

# Heart Disease & Stroke Cross Party Group

## Mid-Term Review 2011-2013

### Mission statement

To provide a forum for discussion on prevention, care and treatment of heart disease and stroke, between Members of the Scottish Parliament, people living with these conditions, the charities working in the field and the health professionals involved.

### Summary of activity

Since reconstitution in June 2011, the Heart Disease & Stroke Cross Party Group (CPG) has attracted an average of 35 members and 3 MSPs to each meeting. CPG meetings always present a range of opinion on a pertinent topic, with eminent experts among the health professionals to the moving and honest accounts of those living with the impact of heart disease and stroke conditions.

As always, there have been countless memorable moments from our meetings, but it is the actions that demonstrate our effectiveness and test us against our objectives as a group. Activity stimulated by the CPG has included parliamentary motions, member's business debates, parliamentary questions, awareness raising events, media work, and much more.

This document provides an overview of this activity and focusses on the key themes of each meeting that was the catalyst.

### Profile

The CPG meets four times per year, always on a Wednesday evening with meetings commencing at 1800. As of May 2013, there are 109 members of the CPG, representing over 40 private, public and voluntary organisations; in the 2011-14 Parliamentary Term there are also 13 MSP Members.

<b>Convener:</b>	Helen Eadie MSP
<b>Deputy Conveners:</b>	Dave Thompson MSP Dennis Robertson MSP
<b>MSP Members:</b>	Jackie Baillie MSP Malcolm Chisholm MSP Ruth Davidson MSP Jim Hume MSP Derek MacKay MSP ( <i>resigned in Jan 2012 due to Ministerial Position</i> ) Alison McInnes MSP Fiona McLeod MSP Nanette Milne MSP Richard Simpson MSP Maureen Watt MSP
<b>Secretariat</b>	Ben McKendrick, British Heart Foundation Scotland Louise Peardon, Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Theme- Highlights of the last term

#### Attendance

- 28 members
- 2 MSPs

#### Key Topics

- Air Pollution and the links with CVD presentation
- TOPCAT 2 – Improving survival from cardiac arrest update
- Atrial Fibrillation campaign update
- FAST campaign update
- Familial Arrhythmia Network Scotland [FANS] update



*Dr Richard Lyons of the TOPCAT2 Project*

#### Completed Actions

- Letter sent by Convener to Cabinet Secretary of Health & Wellbeing to clarify the number of Scottish schools which had engaged with Emergency Life Support Training
- Template press release on local provision of Emergency Life Support drafted by Secretariat and sent to all MSPs
- Emergency Life Support event arranged in the Scottish Parliament involving two schools showcasing their skills to MSPs



*“The CPG is a well organised and congenial forum for professionals, health charities and lay people to exchange thoughts and experiences of issues relating to heart disease and stroke”*

**[Eric Sinclair, volunteer for the Stroke Association]**



Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2011

Theme- Emergency Life Support; the skills and confidence to save a life

#### Attendance

- 48 members
- 4 MSPs

#### Key Topics

- Case study of Emergency Life Support training in Portree High School, Isle of Skye
- Evaluation of Emergency Life Support training in St. Ambrose School, North Lanarkshire
- Lucky 2B Here update
- Public Access Defibrillation – busting the myths
- Scottish Ambulance Service Community Resilience Strategy presentation



#### Completed Actions

- Article on Emergency Life Support, intended for MSP local newsletters drafted by the Secretariat and circulated to all MSPs
- MSPs present were encouraged to write to the Scottish Government on the importance of a cohesive approach to the placement of Public Access Defibrillators in Scotland
- Letter sent by Convener to Cabinet Secretary of Health & Wellbeing to clarify the processes in place to measure the level of cardiac arrest in Scotland
- Position of Scottish legislation regarding the ability to conduct research with individuals during cardiac arrest clarified by the Chief Scientists' Office, following the request from the CPG
- Convener verified the status of Public Access Defibrillation within the Scottish Parliament and was encouraged to find that they were available and 25 staff were trained in ELS
- Parliamentary Debate on Emergency Life Support [17<sup>th</sup> November 2011], led by Siobhan McMahon MSPs calling for ELS training to be rolled out across all schools in Scotland.



