

Minutes of CPG on MS 30 September 2020

Apologies

George Adam, Donald Cameron, John Finnie, Moira Flett, Carole Macartney, Angela McCormack, Lewis Macdonald

In Attendance

Stacey Adam, Clare Adamson, Mhairi Coutts, Mary Douglas, Jacquie Downs, Christopher Doyle, Liam McArthur, Keith Park, Jenny Preston, Elizabeth Quigley, Keith Robson, Morna Simpkins, Phil Sully

1. Welcome and Introduction

There was a delay to the start of the meeting following a delayed start to the Members Debate in the Chamber. Keith Robson, MS Society took the chair in the initial absence of any MSPs in attendance. Clare Adamson and Liam McArthur then joined the meeting which became quorate and could proceed with formal business. Lewis Macdonald had repeatedly attempted to join but had been prevented from doing so due when the status of the meeting was inadvertently turned to 'private'.

2. Matters arising from previous meeting

At the inquorate meeting of 9 September the Group agreed to produce a report highlighting the impact of Coronavirus on people living with MS. The group felt that there had not been enough mention of this in the media or in parliament.

Subsequent to the last meeting the Group then agreed by email to use the inquiry by the Equalities and Human Rights Committee into the impact of Covid-19 to raise the issues discussed rather than write up a separate report. Group members have fed back to MS Society as secretariat and a draft submission will be circulated by close of play on Thursday 1 October for comments to be received by close of play on Tuesday 6 October for submission by Friday 9 October.

Actions:

- i. Decision to produce a report and agree the best route is via Equalities and Human Rights Committee Inquiry was ratified.
- ii. Agreed that the Convenor and other elected office bearers will sign-off on the draft before it is submitted.

3. AGM Election of Office Bearers

Convenor

George Adam MSP was re-elected as Convenor

Proposer: Liam McArthur MSP Seconder: Clare Adamson MSP

By popular acclaim Donald Cameron MSP John Finnie MSP and were re-elected as Deputy Convenors unless they choose to stand down.

4. AOCB

I. Future Dates of meetings:

- 9 December 2020, virtual by Zoom
- 3 February 2021, Room TG20.21 or virtual TBC