

Cross-Party Group Monitoring Report - September 2017

1. This paper is prepared by the Table Office for the Standards of Conduct Committee in accordance with paragraph 44 of the rules on the operation of Cross-Party Groups ('the rules'). It provides an overview of the activities of the Assembly's Cross-Party Groups ('CPGs') between May 2016 and the end of the 2017 summer term on 21 July 2017. The report also invites the Committee to consider recommendations it wishes to make to the Presiding Officer concerning CPGs that have not complied with the rules during the reporting period.

2. Under paragraph 41 of the rules, failure to comply with, or contravention of the rules could ultimately lead to withdrawal of recognition of the group on the authority of the Presiding Officer (the group would be de-registered and all details removed from the Assembly's website).

Registered Cross-Party Groups

3. A total of 55 CPGs have been registered since the beginning of the fifth Assembly. A list of the groups, along with the names of Chairs and persons/organisations providing secretarial support, are included in Annex A. Full details of all group meetings are included on the Assembly's website.

Compliance

4. The rules on the operation of CPGs require CPG Chairs to provide the following information to the Table Office within specified timescales:

- As much advance notice of meetings as possible (including meeting dates, times and venue);
- Notification of the election of office-holders (within four weeks of the election taking place);
- Submission of minutes (within four weeks of the meeting taking place);
- Notification of any changes to the details of the CPG (within four weeks of the changes coming into effect);
- The holding of an Annual General Meeting within 12 months, after which the Chair must provide an Annual Report and

Financial Statement within six weeks of that meeting taking place.

5. In order to inform Members of their responsibilities as Chairs of CPGs, an email notification was sent by the Table Office to all Members on 4 May 2017 outlining the above requirements. A letter was also sent subsequently by the Presiding Officer to the Chairs of all registered CPGs on 17 May 2017 with details of the activities of each CPG for the Chairs to check and verify.

6. A summary of each group's activities is outlined below. Their compliance with the rules have been categorised as follows:

- Category A: Groups who provide the necessary information within the required timescales.
- Category B: Groups who submit the necessary information but are late in doing so.
- Category C: Groups who have not provided details required by the rules.

Category A - Groups who provide the necessary information within the required timescales (20):

Group name (and Chair)	Summary of compliance
Autism (Mark Isherwood)	4 meetings held; minutes provided on time for all meetings; advance notice only provided for one meeting; AGM due in September.
Biodiversity (Llyr Gruffydd)	2 meetings held; minutes provided on time for all meetings; no advance notice provided for any meetings; AGM due in November.
Boxing (Neil McEvoy)	1 meeting held; Advance notice provided; Minutes provided on time; AGM due in June (next year).
Construction (Joyce Watson)	2 meetings held; Minutes provided for 2 meetings (both late); AGM due in October.
Dementia (Lynne Neagle)	4 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings on time; Advance notice provided; AGM due in September.
Disability (Mark Isherwood)	2 meetings held; Minutes provided for both on time; No advance notice provided for any meetings; AGM due in March.
Eating Disorders (Bethan Jenkins)	1 meeting held; Minutes provided on time; Advance notice provided; AGM due in January.
Funerals and Bereavement (Mark Isherwood)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided on time; Advance notice provided; AGM due in September.

Further Education and Future Skills (John Griffiths)	Inaugural meeting scheduled for 26 September 2017; advance notice provided.
Gypsies and Travellers (Julie Morgan)	2 meetings held; Minutes provided for both on time; No advance notice provided; AGM due in November.
Haemophilia and Contaminated Blood (Julie Morgan)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings on time; No advance notice provided; AGM held on 18 July 2017; Annual Report and Financial Statement submitted on time.
Looked After Children (David Melding)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings (1 submitted late); AGM held on 8 March 2017; Annual Report and Financial Statement submitted on time.
Mental Health (David Rees)	1 meeting held; Minutes provided on time; Advance notice provided; AGM due in December.
Nursing and Midwifery (David Rees)	1 meeting held; Minutes provided on time; Advance notice provided; AGM due in October.
PCS Union (Julie Morgan)	2 meetings held; Minutes provided on time; Advance notice of meetings provided; AGM due in November.
Preventing Child Sexual Abuse (Jayne Bryant)	2 meetings held; Minutes provided on time; Advance notice of meetings provided; AGM due in November.