*Helen Eadie MSP is taught ELS skills by the pupils of St. Ambrose School at the Scottish Parliament*

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011

Theme- Allied Health Professional [AHP] Support in the Community

Attendance

- 23 members
- 3 MSPs

Key Topics

- Patient perspective
- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Dietetics
- Speech & Language Therapy
- AHP support in the community; patient perspectives

*“AHP’s are the professionals within our hospitals, outreach and community services and each and every one of them has a special skill which allows many others like me, to climb out of what seems....at the time, a very dark and lonely place: They help others to stand and still stand by them. Help them to walk and continue to walk with them. Help people to talk and still talk to them. Help some to see and keep watch over them”*

[Christine Quigg, Inverclyde Stroke Matters]

Completed Actions

- Formation of a CPG Sub-Group to take forward issues from the discussion on the AHP role

*“Thank you very much for providing RSLT, COT, CSP and BDA with an opportunity to present to the CPG on the current emerging AHP best practice and challenges in respect of delivering on the Heart Disease and Stroke Action Plan in Scotland. It was, I think, a very informative and moving evening.”*

[Kim Hartley, RCSLT Scotland Officer]





Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Theme- Cardiac Rehabilitation: Looking to the future

Attendance

- 66 members
- 5 MSPs

Key Topics

- Setting the scene; Cardiac rehabilitation (CR) today
- CR Services redesign; facing the future
- Innovations in CR delivery; BHF Hearty Lives Psychology Project
- Delivering in partnership ; Angus Activity Programme for People with a Long Term Condition
- Reaching for the moon; the Lunar Trek initiative



*TJ McCandliss benefits from the Hearty Lives Project, with Psychologist Dr John Sharp*

Completed Actions

- Preview of national Cardiac Rehabilitation audit data provided for the CPG by Information Statistics Division [ISD] Scotland
- Pedometers given to MSPs to enable them to join the Lunar Trek



*Duncan Galbraith, Inverclyde Globetrotters; Lunar Trek as featured in the Daily Record*



*Gordon Snedden, Angus Cardiac Group meets the First Minister at the Scottish Parliament*



**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2012**

**Theme- Innovations in screening for cardiovascular risk**

Attendance

- 48 members
- 1 MSP

Key Topics

- Atrial Fibrillation in Scotland
- Cardiac Assessment in Young Athletes [CAYA] Project, including teacher and pupil experiences
- Affairs of the heart; preventing sudden cardiac death among the young

Completed Actions

- Response submitted to the Standards Committee Inquiry into the functioning of CPGs



*Ben Macdonald, elite canoeist and participant in the CAYA Project*

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Theme- Cardiac Rehabilitation

#### Attendance

- 39 members
- 2 MSPs

#### Key Topics

- Cardiac Rehabilitation (CR) Audit Data
- Cardiac Rehabilitation Standards; BACPR Standards & Core Components
- Cardiac Rehabilitation for Heart Failure patients
- Progress of the Lunar Trek

#### Completed Actions

- Convener lodged Parliamentary motion in support of the BACPR Standards & Core Components, which was selected for a Member's debate (see below)
- Convener lodged set of Parliamentary Questions on CR
- Parliamentary Motion on CR debated on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2013, with 9 MSPs participating and reply from the Scottish Government provided by Michael Matheson MSP
- Letter sent by Convener to Cabinet Secretary of Health & Wellbeing to clarify Scottish Government support for CR and to propose the need for a HEAT target to improve performance
- CPG supported Visual Impairment Awareness Event, working collaboratively with the Visual Impairment CPG

*"Many thanks for inviting me to attend the Cross Party Group. The speakers were excellent and their presentations generated worthwhile and interesting responses. From my patient perspective it was a most interesting and informative evening."*

*[John Braynion, Heart to Heart]*



*Helen Eadie MSP accepts her pedometer from Duncan Galbraith (Inverclyde Globetrotters) and becomes a participant in the Lunar Trek.*



The BACPR Standards and Core Components for  
**Cardiovascular Disease Prevention  
and Rehabilitation 2012**  
(2nd Edition)



Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Theme- Towards a smoke-free Scotland

