

# Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

16th Meeting 2023 (Session 6), Thursday 5 October 2023

## Cross-Party Group Application

### Introduction

1. In accordance with the provisions on Cross-Party Groups (CPGs) set out in section 6 of the Code of Conduct (the Code), proposals for the establishment of CPGs in the Scottish Parliament must be submitted to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee (the Committee) for its approval.
2. There is one proposed Group for the Committee's consideration.

### Proposed CPG on Ukraine

3. The registration form submitted by the proposed Group is attached at Annexe A to this note.

### Consideration by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

4. Paragraph 18 of Section 6 of the Code states "...one of the proposed Group's MSP office bearers (usually the Convener) will be invited to attend a meeting of the Committee to explain the justification for the proposed Group." Colin Beattie MSP, Miles Briggs MSP and Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP have been invited to the meeting to discuss registration of the proposed Group.

### Purpose

5. Paragraph 19 Section 6 of the Code states "the Committee will pay particular attention to a proposed Group's purpose. If the Committee considers that a proposed Group is not in the public interest but is intended, for example, to further particular commercial interests, the proposed Group will not be accorded recognition. The Committee will also consider whether the purpose of a proposed Group overlaps the remit of an existing Group. If there is any overlap proposed Groups are asked to provide justification as to why their aims could not effectively be achieved within an existing Group".
6. The stated purpose of the proposed Group —

- To promote political, cultural, educational and economic links between Scotland and Ukraine and to facilitate meetings and contacts between parliamentarians of both countries.
- The Group intends to examine the relationship between Scotland and Ukraine, especially in the context of the war in Ukraine, to see where the bonds can be strengthened to the mutual benefits of both countries.

## Membership

7. Paragraph 8 of Section 6 of the Code requires group membership to include at least five MSPs, with at least one MSP from each of the parties or groups represented on the Parliamentary Bureau. The Committee has previously agreed that there should be a general waiver of this Rule in the current Session and Groups are now required to have five MSPs from the majority of parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau. The proposed Group meets this requirement.

8. The MSP membership (by party) of the proposed Group is as follows—

- Colin Beattie MSP (Scottish National Party)
- Christine Grahame MSP (Scottish National Party)
- Ben Macpherson MSP (Scottish National Party)
- Donald Cameron MSP (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party)
- Miles Briggs MSP (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party)
- Paul O’Kane MSP (Scottish Labour)
- Katy Clark MSP (Scottish Labour)
- Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP (Scottish Liberal Democrats)
- Liam McArthur MSP (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

9. Paragraph 9 of Section 6 of the Code entitles groups to contain members from outwith the Parliament. The proposed Group has listed twenty-three non-MSP members in the individual category and four in the non-MSP member organisations.

## Office Bearers

Paragraph 10 of Section 6 of the Code requires one MSP to be Convener of the Group and there to be at least one other MSP office bearer. The proposed Group meets this requirement: Colin Beattie MSP is the proposed Convener with Miles Briggs MSP, Paul O’Kane MSP and Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP as proposed Co-Deputy-Conveners of this group.

## Financial Benefits and Subscription

10. The registration form indicates that the Group anticipates secretariat support from Anna Kulish, an individual member of the group.

11. The registration form also indicates that members of the proposed Group will not be charged a subscription.

## Next Steps

12. At agenda item 2 the Committee is invited to discuss any aspects of the application for recognition of the proposed Cross-Party Group on—

- Ukraine with Colin Beattie MSP, Miles Briggs MSP and Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP

13. At agenda item 3 the Committee will discuss whether to accord recognition to the proposed Group.

Clerks

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

October 2023

## Annexe A

## Cross-Party Group Registration Form

<b>Name of Cross-Party Group</b>
Cross-Party Group on Ukraine
<p><b>Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please state the purpose of the Group.</li> <li>2. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.</li> <li>3. Please also provide details of any overlaps with the purpose of existing Cross-Party Groups and an explanation of why, regardless of any such overlap, the Group should be established.</li> <li>4. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.</li> </ol>
<p><b>1. PROPOSED PURPOSE</b></p> <p>To promote political, cultural, educational and economic links between Scotland and Ukraine and to facilitate meetings and contacts between parliamentarians of both countries.</p> <p><b>2. BRIEF EXPLANATION OF PURPOSE</b></p> <p>The Group intends to examine the relationship between Scotland and Ukraine, especially in the context of the war in Ukraine, to see where the bonds can be strengthened to the mutual benefits of both countries.</p> <p><b>3. OVERLAP WITH OTHER GROUPS</b></p> <p>No overlap foreseen</p> <p><b>4. PROPOSED TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION</b></p> <p>Issues facing displaced people from Ukraine in Scotland. Scottish involvement in charitable activities in Ukraine.</p>
<p><b>MSP Members of the Group</b></p> <p>Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group.</p>

Colin Beattie MSP (SNP)  
 Miles Briggs (CON)  
 Paul O’Kane (LAB)  
 Alex Cole-Hamilton (LIB DEM)  
 Donald Cameron (CON)  
 Katy Clark (LAB)  
 Christine Grahame (SNP)  
 Ben Macpherson (SNP)  
 Liam McArthur (LIB DEM)

### **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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Anna Kulish</li> <li>2. Michael Ostapko</li> <li>3. Kseniia Smyrnova</li> <li>4. Yevgen Gorash</li> <li>5. Yulianna Shalenyk</li> <li>6. Viktor Radchenko</li> <li>7. Bohdan Kruk</li> <li>8. Kvitka Perehinets</li> <li>9. Anastasia Klimash</li> <li>10. Hanna Tekliuk</li> <li>11. Illia Malanchuk</li> <li>12. Peter David Kormylo</li> <li>13. Zhenya Dove</li> <li>14. Anna Kitzberg</li> <li>15. Olha Maksymiak</li> <li>16. Vasyl Kren</li> <li>17. Hannah Beaton</li> <li>18. Tetiana Balanova</li> <li>19. John Beaton-Hawryluk</li> <li>20. Steven Carr</li> </ol>
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	21. Maryan Pokhylyy 22. Anne Yarney 23. Doug Allan
Organisations	1.Consulate of Ukraine in Edinburgh 2.AUGB Edinburgh 2.AUGB Glasgow 3.AUGB Dundee 4.The Ukrainian Collective
<p><b>Group Office Bearers</b></p> <p>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.</p>	
Convener	Colin Beattie MSP
Co-Deputy Convener	Miles Briggs MSP Paul O’Kane MSP Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP
Secretary	Anna Kulish
Treasurer	N/A
<p><b>Financial Benefits or Other Benefits</b></p> <p>Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) the Group anticipates receiving from a single source in a calendar year which has a value, either singly or cumulatively, of more than £500. This includes donations, gifts, hospitality or visits and material assistance such as secretariat support.</p>	
N/A	
<b>Subscription Charged by the Group</b>	

Please provide details of the amount to be charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.	
N/A	
<b>Convener Contact Details</b>	
Name	Colin Beattie
Parliamentary address	M3.05 Scottish Parliament EH99 1SP
Telephone number	0131 348 6374

<b>Statement on Compliance with The Code Of Conduct</b>	
I declare that the Cross-Party Group on Ukraine is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.	
Signed	Colin Beattie
Date	18/9/2023