Skin (Nick Ramsay)	1 meeting held; Minutes provided on time; Advance notice provided; AGM due in September.
Small Shops (Janet Finch-Saunders_	2 meetings held; Minutes provided on time; Advance notice of meetings provided; AGM due in September.
Sustainable Energy (Llyr Gruffydd)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided for 2 meetings on time; 1 minutes provided late; No advance notice provided in relation to 2 meetings; AGM due in September.
Wales International (Rhun ap Iorwerth)	4 meetings held; Minutes provided on time; No advance notice provided in relation to 3 meetings; AGM due in October.

Category B - Groups who submit the necessary information but are late in doing so (22)

Armed Forces and Cadets (Darren Millar)	2 meetings held; <u>Minutes provided for both (1 late)</u> ; No advance notice provided for either meeting; AGM due in September.
Asbestos (Nick Ramsay)	2 meetings held; <u>Minutes provided for both (both late)</u> ; No advance notice provided for either meeting; AGM due in September.
Cancer (Julie Morgan)	4 meetings held; minutes provided for all meetings (<u>2 sets late</u>); advance notice only provided for one meeting; AGM held in June; Annual Report and Financial Statement provided late.
Children and Young People (Julie Morgan)	4 meetings held; minutes provided for all meetings (<u>2 sets late</u>); no advance notice provided for any meeting; AGM held in July (<u>5 days late</u>); Annual Report and Financial Statement provided on time.
Coeliac Disease & Dermatitis Herpetiformis (Dai Lloyd)	3 meetings held; minutes provided for all meetings (<u>2 sets late</u>); Advance notice of meetings provided; AGM due in November.
Deaf Issues (Ann Jones)	2 meetings held; minutes provided for both (<u>1 set late</u>); No advance notice of any meetings provided; AGM due in January.
Diabetes (Jayne Bryant)	2 meetings held; minutes provided for both (<u>2 sets late</u>); No advance notice provided in relation to 1 meeting; AGM due in November.

Hospices and Palliative Care (Mark Isherwood)	1 meeting held; <u>Minutes of meeting held on 14 September 2016 not received until August 2017.</u> AGM due in September.
Industrial Communities (Vikki Howells)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings (<u>1 set late</u>); AGM due in November.
Muscular Dystrophy and Neuromuscular Conditions (Bethan Jenkins)	2 meetings held; Minutes provided (<u>both late</u>); No advance notice of meetings; AGM due in March.
North Wales and Mersey Dee Alliance (Hannah Blythyn)	1 meeting held; <u>Minutes provided late</u> ; AGM due in May.
Sepsis (Angela Burns)	1 meeting held; <u>Minutes provided late</u> ; AGM due in November.
Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (Hefin David)	1 meeting held; <u>Minutes provided late</u> ; AGM due in February
Steel (David Rees)	3 meetings held; <u>Minutes provided late for all meetings</u> ; No advance notice provided; AGM due in September.
STEM (David Rees)	4 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings (<u>3 sets late</u>); No advance notice provided in relation to 1 meeting; AGM held; <u>Annual Report and Financial Statement submitted late.</u>
Stroke (Dai Lloyd)	2 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings (<u>1 set late</u>); No advance notice provided in relation to 1 meeting; AGM due in March.

