

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Shared Parenting

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.)

17.1.2018

DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

15.1.2019

DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

05.02.2019

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]

None

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.

The group held meetings on 17th January, 13th March, 16th June and 12th October 2018.

17th January 2018 Initiating meeting. Five MSPs were present: Ivan McKee MSP

(Chair), Gillian Martin MSP, Bob Doris MSP, Adam Tomkins MSP, Finlay Carson MSP. Apologies received from Kate Forbes MSP and Andy Wightman MSP.

14 others attended and 4 sent apologies.

The meeting discussed the aims and objectives of the group and drafted and application to the Standards Committee. The meeting also identified a work programme for future meetings. The meeting confirmed the name of the group, elected office bearers and FNF Scotland as secretariat.

13th March 2018 meeting. Two MSPs were present: Gillian Martin MSP and Finlay Carson MSP. Apologies were received from Ivan McKee MSP, Adam Tomkins MSP, Andy Wightman MSP, Kate Forbes MSP.

11 members attended and apologies were received from 8 more.

The meeting was given a presentation entitled "Where's the 'overnight care' daddy? Fathers and father figures in family statistics and research" by Rebecca Goldman from the Fatherhood Institute. Ian Maxwell presented a paper on statistics on shared parenting in Scotland and the meeting heard from Line Knudsen from GUS (Growing Up in Scotland) on changes to its data gathering.

12th June 2018 meeting. Four MSPs were present: Ivan McKee MSP, Adam Tomkins MSP, Kate Forbes MSP and Willie Coffey MSP. Apologies were received from Gillian Martin MSP, Finlay Carson MSP, Bob Doris MSP, Andy Weightman MSP..

13 members were present and apologies were received from 9 more.

The meeting was given a presentation by Simon Stockwell and Hannah Frodsham, members of the Scottish Government Family and Property team conducting the Review of Part 1 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and creation of a family justice modernisation strategy. This was followed by a contribution on "*Lessons from Australia: existing family justice system and their current Family Law Review*" by Dr David Curl, CEO of For Kids Sake.

2nd October 2018 meeting. Five MSPs were present: Gillian Martin MSP, Bob Doris MSP, Finlay Carson MSP, Joan McAlpine MSP and Rona Mackay MSP. Apologies were received from Jeremy Balfour MSP and Andy Wightman MSP.

12 members were present and apologies were received from 9 more.

The meeting was given two presentations on parental involvement in education. First, Craig Flunkert and David Leitch from the Scottish Government learning Directorate talked the group through 'Learning Together' the recently published National Action Plan on Parental Involvement, Parental Engagement, Family Learning and Learning at Home. Then Alison Cameron, Head teacher at Elphinstone primary School, East Lothian, Sam Pringle from Fathers Network Scotland, and Gitit Kadar-Satat from Edinburgh University presented their experience on 'How Involving dads as well as mums can work and the results it can achieve'.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Gillian Martin (SNP),
 Finlay Carson (Con),
 Bob Doris (SNP),
 Andy Wightman (Green),
 Jeremy Balfour (Con),
 Fulton MacGregor SNP

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	Amanda Ward Ellen Forson Eoin Keane Mrs Frances Byatt-Smith James Jopling Miranda Gray
Organisations	Families Need Fathers Scotland, Dads Rock, Fathers Network Scotland

	Relationships Scotland Family Mediation West of Scotland Parent Network Scotland Men in Childcare Midlothian Surestart One Parent Families Scotland The Spark Families Outside Circle Scotland Parenting Across Scotland Engender Home Start Men and Boys Initiative Issy Shillinglaw Grandparents Rights Grandparents Apart Families Need Fathers Scotland Dads Rock Fathers Network Scotland Relationships Scotland Family Mediation West of Scotland Parent Network Scotland Men in Childcare
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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	Fulton MacGregor MSP
Deputy Convener	Gillian Martin MSP, Jeremy Balfour MSP
Secretary	John Forsyth, FNF Scotland
Treasurer	

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).

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

Voluntary levy on members to cover incidental speaker costs and contribute towards photocopying

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Fulton MacGregor
Parliamentary address	M3.08
Telephone number	85795