

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP
Cross-Party Group on Deafness
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.)
13/09/2016
DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM
28/10/2020
DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED
04/11/2020
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]
04/09/2019
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.
13th Sept 2019 Meeting with Minister for Older People and Equalities, Christina McKelvie MSP. Raised a number of issues regarding communication, care and home support, Agenda also saw discussion on Education, Transport, Sport, Social Security and a new, proposed, undergraduate degree for BSL users. Attendance MSPs: 3 Non MSPs: 27, including communication support professionals and the Minister.

4th Dec 2019

The Meeting focussed on Education, Sport and it received a number of presentations from a cross section of inclusive sports.

Meeting not Quorate

Attendance- MSPs: 1

Non MSPs: 17

4th March 2020

This meeting followed up Education, Sport and Transport. There was discussion about preventable deafness however the representative of Public Health was unable to attend. The group reiterated its focus on the gap around preventable deafness and preventing social isolation noting age related Dual Sensory loss and the links between deafness and dementia as a key area of activity.

Attendance-MSPs: 2

Non MSPs: 17

3rd June 2020

Cancelled due to COVID-19 Emergency.

Attendance: Nil

2nd Sept 2020

Rescheduled to 28th October due to:

Covid Restrictions

MSP availability/clash with FM Question session and urgent Parliamentary business

28th October 2020

Agenda covered:

AGM Business

General meeting with emphasis on assistive technology, Covid related learning and issues to gather and prioritise for activity before next elections in 2021. Report on detail next year

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP/

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

Mark Griffin MSP – Convenor

Colin Beattie MSP – Vice Convenor

Jenny Marra MSP

Alison Johnstone MSP

Annie Wells MSP

Neil Bibby MSP

Rhoda Grant MSP

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	Donald Richards John Mitchell
Organisations	deafscotland (formerly Scottish Council on Deafness/SCoD) Action on Hearing Loss ATLA - Association of Teachers of Lipreading to Adults BATOD - The British Association of Teachers of the Deaf British Deaf Association Scotland Deaf Action Deaf Connections Deaf Links Deafblind Scotland D.E.A.F. – South Lanarkshire Donaldson’s School Dumfries and Galloway Hard of Hearing Group Hearing Link Heriot-Watt University Ideas for Ears NDCS – National Deaf Children’s Society NESS – North East Sensory Services Queen Margaret University (NEW MEMBER 28th Oct 2020) RCSLT – Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists Respect Me SASLI - Scottish Association of Sign Language Interpreters Scottish Sensory Centre Signature SISG (Sensory Impairment Support Group) Tayside Deaf Forum University of Edinburgh The Association of Sign Language Interpreters (ASLI)

	NHS Highland Deaf Services Disability Agenda Scotland (DAS). The ALLIANCE Skills Development Scotland Forth Valley Sensory Centre E.I.S
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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	Mark Griffin MSP
Deputy Convener	Colin Beattie MSP
Secretary	Janis McDonald deafscotland
Treasurer	N/A

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).

The group receives support to the equivalent of £350 per meeting from deafscotland which covers the costs of communication support: 2 x BSL/English Interpreters and 2 x Electronic notetakers to display speech to text for inclusion in English. This totals approx. 4 x £320 per annum- £1280.

Deafscotland meets these costs through a combination of membership fees and donations. This allows each of the group to be independent voices on an equity basis.

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

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

Nil

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Mark Griffin MSP
Parliamentary address	C/O Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH 29 1SP mark.griffin.msp@parliament.scot ;
Telephone number	01236 423555