

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP
Cross-Party Group on Funerals and Bereavement
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.)
27 October 2016
DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM
13 November 2018
DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED
5 December 2018
DATE OF PRECEDING AGM [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]
7 November 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.
20 February 2018 Attendance: 2 MSPs; 13 non-MSP members. Topics discussed: Presentation by Natalie McKail, Inspector of Funeral Directors; accompanied by Cheryl Paris, Burial and Cremation Legislation Team; Funeral Expense Assistance; Future Speakers.

4 September 2018

Attendance: 4 MSPs; 17 non-MSP members.

Topics discussed: Speech from Shirley-Anne Sommerville MSP on the Funeral Expense Assistance; Funeral Poverty / funeral affordability (including Local Authority charges); Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act and its implementation; CMA Market Study on Funeral Sector/Pre-Paid Funeral Plan Consultation; Future Speakers; Dates of Future Meetings.

13 November 2018

Attendance: 4 MSPs; 13 non-MSP members.

Topics discussed: Election of Officers; Group Membership; Ruth Mendel presentation on Local Authority burial and cremation charges; Funeral Poverty / funeral affordability; The Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act and its implementation; Future Speakers; Dates of Future Meetings.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Jeffrey Balfour (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party)
 Miles Briggs (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party)
 Alex Cole-Hamilton (Scottish Liberal Democrats)
 Johann Lamont (Scottish Labour)
 Richard Lyle (Scottish National Party)
 Fulton MacGregor (Scottish National Party)
 Stuart McMillan (Scottish National Party)
 Alex Rowley (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.

Individuals	David Beamer John Birrell James Blackburn Gerard Boyle Andrew Brown Susanne Cameron Nielson Erik Cramb Eileen Crawley Paul Cuthell Maureen Gardner Mark Hazelwood John Halliday
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	Morgan Harris Rose Jackson Jon Levett Nigel Lymn Rose Eilidh Macdonald Ann McMurray Ruth Mendel James Morris Rebecca Paterson Sandy Sullivan Gordon Swan John Williamson Stewart Wilson
Organisations	Caledonia Cremation Citizens Advice Scotland Cruse Bereavement Care Scotland (CBCS) Golden Charter Hospice UK National Association of Funeral Directors (NAFD) Resomation Ltd Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care (founder of the Good Life, Good Death, Good Grief alliance) Scottish Pensioners' Forum Scottish Working Group on Funeral Poverty Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors (SAIF) Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity (SANDS)
<p>GROUP OFFICE BEARERS</p> <p>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.</p>	
Co-Convener	Richard Lyle MSP
Co-Convener	Jeremy Balfour MSP
Secretary	David Beamer
Treasurer	None
<p>FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE GROUP</p>	

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).

2017-2018

David Beamer (a Director of Brevia Consulting) provides secretariat support on behalf of the National Association of Funeral Directors - cost to the organisation of £7,800 plus VAT over the course of a calendar year.

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

None

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Richard Lyle MSP
Parliamentary address	M4.04 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 6394