Attendance

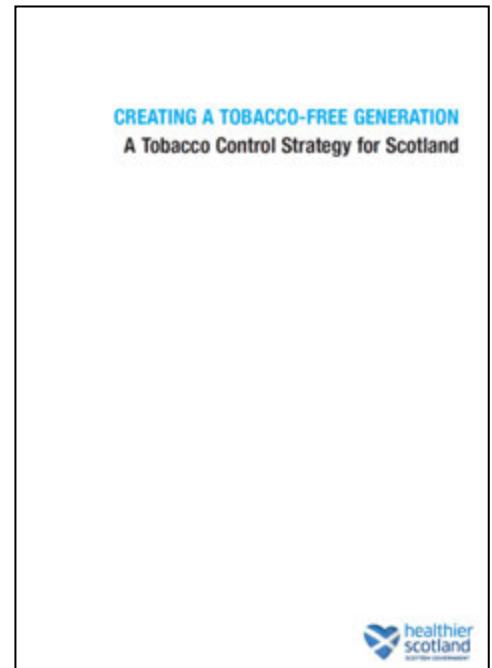
- 30 members
- 2 MSPs

Key Topics

- Evidence base for standardised tobacco packaging
- Scottish Government Tobacco Control Action Plan
- Draft Smoke Charter presented by CPG Sub-Group

Completed Actions

- Letter sent by Convener to Minister for Public Health to clarify Scottish Government policies regarding the reduction of smoking rates in Scotland, and particularly rates of smoking in the young population
- Members given opportunity to respond to the Tobacco Control Action Plan consultation



*"Let's realise the vision of a tobacco free Scotland!"*

*"It all starts in the schools – we need to make sure our children understand the risks"*





Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2013  
Specialist Nurses; a valuable role

Attendance

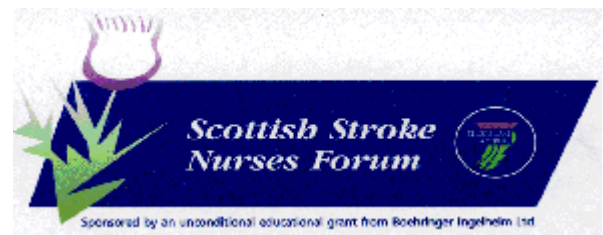
- 48 members
- 4 MSPs

Key Topics

- The value of the Specialist Stroke Nurse
- The value of the Specialist Heart Failure Nurse
- Scottish Heart Failure Nurse Forum Review 2013

Completed Actions

- Vice-Convener lodged Parliamentary motion in support of the SHFNF Review 2013, which achieved Cross Party support on the day it was lodged
- Parliamentary Debate scheduled for late June on the successful Motion (TBC)



*'My real recovery began when  
the Stroke Nurse entered my life'*

*'I'll no beat about the bush but  
the nurse was our lifeline'*

*'You can't repay what the Heart Failure  
Nurse has done for me and my family'*



## **Membership of the Heart Disease & Stroke Cross Party Group**

### Organisations

British Heart Foundation Scotland  
Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland (CHSS)  
Angus Cardiac Group  
Astra Zeneca  
Boehringer Ingelheim  
British Medical Association (BMA)  
Cardiac Rehabilitation Interest Group Scotland (CRIGS)  
Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY)  
Cardiovascular Interest Group (ABPI Scotland)  
Caring Together  
Community Pharmacy Scotland  
Division of Clinical Psychology Scotland  
Familial Arrhythmia Network Scotland (FANS)  
Grampian Cardiac Rehabilitation Association (GCRA)  
Healthy Valleys  
Heartsmart Lochaber  
Inverclyde Globetrotters  
Inverclyde Stroke Matters Group  
Irvine Classics Stroke Group  
Jordanhill Cardiac Group  
Kirkcaldy Heart Support Group  
Living Streets  
Long Term Conditions Alliance Scotland (LTCAS)  
Marie Curie Cancer Care  
Medtronic  
Merck Sharp & Dohme Limited  
Morhamburn  
Nairn Cardiactives  
National Advisory Committee for Heart Disease (NACHD)  
National Advisory Committee for Stroke (NACS)  
Pfizer  
Roche Diagnostics  
Royal College of General Practitioners  
Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists  
Sanofi Aventis  
Scottish HART  
Scottish Heart Failure Nurse Forum (SHFNF)  
Scottish Stroke Allied Health Professionals Forum (SSAHPF)  
Scottish Stroke Nurse Forum (SSNF)  
Scottish Vision and Stroke Network (SVSN)  
The Heart Manual  
The Sommerville Foundation  
The Stroke Association  
Wellbeing Alliance

### Individuals

Mr Craig Fraser  
Ms Susan Kennedy  
Ms Morag Thow  
Mrs Carol Walford

**Heart Disease & Stroke Cross Party Group**  
**CONTACT DETAILS**

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