

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group

Cross-Party Group on Industrial Communities

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.)

23rd June 2021

Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)

21st May 2025

Date Annual Return Submitted

6th June 2025

Date of Preceding AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 11 to 13 months of the previous AGM]

19th June 2024

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.

CPG – 2nd October 2024. MSPs present - 3; Non MSPs present – 9.

Topics Covered.

- Funding for Local and Regional Development – Alliance Secretariat. Key issues arising included the role of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and engagement with Parliamentarians in Westminster and at Holyrood. Following discussion of the booklet it was agreed to circulate to all MSPs. It was also agreed to invite Kate Forbes MSP & Cabinet Secretary to a future meeting to discuss issues around funding for our communities.
- Challenges & Opportunities for the CPG going forward – open discussion. Topics included guest speakers, a review of membership and how best to promote the CPG to other MSPs and stakeholders within our communities.
- Coalfields Regeneration Trust – Update from Pauline Grandison, Head of Operations, Scotland. Discussions took place around the Small Grants Scheme and the future meeting with Scottish Government Ministers to resolve operational issues around procurement.

CPG – 21st January 2025. MSPs present 3; Non MSPs present

Topics Covered.

- State of the Scottish Coalfields 2024 – Research from Hallam University Sheffield. Discussion led by Bob Young, Trustee of CRT Scotland. A detailed review was provided on the key elements of the report on the communities including – Deprivation; Impact on Education; Health Discrepancies & Life Expectancy; and Jobs. It was agreed that the CRT would review how best to circulate this report and ensure that the issues are considered by key stakeholders in Scotland.
- Priority Agenda Items for consideration for 2025 going forward – Open Forum. It was agreed that the following would be under consideration. Engagement with the Scottish Government on Community Wealth Building in Scotland; Consideration of Funding for our Communities and how to optimise UK funds; Establishing links with the CPG in the Senned; and consideration

of key issues around the Skills Gap and Funding for Further and Higher Education in Scotland.

CPG Annual General Meeting – 21st May 2025. MSPs present - 2; Non MSPs present - 1. Held on-line.

Topics Covered.

- Approval of the Previous Minutes of the Annual General Meeting.
- Election of Office Bearers – Colin Beattie MSP was elected Convener, Alex Rowley MSP was elected Deputy Convener and Roddy MacDonald, Alliance Scotland Director, was elected Secretary.

N.B. Please note that a number of intended meetings required to be rescheduled across the session due to Parliamentary Business.

MSP Members of The Group

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

Clare Adamson – Scottish National Party

Jeremy Balfour – Scottish Conservative Party

Colin Beattie – Scottish National Party

Richard Leonard – Scottish Labour Party

John Mason – Independent

Alex Rowley – Scottish Labour Party

Brian Whittle – Scottish Conservative Party

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

Organisations

Industrial Communities Alliance
 Coalfields Regeneration Trust
 Dumfries & Galloway Council
 East Ayrshire Council
 Fife Council
 Glasgow City Council
 Midlothian Council
 National Union of Mineworkers
 North Lanarkshire Council
 Open University (Scotland)
 South Ayrshire Council

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

Colin Beattie MSP

Deputy Convener

Alex Rowley MSP

Secretary

Roddy MacDonald, Alliance Scotland Director

Treasurer	Not applicable
<p>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).</p>	
<p>Subscription Charged by the Group</p> <p>Please provide details of the amount charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.</p>	
<p>No subscriptions are charged by the Cross-Party Group (CPG).</p> <p>All support provided to the CPG via the Alliance Scotland Secretariat is on a pro bono basis.</p> <p>However, it should be formally recorded that the value of this support has been considered and is less than the £500 threshold for disclosure.</p> <p>More details can be provided, if required, by Roddy MacDonald, Secretary and Alliance Scotland Director – 07720540083.</p>	
<p>Convener Contact Details</p>	
Name	Colin Beattie MSP
Parliamentary address	M3.05
Telephone number	0131 – 348 - 6374