

Cross-Party Group Registration Form

Name of Cross-Party Group
Cross-Party Group on Scotch Whisky
Purpose of The Group and Proposed Discussion Topics Please state the purpose of the Group. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Please also provide a brief explanation of the purpose of the Group and why the purpose is in the public interest.2. 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.3. Please also provide an indication of the topics which the Group anticipates discussing in the forthcoming 12 months.
<p>The main purpose of the Cross Party Group on Scotch Whisky is to promote a better understanding of the Scotch Whisky industry to members of the Scottish Parliament. The industry plays a key role in Scotland with regard to the economy, exports, jobs, tourism, the environment and tackling alcohol misuse. This group will provide the forum to discuss these important issues with MSPs from all parties alongside key people from within the Scotch Whisky industry.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The CPG's purpose is in the public interest due to the Scotch Whisky industry's key role in the Scottish economy and communities throughout the country:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scotch Whisky accounts for 75% of Scotland's food and drinks exports;• The industry employs 11,000 people in Scotland, over 7,000 of whom work in rural areas;• There are 134 distilleries located throughout the country, with the industry supportive of Scottish agriculture, seed producers, farmers, grain merchants and maltsters – all critical to the industry's success;

- The industry's key role in promoting Scotland as a tourist destination, with Scotch Whisky visitor centres combined the third most visited tourism attraction; and
 - Scotch Whisky leading the way through its ambitious goal of reaching net zero in its own operations by 2040.
2. The CPG Scotch Whisky has no direct overlap with any other approved or currently proposed CPG in the Scottish Parliament. From time to time there may be an interest in providing a subject-specific joint CPG meeting. An example could include a country specific CPG where Scotch may be of specific interest and where for Scotch, that market may be of particular interest. Without the CPG Scotch Whisky, there would not be the full opportunity to address the full range of public interest issues pertinent to this sector and to the many people it employs.
3. In the next 12 months, likely topics include:
- a. Industry's fragile recovery after US tariffs and COVID-19 impact on the sector looking at updated 2021 full year export performance when published.
 - b. COP26 and the industry's Sustainability Strategy.
 - c. UK Trade deals negotiations and the opportunity to tackle tariffs and any other trade barriers for Scotch Whisky.
 - d. Growth of new distilleries, looking at investment and growth in the sector.
 - e. Industry's role in tourism.

MSP Members of the Group

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

Jackie Baillie MSP, Scottish Labour

Murdo Fraser MSP, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Rhoda Grant MSP, Scottish Labour

Rachael Hamilton MSP, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Gordon MacDonald MSP, Scottish National Party

Liam McArthur MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats

Jenni Minto MSP, Scottish National Party

Colin Smyth MSP, 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

Blair Bowman, Whisky Consultant and Author

Organisations

Scotch Whisky Association
Chivas Brothers
Devin Scobie Consulting
Diageo
Edinburgh Distillery Company
Edrington
Gordon MacPhail
Perspectiva Consultants
Glasgow Distillery
GMB
Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre
Institute of Brewing and Distilling
Interface
SEPA
Scottish Distillers Association
Forth Ports
Portman Group
Stolt Tank Containers UK
Chinese Times
Unite
William Grant

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	Murdo Fraser MSP Gordon MacDonald MSP
Deputy Convener	Jenni Minto MSP Colin Smyth MSP
Secretary	Susanne Cameron-Nielsen, Scotch Whisky Association
Treasurer	None

Financial Benefits or Other Benefits

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.

The Scotch Whisky Association will provide the secretariat to the group (estimated to be equating to £250 annually) and pay for refreshment or lunches at the expected four annual meetings of the group.

(Please note that for the time being the meetings take place virtually and therefore no refreshments are provided. Should we move to in-person meetings, we would expect the annual contribution towards refreshments and lunches to be in the region of about £200-300 annually, depending on number of attendees. If we are able to take forward a site-visit, we expect this contribution to be in the region of £100-200.)

Subscription Charged by the Group

Please provide details of the amount to be charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.

None

Convener Contact Details

Name	Murdo Fraser MSP Gordon MacDonald MSP
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Parliamentary address	
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Telephone number	0131 348 5293 0131 348 5741
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Statement on Compliance with The Code Of Conduct

I declare that the Cross-Party Group on Scotch Whisky is constituted and will comply with the terms of Section 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

Signed	
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Date	
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