

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP
Cross-Party Group on Scotland's Colleges and Universities
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.)
October 5 2016
DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM
October 25 2017
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]
October 5 2016
DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED
October 31 2017
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.
October 5 2016 – Meeting 1 Topic: Reconstitution of Group & Brexit: Implications for Scottish FE/HE sectors MSP attendance: 4 Non-MSP attendance: 3

Speakers: Professor Charlie Jeffery, Professor of Politics and Senior Vice-Principal, University of Edinburgh and Ms Veronica Lynch, Director (External Relations), Dundee and Angus College.

December 14 2016 – Meeting 2

Topic: Post Study Work Visas (PSWV) and Immigration.

MSP attendance: 2

Non-MSP attendance: 26

Speakers: Mr Stephen Magee, Regional Chair, Fife College; Mr Ian Maclellan, Student Support and Wellbeing Manager, University of Strathclyde and Ms Tope Orororo, and International post-graduate Student, Heriot-Watt University.

March 8 2017 – Meeting 3

Topic: Widening Access

MSP attendance: 4

Non-MSP attendance: 37

Speakers: Professor Sir Peter Scott, Commissioner for Fair Access to Higher Education in Scotland.

May 10 2017 – Meeting 4

Topic: How universities and colleges engage with their local communities (including community relations and additional community contributions such as teaching and research).

MSP attendance: 2

Non-MSP attendance: 27

Speakers: Mr Gary Campbell, Key Account Director, University of the Highlands and Islands; Mr Hamish Trench, Director of Conservation and Visitor Experience, Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA); Ms Jackie Galbraith, Vice Principal of Strategy, Planning and Performance, Ayrshire College; Ms Moira Gibson, Head of External Affairs, University of Edinburgh and Ms Mhairi Harrington, Principal & Chief Executive, West Lothian College.

October 25 2017– Meeting 5

Topic: AGM

MSP attendance: 2

Non-MSP attendance: 3

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Liz Smith, Scottish Conservatives, Convener

Iain Gray, Scottish Labour, Deputy Convener

Jamie Halcro Johnston, Scottish Conservatives

Jeremy Balfour, Scottish Conservatives

Monica Lennon, Scottish Labour
 Liam McArthur, Scottish Liberal Democrats
 Pauline McNeill, Scottish Labour
 Tavish Scott, Scottish Liberal Democrats

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	Mr Terry Brotherstone Professor Matthew Maclver
Organisations	Universities Scotland - secretary Colleges Scotland - secretary Abertay University City of Glasgow College Dundee & Angus college Educational Institute Of Scotland (EIS) Edinburgh Napier University Edinburgh University Students' Association (EUSA) Glasgow Caledonian University Glasgow Clyde College Heriot-Watt University Higher Education Academy in Scotland LEAD Scotland North East Scotland College NUS Scotland Open University in Scotland Pagoda PR Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh Robert Gordon University Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Scotland China Education Network (SCEN) Scottish Development International Scottish Enterprise

	Scottish Funding Council Skills Development Scotland (SDS) sparqs - Student Participation in Quality Scotland Thorntons Law LLP UCU Scotland University of Aberdeen University of Dundee University of Edinburgh University of Glasgow University of the Highlands & Islands University of St Andrews University of Strathclyde University of the West of Scotland West College Scotland
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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	Elizabeth Smith MSP
Deputy Convener	Iain Gray MSP
Secretary	Universities Scotland provides secretariat support with Colleges Scotland
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).

05.10.16	< £500.00	Universities Scotland paid for the meeting lunch
14.12.16	< £500.00	Colleges Scotland paid for the meeting lunch
08.03.17	< £500.00	Universities Scotland paid for the meeting lunch
10.05.15	< £500.00	University of Edinburgh paid for the meeting lunch

Universities Scotland has provided secretarial support to the Group throughout 2016/17, but can confirm that the cost of staff time combined with the 05.10.16 and 08.03.17 lunches is less than £500.00.

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	Elizabeth Smith MSP
Parliamentary address	M2.08 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 6762