

The Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Older People, Age and Ageing

Minutes 19th June 2013

- 1. Present:** Sandra White MSP, Nanette Milne MSP, Andrew Senew (Home Instead Senior Care), Chloe Swift (RCN), Alan Spinks (National Federation of Occupational Pensioners), Pat Scrutton (Change Agents Network UK), Sgt Laura Gibson, PC Andy Whitlie, PC Andy Jones, Suzanne Cameron Neilson (Age Scotland), Greg McCracken (Age Scotland), Donald Jarvie (Scotland's Future Forum), Joan Turner (SOPA),

In attendance: Christopher White (Convenor's Parliamentary Office)

Apologies: Patricia Ferguson MSP, Patrick Harvie MSP, Elaine Smith MSP, Rhoda Grant MSP

- 2. Minutes from last meeting:**

The minutes from the last meeting were agreed to.

- 3. Election of Office Bearers:**

Sandra White was elected as convener
Nanette Milne was elected as vice convenor
Age Scotland were elected as Treasurer
Christopher White was elected as Secretary

- 4. Age Scotland presentation of 'still waiting' campaign focused on the isolation many older people experience and the link between degenerative illnesses and this isolation.**

The 'still waiting' campaign looks at role of community transport can play in combatting this isolation and subsequent loneliness wishing to see national concessionary schemes to be extended to community transport.

It was noted that the cost of such an extension has been estimated at £11.2 million and that currently the Scottish government wishes to see more robust data on costs and benefits of such a scheme.

Age Scotland are currently running a petition via their website where support for the campaign can be pledged and elected representatives can be contacted. They aim to present this petition to the Scottish Government in November 2013.

Discussion centred upon eligibility criteria for concessionary travel and on the possibility of different forms of funding such as social impact bonds.