

Cross-Party Group on Shared Parenting

Tuesday 21st May 2024

Online 1800 – 2000hrs

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of September 2023 meeting and matters arising
4. **The 50/50 Solution : Emma Johnson, author and advocate for equal shared parenting.**

Emma Johnson will join us from the USA. Her book, [The 50/50 Solution: The Surprisingly Simple Choice that Makes Moms, Dads, and Kids Happier and Healthier After a Divorce: Amazon.co.uk: Johnson, Emma: 9781728254548: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/9781728254548), tells her own journey from family court 'victory' to the realisation that shared parenting after divorce or separation is better for her children, their father and, definitely, for herself. Sharing responsibility is a mark of gender equality for mothers, not a reluctant concession.

5. **The 'Follow the Child Benefit' barrier to Shared Parenting: John Forsyth, Shared Parenting Scotland.**

John explains how a financial support designed for one purpose 50 years ago has become an institutional barrier built by local authorities and national agencies that excludes some children from schemes specifically designed to support them.

6. Work Plan, Date of Next Meeting and AOCB