

**MINUTE OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT CROSS PARTY  
GROUP (CPG) ON JAPAN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024 at TG20/21  
SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT & MS TEAMS.**

**In attendance:**

Colin Smyth, MSP (Convenor)

Alexander Stewart, MSP (Depute Convenor)

Liam McArthur, MSP

Liz Cameron (SCC Limited) (online)

**1. Welcome/Apologies.**

Colin Smyth formally opened the AGM of the CPG (Japan) welcoming attendees. Apologies were formally noted from Paul Sweeney MSP.

**2. Appointment of Office Bearers**

Colin Smith and Alexander Stewart were formally reappointed as the Convenor and Depute Convenor of the Group. Liz Cameron was appointed as the Secretariat for the Committee. These appointments were formally endorsed and approved.

**3. Membership Update**

Colin Smyth provided the group with an update regarding membership of the group, following the meeting which took place on 12<sup>th</sup> June at the Scottish Parliament (CR3). He reported that the Group currently have a total of twenty-nine individuals/organisations in its membership which was significant recognising the opportunities which could emanate between Japan/Scotland. The group discussed potential areas of collaboration which the Group would consider moving forward.

Colin Smyth advised that in his role as Convenor, he had taken part in a number of events over the summer period including addressing the reception hosted by the Consul General of Japan in Edinburgh to celebrate the many performers from Japan taking part in the Edinburgh fringe as well as the Japanese Summer

Festival in Shambellie House, Dumfries organised by JET AA (JET Alumni Association). Details of these would be shared with the wider group at future meetings and included in the Annual Return.

The Group shared views in relation to potential *themes* which could also be considered. It was agreed that contact should be made with the UK All Parliament Group (Japan) to exchange information and knowledge in relation to events, focus and activities.

#### **4. Approval of Annual Return**

Group agreed and confirmed that the Annual Return will be sent through the parliamentary processes.

#### **5. Forward Date Planner.**

It was agreed that forward dates be identified and distributed to the wider group from 2024/2025. Further connectivity would assist the group with identifying potential speakers/themes which meet the brief and framework for the CPG (Japan).

#### **6. Any Other Business**

No other business was raised. The Convenor formally closed the AGM.