

CROSS-PARTY GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Volunteering

PURPOSE OF THE GROUP AND PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Please state the purpose of the Group.
2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.
3. Please also provide details of any overlaps with the purpose of existing Cross-Party Groups and an explanation of why, regardless of any such overlap, the Group should be established.
4. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.

1. The remit of the Group is as follows:

- To raise awareness of volunteering in all sectors to ultimately increase participation rates in all its forms
- To ensure volunteering has a high profile in the Scottish Parliament and influence Scottish Government Policy
- To ensure opportunities for volunteering are recognised across all SG directorates
- Examination and sharing of research in other parts of UK and beyond
- To liaise and work with other CPGs to promote volunteering

2. Given the ongoing Scottish Government's commitment to volunteering and their priority to increase participation rates and expand diversity of volunteering, it was felt that new Cross-Party Group solely dedicated to volunteering was now required to raise the status of volunteering in Scotland. This decision is underpinned by the fact that it is accepted that volunteering includes the public & private sector as well as voluntary and community sectors in Scotland. Indeed, Volunteering plays a crucial role in public sector reform. The aims of this new CPG could not be achieved if we were part of a cross-party group devoted totally to the Third Sector.

3. There is a planned CPG on Third Sector and Civil Society of SCVO group which will be looking at the wider issues of the third sector but will not focus on volunteering. The CPG on Volunteering will investigate the scope of volunteering in Scotland and raise the status of volunteering and will identify with the parliamentary programme and committee cycle to work with other CPG's that they can hold cross party working groups with to meet the outcomes of the group.

4. Topics to be discussed over the next 12 months:

September meeting – invitation to Angela Constance, Cabinet Secretary – what is her vision for volunteering and seek direction on how we can raise the status of Volunteering within Scotland. Identifying key roles to support Volunteering in Scotland; role of Scottish Government, Role of Volunteer Involving organisations, Role of Third Sector Infrastructure.

December meeting – Volunteering in Health and Social Care -impact of integrated health boards, issues of isolation, enhancing the wellbeing of individuals in Scotland through volunteering. Celebration of International Volunteers’ Day

March Meeting - Perceived barriers to volunteering, adult recognition awards, Annual General Meeting – mid-year review.

June Meeting – Celebration of Volunteering – Volunteers Week. Alex Cole-Hamilton will host a parliamentary reception to recognise the contribution Volunteers make.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

- Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP (Scottish Liberal Democrats)
- Miles Briggs MSP (Scottish Conservatives)
- Jeremy Balfour MSP (Scottish Conservatives)
- Johann Lamont MSP (Scottish Labour)
- Pauline McNeill MSP (Scottish Labour)
- Fulton McGregor MSP (Scottish National Party)

*Contact has been made with Scottish Greens MSP’s but without response to date – correspondence can be provided.

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	
Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteer Scotland Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland Voluntary Arts Scotland Volunteer Glasgow Scouts Scotland Quarriers Befriending Networks EPP Ltd Planning Aid for Scotland TSI Moray St Andrew's First Aid

	Strive CVS Inverclyde Volunteer Centre Dundee Dyslexia Scotland VC Borders Samaritans Institute of fundraising Equal Scotland Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations Volunteer Edinburgh Home-Start UK Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire CVS Falkirk Volunteer Midlothian Voluntary Arts Scotland Volunteer Centre East Ayrshire changing faces Breast Cancer Care Scotland Big Lottery Fund Diabetes UK Scotland Open Secret Voluntary Action Fund Friends of the Pentlands CHAS Age Scotland Volunteer Edinburgh VAF Lead Scotland CVS Falkirk Equal Scotland Fresh Start Home start UK TSI Ayrshire Project Scotland Scottish Sports Association (SSA) Children 1st CHAS Third Sector, Dumfries and Galloway
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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	Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP
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Deputy Convener	Jeremy Balfour MSP
Secretary	Joint Secretariat – Paul Okroj (Scottish Volunteering Forum) /Margaret Starkie (Volunteer Scotland)
Treasurer	
FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS	
Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) the Group anticipates receiving 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.	
The group has no plans to source any financial contributions or material benefit of more than £500. Volunteer Scotland has agreed to finance the refreshments served at each meeting.	
SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP	
Please provide details of the amount to be charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.	
CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS	
Name	
Parliamentary address	
Telephone number	

STATEMENT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT	
I declare that the Cross-Party Group on <SUBJECT> is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.	
Signed	Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP

Date	The office of Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP 185 St John's Road Edinburgh EH12 7SL
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