

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Rural Policy

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.)

28 September 2011

DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

6 October 2015

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]

7 October 2014

DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

2 November 2015

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.

- 7 October 2014: **Group AGM and Young People and Rural Scotland**
Attendance: 49, including 6 MSPs
Speakers – Rebecca Marek (SYP), Paul McIlveny, Youth Scotland, Scott Somerville, Scottish Young Farmers Association

- 3 December 2014: **Employment, Employability and Skills in Rural Scotland**
Attendance: 41, including 7 MSPs
Speakers: Dawn Redpath, D&G Council, Steve Wright, Connect Berwickshire Youth Project, James Bream, Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce
- 18 February 2015: **Rural Economies: Diversify or Die?**
Attendance: 41, including 4 MSPs
Speakers: Harriet Smith, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, Jackie Brierton, Growbiz, Toby Anstruther, Balcaskie Estate, Caroline Millar, Go Rural
- 20 May 2015: **What should rural Scotland look like in 2035?**
Attendance: 71, including 6 MSPs
Speakers: Allan Bowie, NFUS, Andrew Heald, Confor, Barry McCulloch, Federation of Small Businesses, Derek Logie, Rural Housing Service, Jonny Gascoigne, RWE Innogy UK Limited, Jonny Hughes, Scottish Wildlife Trust, Leon Thomson, Visit Scotland, Giles Ruck, Foundation Scotland, Sarah Skerratt, SRUC

More information is available about each meeting, including the agenda, a meeting note, all presentations, and a summary briefing of the key issues discussed, via the **Group's website** (http://www.sruc.ac.uk/info/120597/group_meetings_2014-15), or via the specific meeting links above.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Christian Allard, MSP, Scottish National Party
Jackie Baillie, MSP, Scottish Labour Party
Claire Baker, MSP, Scottish Labour Party
Sarah Boyack, MSP, Scottish Labour Party
Graeme Dey, MSP Scottish Nationalist Party
Nigel Don, MSP, Scottish National Party
Alex Fergusson, MSP Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
Rhoda Grant, MSP, Scottish Labour Party
Jim Hume, MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats Party
Jamie McGrigor, MSP, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
Duncan McNeil, MSP, Scottish Labour Party
Tavish Scott, MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats Party
Dr Richard Simpson, MSP, Scottish Labour Party
David Stewart, MSP, Scottish Labour Party

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.

<p>Individuals</p>	<p>Barbara Kelly Pat Neeson Vanessa Halhead Norman MacAskill Drew Ratter Roger Turner</p>
<p>Organisations</p>	<p>Angus Council Argyll and Bute Council Archaeology Scotland Arthouse Galleries Barnardos Bellenden (Independent Communications Agency) BIG Lottery Borders Foundation for Rural Sustainability British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI) Buccleuch Estates Built Environment Forum Scotland Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) Carnegie UK Trust CADISPA Trust Community Land Scotland Crown Estate Citizens Advice Scotland (CAS) Crichton Carbon Centre Crichton Institute Crofting Connections Community Transport Association DCM Heritage Dormont Estate Dumfries and Galloway LEADER Forestry Commission Scotland Forth Valley & Lomond LEADER Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust Glasgow Caledonian University Here We Are Project Heriot Watt University Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) Historic Scotland Horticultural Trades Association (HTA) James Hutton Institute John Muir Trust Keep Scotland Beautiful</p>

	<p>Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Marine Scotland National Trust for Scotland National Farmers Union Scotland (NFUS) North Highland Initiative Planning Aid Scotland RSABI RSA Fellows Scotland and MCICH Network Rural & Islands Housing Associations Forum Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society Scotland Food and Drink Federation Scottish Association of Young Farmers Scottish Borders Council Scottish Churches Rural Group Scottish Countryside Alliance Scottish Crofting Federation Scottish Enterprise Scottish Environment Protection Agency Scottish Government Scottish Land & Estates Scottish Natural Heritage Scottish Rural Action Scottish Youth Parliament Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) Skills Development Scotland Southern Uplands Partnership Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) Stirling University Stove Network, Dumfries Thirdwave University of Aberdeen University of Edinburgh University of the Highlands & Islands University of Newcastle, Institute for Social Renewal University of West of Scotland Upper Quartile Urban Animation/Dhu Rural Whitehill Design Studios Whitmuir Community Farm Ltd Whitmuir Organics Limited Woodland Trust Scotland YouthBorders</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.

Co-conveners	Alex Fergusson MSP Graeme Dey MSP Claire Baker MSP Jim Hume MSP
Secretariat	SRUC's Rural Policy Centre

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.

Staff time for SRUC staff (Jane Atterton, Siân Ringrose, Ellie Brodie and Sarah Skerratt): £10,829.75

Refreshments for participants at CPG meetings: £1,040.00

Speakers' expenses (including hospitality after meetings and travel/accommodation): £703.00

Other misc expenses (equipment, taxi fare and car parking): £35.50

Total Group expenses 2014-15: £12,608.25

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

Not applicable

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name Alex Fergusson MSP

Parliamentary address M2.04
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

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