Tourism (Suzy Davies)	5 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings (<u>3 sets late</u>); No notice provided for 2 meetings; AGM due in October.
Universities (Huw Irranca-Davies)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings (<u>2 sets late</u>); NO notice provided for 2 meetings; AGM due in November.
Violence against women and children (Bethan Jenkins and Mark Isherwood)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings (<u>2 sets late - 1 submitted 6 months late</u>); No advance notice provided in relation to 1 meeting; AGM due in October.
Vision (Dai Lloyd)	2 meetings held; Minutes provided for both meetings (<u>both late</u>); Advance notice provided; AGM due in November.
Wales Air Ambulance (Lee Waters)	1 meeting held; <u>Minutes provided late</u> ; AGM due in March.
Waterways (Nick Ramsay)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings (<u>1 set late</u>); Advance notice provided; AGM due in October.
Welsh Language (Jeremy Miles)	1 meeting held; <u>Minutes provided late</u> ; AGM due in January.

Category C - Groups who have not provided details required by the rules (items not provided included in bold and underlined) (13)

Arts and Health (Eluned Morgan)	Registered on 6 September 2016; <u>No details provided since registration.</u>
Cross-border Issues (Russell George)	2 meetings held; Minutes provided for 1 meeting (late); <u>No minutes provided for meeting held on 28 June 2017;</u> AGM due in January.
Circuit of Wales (Lynne Neagle)	Registered on 10 April 2017; <u>No details provided since registration.</u>
Co-operatives and Mutuals (Jeremy Miles)	Registered on 29 June 2016; <u>No details provided since registration.</u>
Faith (Darren Millar)	4 meetings held; Minutes provided for all meetings on time; <u>AGM not held by July deadline and Annual Report and Financial Statement not provided.</u>
Fathers and Fatherhood (Mark Isherwood)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided for 2 meetings (both late); <u>No minutes provided for meeting held on 13 June 2017;</u> <u>AGM not held by July deadline;</u> <u>Annual Report and Financial Statement not provided.</u>
Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency (Mark Isherwood)	Registered on 16 June 2017; <u>No details provided since registration.</u>
Food and Drink (Nick Ramsay)	2 meetings held; <u>No minutes provided;</u> Advance notice of meetings given; <u>AGM due in June - no record of AGM held; Annual</u>

	<u>Report and Financial Statement not provided.</u>
Housing (Mike Hedges)	Registered on 10 January 2017; <u>No details provided since registration..</u>
Human Trafficking (Joyce Watson)	Registered on 20 June 2016; <u>No details provided since registration.</u>
Neurological Conditions (Mark Isherwood)	3 meetings held; Minutes provided (1 submitted late); <u>AGM due in June - no record of AGM held; Annual Report and Financial Statement not provided.</u>
Older People (Mike Hedges)	Registered on 1 November 2016; <u>No details provided since registration.</u>

Conclusion

7. The Committee is invited to note the activities of CPGs during this reporting period.

8. Having considered the information on compliance included in the table above, the Committee is invited to consider whether it wishes to recommend that the Presiding Officer takes action against the groups identified in Category C. In particular, the Committee may wish to recommend that the Presiding Officer takes the following actions:

- Writing to the Chairs of the CPGs in that category requesting an explanation as to why certain details have not been provided;
- Disbanding certain non-compliant CPGs.

9. The Committee may also want to consider whether they wish to recommend taking any action against the groups included in Category B who have submitted information late.

Annex: Registered Cross-Party Groups

Chair (number of groups)	Cross-Party Group	Person and organisation providing secretarial support
Mark Isherwood (7.5)	Autism	Meleri Thomas, The National Autistic Society
	Disability	Zoe Richards, Learning Disability Wales
	Fathers and Fatherhood	Paul Apreda, FNF Both Parents Matter
	Funerals and Bereavement	David Beamer, Brevia Consulting
	Neurological Conditions	Megan Evans, Wales Neurological Alliance
	Violence against Women and Children (Co-Chair with Bethan Jenkins)	Gwendolyn Sterk, Welsh Women's Aid
	Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency	Helen Roach, NEA Cymru
	Hospice and Palliative Care	Kathleen Caper, Hospice UK
Julie Morgan (5)	Cancer	Clare Bath, Cancer Research UK
	Children and Young People	Catriona Williams, Children in Wales
	Gypsies and Travellers	Thomas Hendry, SEWREC
	Haemophilia and Contaminated Blood	Lynne Kelly, Haemophilia Wales
	Public and Commercial Services (PCS) Union	Darren Williams, Public and Commercial Services Union

