

CROSS-PARTY GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Funerals and Bereavement

PURPOSE OF THE GROUP AND PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Please state the purpose of the Group.
2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.
3. Please also provide details of any overlaps with the purpose of existing Cross-Party Groups and an explanation of why, regardless of any such overlap, the Group should be established.
4. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.

Purpose: To provide a forum for the discussion of funeral and bereavement issues.

Explanation and Public Interest: The Group has been in existence since 2004 and during this period, it has examined a range of issues that impact on the funeral sector and bereaved people. These include social fund funeral payments, death certifications, funeral poverty, bereavement support, infant cremation, and new legislation on burial and cremation. The Group is in the public interest as the issues that the Group examines impacts on everyone in Scotland.

Overlaps and reason for establishing: We are not aware of any overlaps with the purpose of an existing Cross Party Group. The Group should be re-established in order to examine significant legislative developments including the implementation of the Burial and Cremation Act and the devolution of social fund funeral payments. There is also considerable interest on Funeral Poverty.

Proposed topics for the forthcoming 12 months:

- Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act and its implementation
- Bereavement Support in Scotland
- Funeral Poverty
- Social Fund Funeral Payments
- Death Certification
- Delays between death and a burial or cremation
- Local Authority charges
- Funeral Plans

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

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

Miles Briggs (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party)

Willie Coffey (Scottish National Party)

Alex Cole-Hamilton (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Neil Findlay (Scottish Labour)
 Johann Lamont (Scottish Labour)
 Richard Lyle (Scottish National Party)
 Fulton MacGregor (Scottish National Party)
 Stuart McMillan (Scottish National Party)
 Pauline McNeill (Scottish Labour)
 Alex Rowley (Scottish Labour)

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 Paul Cuthell Mark Hazelwood Mandie Lavin Nigel Lymn Rose Ann McMurray John Williamson Stewart Wilson
Organisations	Cruse Bereavement Care Scotland (CBCS) National Association of Funeral Directors (NAFD) Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care (founder of the Good Life, Good Death, Good Grief alliance) Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity (SANDS)

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.

Co-Convener	Miles Briggs MSP
Co-Convener	Fulton MacGregor MSP
Secretary	David Beamer

FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS

Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) the Group anticipates receiving 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.

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 to be charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.

None

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Fulton MacGregor MSP
Parliamentary address	M3.08 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 5797

STATEMENT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT

I declare that the Cross-Party Group on Funerals and Bereavements is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

Signed	
Date	