

Cross-Party Group on the Wood Panel Industry

Monday 17 June 2024, 11:00am - Via Zoom

Minute

Present

MSPs

Fergus Ewing MSP
Sharon Dowey MSP
Emma Harper MSP

Non-MSP Group Members

Alastair Kerr - Director General, Wood Panel Industries Federation (WPIF)
Steve Roebuck - Director EHS, West Fraser (Formally Norbord)
John Patterson - Public Affairs Manager, EGGER UK
Mark Cummings - Managing Director, Invicta Public Affairs
Catherine Wales - Account Director, Invicta Public Affairs
Iona Yule - Account Manager, Invicta Public Affairs

Apologies

Michael Marra MSP
Colin Smyth MSP
Elena Whitham MSP
Maurice Golden MSP

1. Welcome from the Chair

Fergus Ewing MSP opened the meeting as Chair of the Cross Party Group. He welcomed attendees and noted apologies.

2. Approval Minutes of the Last Meeting

No issues were raised and the minutes were approved.

3. AGM

The Chair moved the Group to proceed with re-appointing the Office Bearers and Secretary/Treasurer.

- Fergus Ewing MSP was nominated by Emma Harper MSP to remain as Convener of the Group. This was seconded by Sharon Dowey MSP
- The Group agreed to the re-appointment of the Deputy Convener Colin Smyth MSP and Sharon Dowey MSP was appointed to replace Stephen Kerr MSP as the other Deputy Convener.
- The Group agreed that the Wood Panel Industry would remain as Secretariat.

4. CPG Work Programme

Members discussed Industry issues to agree to the work programme for the next year. Members agreed to:

- Speak with their respective Business Managers regarding a forestry debate and request that this suggestion be taken to parliamentary business meetings.
- Follow up with the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands on the invite to meet the CPG to discuss Scotland's Forestry targets.
- Following the General Election, the Chair is to re-engage with the APPG Counterpart in Westminster with the possibility of updating the Expert Working Group for the Wood Panel Industry Report.
- Explore opportunity to hold a Parliamentary Reception, perhaps early 2025.