

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

### NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Scotch Whisky

**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.)

**13 September 2016**

### DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

**26 September 2018**

**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]**

**12 September 2017**

### DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

**24 October 2018**

### 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.

**26 September 2018**

**MSPs:** (10 MSPs) Jackie Baillie MSP, Bill Bowman MSP, Rhoda Grant MSP, Rachael Hamilton MSP, Tom Mason MSP, Gordon MacDonald MSP, Liam McArthur MSP, Michael Russell MSP, Colin Smyth MSP, David Stewart MSP

**Other attendees:** Peter Clark (SWA), Neil Duncan (SEPA), Karen Freel

(Perspectiva Consultants), Annie Hill (Institute of Brewing and Distilling), Courtney Hyde Peyton (Crown Office), James Johnston (Malt Whisky Trail), Kenny Junner (Unite), Christopher Miles (Edinburgh Distilling), Beatrice Morrice (SWA), Ian Smith (Diageo), James Wills (Kilchoman), Alan Wolstenholme (Scottish Distillers Association).

**Topics covered:** Peter Clark (SWA) and James Mills (Kilchoman) led a discussion on Islay and the Scotch Whisky industry (infrastructure, transport, connectivity). Michael Russell, MSP for the constituency that covers Islay took part in the discussion. Beatrice Morrice also provided a short update on the Scotch Whisky Association's excise campaign for the UK budget.

### **6 June 2018**

**MSPs: (5 MSPs)** Bill Bowman MSP, Murdo Fraser MSP, Rachael Hamilton MSP, Tom Mason MSP, and Gordon MacDonald MSP.

**Other attendees:** Terry A'Hearn (SEPA), Susy Atkinson (Edrington), Rebecca Badger (SEPA), Blair Bowman, Peter Finnie (SEPA), Karen Freel (Perspectiva Consultants), Morag Garden (SWA), John Hill (Edinburgh Distilling), Graham Hutcheson (Edrington), Graeme Henderson, SEPA, Fiona Johnstone, (SEPA), Orchid Lui (Chinese Times), Christopher Miles, (Edinburgh Distilling), Beatrice Morrice (SWA), David Ogilvie (SEPA).

**Topics covered:** Terry A'Hearn, SEPA CEO, gave a presentation on the new Scotch Whisky Sector Plan. Graham Hutcheon, Managing Director of Edrington and Chairman of the SWA's Environmental Committee provided examples that demonstrated how the industry is committed to environmental sustainability. Beatrice Morrice also provided a short update on the Scotch Whisky industry that covered Islay. A short Scotch Whisky tasting was held at the end of the meeting.

### **25 May 2018**

#### **Joint CPG and All Party Parliamentary Group visit**

**Attendees:** (4 MSPs) Murdo Fraser MSP (SWRI tour), Gordon MacDonald MSP, Rachael Hamilton MSP and Colin Smyth MSP.

**Other attendees:** Beatrice Morrice, SWA, Gerry McFall, SWA and Alex Jupp, SWA.

MSP members from the CPG took part in a joint visit in Edinburgh with MP members from the APPG on Scotch Whisky. They had a tour of the Scotch Whisky Research Institute (SWRI) at Riccarton and a tour, tasting and dinner at Scotch Whisky Experience.

### **14 December 2017**

**MSPs:** (4 MSPs) Richard Lochhead MSP, Bill Bowman MSP, Peter Chapman MSP,

Tom Mason MSP

**Other attendees:** Peter Finnie (SEPA), Karen Freel (Perspectiva Consultants), Morag Garden (SWA), Jack Gemmell (Chivas), Graeme Henderson (SEPA), Graeme Littlejohn (SWA), Beatrice Morrice (SWA), Emma Pollock (Diageo), Devin Scobie (Caledonia Public Affairs) Neil Sinclair (Scottish Government) and Alan Wolstenholme (SCDA).

**Topic covered:** A presentation was given by Morag Garden (SWA) on the Scotch Whisky industry's commitment to the environment. She provided information on the SWA's Environmental Strategy, that was launched in 2009 and refreshed in 2016, that includes a set of ambitious commitments to cut greenhouse gas emissions, use more renewable energy and increase recycled content in packaging. Beatrice Morrice also gave a short update on the Scotch Whisky industry covering Brexit and tourism.

### **MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

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

Murdo Fraser (Conservatives),  
Gordon MacDonald (SNP),  
David Stewart (Labour),  
Liam McArthur (Liberal Democrat),  
Colin Smyth (Labour),  
Jackie Baillie (Labour),  
Bruce Crawford (SNP),  
Rhoda Grant (Labour),  
Tom Mason (Conservative),  
Bill Bowman (Conservative),  
Rachael Hamilton (Conservative),  
Jamie Halcro-Johnston (Conservative).

### **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

Blair Bowman, Whisky Consultant and Author

Organisations	<p>Scotch Whisky Association,  Chivas Brothers,  Diageo,  Edinburgh Distillery Company,  Edrington,  Gordon MacPhail,  Perspectiva Consultants,  Caledonia Public Affairs,  Glasgow Distillery,  GMB,  Institute of Brewing and Distilling,  Interface,  Malt Whisky Trail,  SEPA,  Scottish Enterprise,  Scottish Distillers  Association,  Forth Ports,  Stolt Tank Containers,  UK Chinese Times,  Unite,  Whisky Invest Direct,  White Light Media.</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.

Convener	Murdo Fraser MSP and Gordon MacDonald MSP
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Deputy Convener	Liam McArthur MSP, David Stewart MSP
Secretary	Beatrice Morrice, Scotch Whisky Association
Treasurer	None

**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).

Total benefit from the Scotch Whisky Association totals: £925.72 which includes a joint visit for MSPs, secretariat support, two lunches and one Scotch Whisky tasting at CPG meetings.

(The Scotch Whisky Association paid for lunch at two meetings (26 September and 14 December) which came to £125.16 and £101.52 respectively. The meeting held on 6 June included refreshments that cost £23.04 and a Scotch Whisky tasting that came to a total of £72.00. The total amount spent on catering at meetings by the SWA therefore came to: £321.72.

Secretariat support from the SWA equates to £220.

Costs for the APPG and CPG joint visit, that were covered by the SWA, came to £384)

**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	Murdo Fraser MSP	Gordon MacDonald MSP
Parliamentary address	M2.07	M3.03
Telephone number	0131 348 5293	0131 348 5741