David Rees (4)	Mental Health	Lewis Cole, Gofal
	Nursing and Midwifery	Tina Donnelly, Royal College of Nursing
	Steel	Angharad Thomas, David Rees AMSS
	STEM	Leigh Jeffes, Royal Society of Chemistry
Nick Ramsay (4)	Asbestos	Cenric Clement-Evans, New Law Solicitors
	Skin	Dr Julie Peconi, Skin Care Cymru
	Waterways	Emily Lewis, Canal and River Trust in Wales
	Welsh Food and Drink	Matthew Phipps, TLT Solicitors
Dai Lloyd (3)	Coeliac Disease & Dermatitis Herpetiformis	Tristan Humphreys, Coeliac UK
	Stroke	Jillian Haynes, Stroke Association
	Vision	Emma Sands, RNIB Cymru
Bethan Jenkins (2.5)	Eating Disorders	Lewis Cole, Gofal
	Muscular Dystrophy	Jonathan Kingsley, Muscular Dystrophy UK
	Violence against Women and Children (Co-Chair with Mark Isherwood)	Gwendolyn Sterk, Welsh Women's Aid
Darren Millar (2)	Armed Forces and Cadets	Kathryn Sharpe, Darren Millar AMSS
	Faith	Jim Stewart, Evangelical Alliance Wales
Llyr Gruffydd (2)	Biodiversity	Liz Smith, Wales Environment Link
	Sustainable Energy	Carolyn Pugsley, Freshwater UK

Joyce Watson (2)	Construction	Josh Miles, Federation of Small Businesses
	Human Trafficking in Wales	Mwenya Chimba, Bawso
Jeremy Miles (2)	Co-operatives and Mutuals	Ceri-Anne Fidler, Wales Co- operative Centre
	Welsh language	Ceri McEvoy and Colin Nosworthy, Mudiadau Dathlu'r Gymraeg
Mike Hedges (2)	Housing	Matthew Kennedy, Institute of Housing
	Older People	Rachel Lewis, Age Cymru Wales
Eluned Morgan (1)	Arts and Health	Unknown
Suzy Davies (1)	Tourism	Craig Lawton, Suzy Davies AMSS
Janet Finch-Saunders (1)	Small Shops	Edward Woodall, Association of Convenience Stores
Huw Irranca-Davies (1)	Universities	Rhys Flowers, Four Cymru
Vikki Howells (1)	Industrial Communities	Peter Slater, Industrial Communities Alliance
David Melding (1)	Looked After Children	Rhian Williams, Voices from Care
Jayne Bryant (2)	Preventing Child Sexual Abuse	NSPCC Cymru/Wales, Stop it Now! Wales and the Survivors Trust Cymru
	Diabetes	Sara Moran, Diabetes UK Cymru
Russell George (1)	Cross-Border Issues	John Pockett, Confederation of Passenger Transport in Wales / Great Western Railways

Ann Jones (1)	Deaf Issues	Llyr Wilson Price, Action on Hearing Loss
Lynne Neagle (2)	Dementia	Ed Bridges, Alzheimer's Society Cymru
	Circuit of Wales	Jonathan Morgan, Insight Wales Consulting
Rhun ap Iorwerth (1)	Wales International	Jenny Scott, British Council Wales
Hefin David (1)	Small and Medium Sized Enterprises	Federation of Small Businesses
Angela Burns (1)	Sepsis	Terrance Canning, Sepsis Trust
John Griffiths (1)	Further Education and Future Skills	Clare Roberts, Colleges Wales / Colegau Cymru
Lee Waters (1)	Wales Air Ambulance	Angela Hughes , Wales Air Ambulance
Neil McEvoy (1)	Boxing	Ellis Cummings (personal capacity)
Hannah Blythyn (1)	North Wales and Mersey Dee Alliance	Stephen Jones, WLGA