

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

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| NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP |
| Cross-Party Group on Tibet |
| 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.) |
| 5 th October 2016 |
| DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM |
| 2 nd October 2019 |
| DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED |
| 24 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] |
| 24 th 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. |
| 24th October 2018 (Attendance: 2 MSPs, 6 non-MSPs): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AGM and election of office bearers took place• Item 4 under Matters Arising in the May Minutes: Foreign Affairs Select Committee Inquiry – China and the International rules based system inquiry, alongside item 6 in May Minutes: Essay Writing Prize Update, were discussed |

- The May meeting had been discussed inviting Lobsang Sangay to visit the Parliament. The invitation had now been sent, followed by a discussion as to the organisation of such a visit and the possibilities and requirements for carrying it to success
- Potential of an exhibition being held in the Parliament in March was discussed
- It was thought that an event should be arranged at some point in the exhibition week and it was decided, based on May's discussion, that a reception on this scale would be too costly for CPG to fund. It was also decided to ask Mr. Frasi to present the four minute 'Time for Reflection' which is held weekly.
- It was decided to book a committee room in the Parliament on Wednesday 6th March 2019 and invite MSPs for a suitable event
- Discussion occurred surrounding the 10th March commemoration in Edinburgh could occur outside the Parliament on Saturday 9th March 2019
- It was proposed to ask the Edinburgh University Confucius Institute and the Chinese Consulate to a future CPG meeting. Attention was drawn to the UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review on China which is to be held on 6th November.

12th December 2018 (Attendance: 3 MSPs, 12 non-MSPs):

- The CPG welcomed Sonam Tsering Frasi, the new Representative for the Office of Tibet, London who addressed the group
- SF thanked the CPG for its work, and suggested proposing a parliamentary motion in March 2019 to mark the 60th anniversary of the Dalai Lama's exile to India.
- Questions were raised by the group regarding what people in Scotland could do to help Tibetan refugees, and the possibility was raised of funding a residency for a Tibetan writer through the Royal Society of Edinburgh, which was welcomed by SF.
- There was a discussion of political themes and imagery in modern Tibetan literature.
- The Secretary noted that 3-4 volunteers will be needed for the Tibet exhibition to be held in the Garden Lobby of the Parliament Building in March 2019 (4th-9th). Volunteers will need to fill in a security check form beforehand.
- The upcoming 10 March event was discussed, and the difficulties of attendance by Tibetan refugees was noted.

Wednesday, 6th March 2019

- The Tibet exhibition was discussed
- A reception on the topic of the future of Tibet was held on the 6th March 2019, during a week-long exhibition on *Tibet – Heartland of Asia* in the Garden Lobby, organised by the Group with the support of the Scottish Centre for Himalayan research and the University of Aberdeen. In attendance were members of CPG. As well as MSPs, a wide range of people and organisations had been invited to the reception.

Wednesday, 24th April 2019 (Attendance: 2 MSPs, 9 non-MSPs):

- It was noted that a march was held in Edinburgh to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of Uprising Day, on the 10th March, when Tibetans rose up

against the Chinese forces in Lhasa and the Dalai Lama fled across the Himalayas into India.

- A potential visit from the CTA President Lobsang Sangay was discussed.
- The secretary gave a talk explaining the effect of climate change on Tibet and the consequences of this for countries downstream from the plateau

Tuesday 25th June (Attendance: 2 MSPs, 20 non-MSPs):

- CTA President Lobsang Sangay visited and addressed the group and took questions from those in attendance.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Linda Fabiani, SNP

Ross Greer, Green

David Stewart, Labour

Rhoda Grant, Labour

Maureen Watt, 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

Dr Martin Mills - Secretary

Roger Eames- Treasurer

David Lloyd Hudson

William Caola

Bruce Clark

Linda Hendry

Elizabeth Lindsey

Iain Thom

Kirsteen Currie

Dr Sam Pehrson

Sarah Schroeder

Oskar Bengtsson

Svenja Sender

Jenni Campbell

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| Organisations | University of Aberdeen Scottish Centre for Himalayan Research United Nations of a Free Tibet Tibet Support Group Grampian Tibet Support Group Scotland Amnesty International University of St Andrews Edinburgh Interfaith 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.

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| Convener | Linda Fabiani MSP |
| Deputy Convener | Ross Greer MSP |
| Secretary | Dr Martin Mills |
| Treasurer | Roger Eames |

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.

In support of the Scottish Centre for Himalayan Research’s research and support activities for the Group, and in particular the *Tibet – Heartland of Asia* exhibition held

in March 2019, the University of Aberdeen provided the SCHR with an RISA Impact Award of £3,364.

In support of parliamentary catering costs for the reception held on the 6th March 2019, the Office of Tibet London provided the Group with £1,327.50.

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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 fee charged

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

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| Name | Linda Fabiani MSP |
| Parliamentary address | Q2.08 |
| Telephone number | 0131 348 5699 |