</p> <p>Concern Worldwide Charity</p> <p>Edinburgh University Pakistan Society</p> <p>Trinity Barristers Chambers</p> <p>The Scottish Ahlul Bayt Society</p> <p>Scottish Pakistan Press Club</p> <p>Pakistan Social Club Scotland</p> <p>Jhelum Forum Scotland</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.

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| Co-Conveners | <p>Murdo Fraser MSP</p> <p>Anas Sarwar MSP</p> <p>Willie Rennie MSP</p> |
| Deputy Convener | N/A |
| Secretary | Amer Masood |
| Treasurer | N/A |

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).

Nothing Received.

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

No subscription charged.

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

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| Name | Murdo Fraser |
| Parliamentary address | M2.07 The Scottish Parliament |
| Telephone number | 0131 348 5293 |