

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

<b>NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP</b>
Cross-Party Group on Children and Young People
<b>DATE GROUP ESTABLISHED</b> (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.)
5/11/19
<b>DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM</b>
28/5/20
<b>DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED</b>
26/06/2020
<b>DATE OF PRECEDING AGM</b> [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]
12/6/19
<b>GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES</b>  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.
<b>1. Tuesday, 5 November 2019: Brexit going forward – Concerns of the children and young people’s sector</b>  <b>Chair:</b> Iain Gray MSP  <b>Attendance:</b> 3 MSPs and 39 Non-MSPs

**Summary:** The meeting focused on Brexit in the context of the recently published Withdrawal Bill. The meeting had been due to take place after the expected exit date from the European Union before an extension was granted.

The Cross-Party Group welcomed the 4 new young co-convenors, who would help direct the work of the group by helping to identify topics and ensuring that children and young people's views are at the heart of the CPG's work for this year and beyond.

The group split into small groups to discuss the aims and outcomes for this year's CPG. These points were fed back to the group.

This was followed by three presentations:

Craig Wilson, SCVO, discussed SCVO's work on preparing the voluntary sector for the impact of Brexit and provide a strategic oversight of the impact of this. SCVO have consistently argued against a no-deal Brexit and have serious concerns about the impact this could have on families and communities as it would make providing the current levels of support impossible.

Robert McGeachy, Camphill Scotland, discussed the impact of exiting the European Union on the Health and Social Care system in Scotland and provided an illustrative account of the impact of this. Camphill have been working with SCVO and the Health and Social Care Alliance to gather support for a Bill produced by Brendan O'Hara MP to ensure that the impact of Brexit on the Health and Social Care Sector is measured.

Sarah Paterson, YouthLink Scotland, gave an illustrative account of the impact of exiting the European Union on the children and young people's sector. Sarah focused on the impact of exiting the EU on provision of Erasmus+ and the implications for young people and the youth work sector.

Actions agreed:

- The CPG will reintroduce a traffic light system to support attendees to identify that they do not understand a speaker
- Secretariat to provide a paper summarising the aims and objectives discussion and proposing actions based on this.
- The CPG will write a letter to the UK government highlighting our support for Brendan O'Hara's Private Members Bill on an evaluation of how Brexit will impact on Health and Social Care.
- CPG will look at how we could support the invest in youth work campaign.
- Write to UK government highlighting the CPG's support for the keep Erasmus+ campaign.
- Write as a CPG to both governments to ask what they will do about third sector funding as a result of exiting the EU.
- Write as a CPG to UK Government about votes at 16 in all UK elections.

## **2. Tuesday, 4 February 2020: The Youth Work Sector Crisis and Funding**

**Co-chairs:** Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP and Sam Harris, young co-convenor

**Attendance:** 3 MSPs and 102 Non-MSPs

**Summary:** The meeting focused on the positive impact of youth work and investment for the future.

The panel was made up of 12 speakers, who spoke for 3 minutes each. Important points made in the presentations were:

- Youth work helps young people to build confidence and relationships, boost career prospects, feel less isolated and have fun. All of this boosts young people's mental health and wellbeing, which has a big impact on their lives as adults.
- Scottish Youth Parliament launched the Youth Work and Me campaign in Summer 2019, in response to all the funding cuts. They consulted with 116 young people over a month about their access to opportunities.
- Training should be funded for youth workers who require the skills and knowledge to help young people to have a career path.
- Youth work is needed to help vulnerable LGBT young people dealing with mental health, bullying and hate crime.
- There needs to be a focus on supporting the groups that are already there, as it could take years to build these services up again.
- Youth work organisations and charities are experts in engaging young people and helping them overcome issues and create trusting relationships.
- There is a link between the rise of mental health and fall of youth work services.
- There is a need for youth work that is not just focused on working in schools, but also in the community.
- Youth work allows young people to work at their own pace and be treated as an equal.

Agreed actions:

- The Secretariat will compile written submissions from members to write a report following on from this meeting.

## **3. Thursday 28 May 2020: The Impact of COVID-19 on Children and Young People**

**Chair:** Iain Gray MSP

**Attendance:** 7 MSPs and 94 Non-MSPs

**Summary:** This meeting took place virtually and focused on the impact of COVID-19 on children and young people in Scotland.

There was a Q&A session with Minister for Children and Young People, Maree Todd; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science, Richard Lochhead; Minister for Older People and Equalities, Christina McKelvie; and Cllr Alison Evison, President of the Confederation of Scottish Local Authorities.

Questions were asked by members on a range of topics:

1. Katie Docherty, Scouts Scotland (also on behalf of Venture Trust) – outdoor learning providers
2. Joan Mowat, University of Strathclyde (also on behalf of LGBT Youth Scotland and Children 1<sup>st</sup>) – youth mental health
3. Clare Hunter, Red Harbour – focus on vulnerable children being able to settle back into school without stress of formal learning
4. Susan Hunter, Citizens Advice Scotland – kinship care families and school placements
5. Craig Wilson, Prince's Trust Scotland (also on behalf of YMCA Scotland) – youth work's contribution to the Education Recovery Plan and key workers
6. Tamsin, Children and Young People's Panel on Europe – return to school, exams, and transition support for children and young people
7. Kelly Munro, Carer's Trust – challenges currently faced by young carers
8. Denise Spence, Girlguiding Scotland – support for volunteer-led youth groups and access to facilities
9. Mark McGeachie, Youth Scotland – new guidance for face-to-face youth provision
10. Josh Kennedy MSYP, Scottish Youth Parliament – young people's involvement in Covid-19 recovery planning and policy at local and national level
11. Tamsin Knight, Faculty of Public Health in Scotland – tackling inequalities further entrenched by Covid-19
12. Beccie, Children and Young People's Panel on Europe – digital exclusion and the attainment gap
13. Sarah Anderson, LGBT Youth Scotland – GIC waiting times
14. Coll, Changing our World – attitudinal change through Covid-19

Agreed actions:

- The Secretariat will follow up on points made in the chat box on behalf of the CPG.

## MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Ruth Maguire - SNP

Jeremy Balfour – Scottish Conservatives

Rachael Hamilton – Scottish Conservatives

Alex Cole Hamilton MSP – Scottish Liberal Democrats

Iain Gray MSP – Scottish Labour

Alison Johnstone MSP – Scottish Greens

Fulton MacGregor MSP – SNP

Brian Whittle MSP – Scottish Conservatives

## 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

David Ashford  
Rozanne Chorlton  
Bill Cook  
Kirsty Craig  
Gerry Croall  
Jackie Doig  
Susan Elsley  
Mairi Ferris  
Margot Gillon  
Tracy Griffen  
Fiona Henderson  
Clare Lally  
Kenny Lindsay  
Katy MacFarlane  
Kirsteen MacKay  
Donna Mackie  
Louise Marryat  
Vicky McGraw  
Robert McHarg  
John McKinney  
Martine Miller  
Pat Salter  
Jayne Scotland  
Neil Seaton  
Carolyn Wilson  
Mark Wong  
Kit Wyeth

Organisations	<p> Children in Scotland - secretary  YouthLink Scotland - treasurer  A &amp; M Training  Aberlour  Action Duchenne  Action for Children Scotland  Action for Children's Arts  Action for Sick Children Scotland)  Afacis Scotland  Alcohol Focus Scotland  The ALLIANCE  Article 12 in Scotland  Association of Family Therapist in Scotland  The Barn Youth Centre  Barnardo's Scotland  Beat  Befriending Networks  Bellenden  Big Lottery Fund  BMA Scotland  British Association for Adoption and Fostering  British Psychological Society Division of Clinical Psychology in Scotland  Caledonia Consulting  Central Scotland Rape Crisis &amp; Sexual Abuse Centre  CAHRU - University of St Andrews  CALL Scotland  Camphill  Capability Scotland  Carers Trust  CCPS  Centre for Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland  Changing Faces Scotland  CHAS  Child Brain Injury Trust  Child Poverty Action Group  Children 1st  Children's Hearings Scotland  Children in Need  Children's Parliament  Church of Scotland Committee on Education  Circle  Clan Childlaw  CLIC Sargent  Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Partnership  College of Occupational Therapists  Columba 1400  Common Thread  Contact a Family Scotland  COSCA </p>
---------------	---

	<p>Covey Befriending Crossroads Youth and Community Association Diabetes UK Division of Forensic Psychology - Scotland DofE Downs Syndrome Scotland Edinburgh Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre Enable Engender Enquire Families First St Andrews Families Need Fathers Families Outside Family Fund Fife Gingerbread Firsthand The Fostering Network Foursquare Girlguiding Scotland Grounds for Learning GYP Borders Highland Children Forum Home Link Family Support I Can Includem In train Keys to Inclusion Kibble Kids VIP KIND (Scotland) Legal Services Agency LGBT Youth Licketyspit Living Streets Lothian Autistic Society Mindroom National Autistic Society National Deaf Children's Society NewsDirect NHS Health Scotland The Notre Dame Centre NSPCC Scotland Ocean Youth Trust Scotland One Parent Families Scotland Open Secret PAMIS Parenting Across Scotland Partners in Advocacy Partners in Play Personalised Education Now</p>
--	--

The Place 2Be  
Play Scotland  
PlayTalkRead  
Prince's Trust  
Quarriers  
Rathbone  
Real World Learning Scotland  
Relationships Scotland  
Resolve ASL  
Rising Stars  
RNIB  
Roshni  
RoSPA  
Royal College of Nursing  
Royal College of Paediatric and Child Health  
Royal College of Psychiatrists  
Royal College of Speech and Language Therapy  
Samaritans  
Save the Children  
Sense Scotland  
Scotcen  
Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People  
Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils  
Scottish Child Law Centre  
Scottish Child Psychotherapy Trust  
Scottish Childminding Association  
Scottish Children's Reporter Administration  
Scottish Children's Services Coalition  
Scottish Council of Independent Schools  
Scottish Division of Education Psychology  
Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems  
Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance  
Scottish Natural Heritage  
Scottish Parent Teacher Council  
Scottish Pre-School Play Association  
Scottish Sports Association  
Scottish Throughcare and Aftercare Forum  
Scottish Women's Aid  
Scottish Youth Parliament  
Shelter Scotland  
Sick Children's Hospital  
Skills Development Scotland  
Smart Play Network  
Sound Lab  
Spark of Genius  
Strathcarron Hospice  
STUC  
TACT  
Tartan Silk  
The Salvation Army



	The Spark Together Scotland UK ADHD Partnership University of Edinburgh – CAHRU, CRFR, NSPCC Centre Vocal West Lothian Youth Action Project Who Cares? Scotland Working on Wheels YWCA Scotland Young Scot Your Voice Youth Bus Youth Scotland Zero Tolerance
--	--

**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.

Co-conveners	Alex Cole Hamilton MSP, Iain Gray MSP, Alison Johnstone MSP, Fulton MacGregor MSP, Brian Whittle MSP
Secretary	Children in Scotland
Treasurer	YouthLink Scotland

## 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).

**COST OF MATERIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE SECRETARIAT** (paid for by the organisations who make up the joint secretariat)

YouthLink Scotland – time of one staff member £2,950

Children in Scotland – time of one staff member £2,950

## SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

£0

## CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Iain Gray
Parliamentary address	M1.08 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Telephone number	01620 822711