

Cross-Party Group Annual Return

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on The Armed Forces and Veterans Community
Date Group Established
30 June 2021
Date of Most Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM)
19 June 2024
Date Annual Return Submitted
20 June 2024
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]
23 June 2023
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.
7 Nov 23: Topics included: An update on the work of Scottish Government in relation to veterans from Mr Graeme Dey MSP, Minister for HE/FE and Veterans.

There were also presentations on issues facing female veterans. These covered: A recent research report by Robert Gordons University; Female Veterans Health; Transition from the Services and the Female Veterans Transformational Project.

3 MSPs attended and 45 other members.

21 Feb 24: Topics included: The role and function of Drop In Centres, presentations were given by The Association of Service Drop In Centres (ASDIC); Community Veterans Support (CVS) and The Erskine Reid McEwan Activity Centre (ERMAC).

Insights into the role and function of Local Authority Armed Forces and Veterans Champions were provided by Champions from Aberdeenshire, Midlothian and South Lanarkshire councils.

The function of the Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committee (VAPC) Scotland was discussed.

2 MSPs attended and 30 other members.

19 Jun 2024: Topics included: The Annual Report and AGM; discussion about veterans in the Criminal Justice System, the Scottish Armed Forces Evidence Research Hub (SAFER) International Conference 22 – 28 Aug; Employment and Data from Census 2022.

3 MSPs attended and 45 other members.

MSP Members of The Group

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

Jackie Baillie; Scottish Labour

Jackson Carlaw; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Katy Clark; Scottish Labour

Russell Findlay; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Maurice Golden; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Mark Griffin; Scottish Labour

Stephen Kerr; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Douglas Lumsden; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
 Gordon MacDonald; Scottish National Party
 Edward Mountain; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
 Willie Rennie MSP; Scottish Liberal Democrats
 Paul Sweeney; 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

Mr Maurice Corry TD MBA

Organisations

51 Infantry Brigade; Action on Hearing Loss Scotland; ADES National Transitions Officer; Age Scotland; Armed Services Advice Project; Army; Army Families Federation; Association of Wrens and Women of the Royal Naval Services; BFBS The Forces Station; BLESMA; Business in the Community Scotland; Career Transition Partnership; Defence Transition Services; Scotland Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committee; Edinburgh Napier University; Erskine; FirstLight Trust; Forces in Mind Trust; Garelochhead Station Trust; Give Us Time; Glasgow Caledonian University; Glasgow's Helping Heroes; Help for Heroes; Housing Options Scotland; Local Authority Armed Forces and Veterans Champions; Lothian Armed Forces and Veterans Project; Lothian Veterans Centre; Lowland Reserve Forces and Cadets Association; Naval Families Federation; NHS Scotland; Officers Association Scotland; Poppyscotland; RAF; RAF Association; RAF Benevolent Fund; RASC and RCT Association; Reading Force; Recruit for Spouses; RFEA The Forces Employment Charity; Royal Air Force Families Federation; Royal British Legion Scotland; Royal Caledonian Education Trust; Royal Naval Association; Royal Navy; SACRO - Veterans Mentoring Service; Salute My Jobs; SAMH; Scotland & NI RAF Association; Scotlands Bravest Manufacturing Company (RBLI); Scottish Prison

	Service; Veterans Housing Scotland (Scottish Veterans Garden City Association); Scottish Veterans Residences; Sight Scotland Veterans; Seafarers UK; Skills Development Scotland; Soldiers off the Streets; SSAFA; Stand Easy Productions; The Coming Home Centre/Community Veterans Support; The Officer's Association Scotland; The Royal Regiment of Scotland; The Scottish Veterans Commissioner; The Veterans Foundation; Thistle Foundation; University of Edinburgh; University of Glasgow; Venture Trust; Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committees; Veterans Community Café; Veterans First Point Highland; Veterans First Point Scotland; Veterans for Independence; Veterans Housing Scotland; Veterans Scotland; Veterans Welfare Services; Walking with the Wounded; War Widows Association. Other organisations have attended from time to time
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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	Maurice Golden MSP
Deputy Conveners	Jackie Baillie MSP Gordon MacDonald MSP Willie Rennie MSP
Chair	Maurice Corry; Councillor Argyll & Bute
Secretary	Jim Wilson; Veterans Scotland
Treasurer	Jim Wilson; Veterans Scotland

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.

Nil

Convener Contact Details

Name

Maurice Golden MSP

**Parliamentary
address**

The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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**Telephone
number**

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