

Meet your current **SCMA Elected Members...**

Liz Stewart, Convener **City of Edinburgh**

Liz has been a childminder for 20 years and established Murrayburn Childminding Group 13 years ago. Liz also runs St David Toddlers Group and has done so for the last five years.

Liz feels that she has the best job you can have, she has learnt so much about various countries and cultures from the children she has looked after over the years and many still keep in touch. Some children she has looked after bring their own children to me, which makes her feel old!

SCMA has helped Liz along the way by keeping her informed and updated with legislative changes. Liz had been a previous Elected Member a few years ago and was also Convener from 2009-2012. Liz really enjoyed being part of the Scottish Executive Board and is ready to help and share new adventures for SCMA members by being part of the exciting changes that are going on in the childcare sector.

Donna Dawson, Treasurer **Moray**

Donna was co-opted in 2018 and has recently taken over the Treasurer role from Sam Clarke.

Donna has been childminding for nearly 25 years. She has previously sat on the Scottish Executive Board a few times during her career and has thoroughly enjoyed developing childminding in Scotland as an elected member.

Donna was also involved in the setting up of a local partnership way back in 1999.

Providing **A Voice** for you...
Meet your Elected Members



Samantha Clarke

Aberdeen City

Sam has been a SCMA Elected Member since 2015, She took on the role as Treasurer in 2016 and has recently handed over the reigns to Donna Dawson.

Sam is also a SCMA Community Childminder and is involved in the Me2 service providing funded Early Learning and Childcare in the city. Sam has been childminding for more than six years and loves what she does: "Every day is different and each and every family I meet are unique."

Sam became an Elected Member so she could help shape the future of childminding at its core.

Kay Finke

Inverclyde

Kay has been childminding since 2009 after giving up her previous job that she did not enjoy. Now working for herself and being there for her own children is something that really makes Kay happy - she loves looking after little people, helping them grow and supporting them through challenges

Working so closely with local families and fellow childminders in the area, Kay has made some really great friends. Kay became a SCMA Elected Member to help shape the future of childminding in Scotland, especially when it comes to working alongside the Scottish Government and their expansion plans for Early Learning and Childcare.

The importance of SCMA and the support it has given to the childminding network in Inverclyde is something that Kay has recognised, and wants to highlight further and become a part of.

Jemma Hogan

Highland

Jemma has been a childminder since January 2016 and became an SCMA Elected Member in 2017.

Ensuring her minded children get outside, sensory and social filled experiences which are age and development stage appropriate is of huge importance to Jemma. The more she can encourage outside learning, thought-provoking sensory experiments and evaluate what meets everyone's need means Jemma is always learning and ultimately finding her job a lovely experience.

Jemma's main reason for becoming an Elected Member was because of her mum who was also a childminder and a SCMA Elected Member. Jemma's mum has inspired and taught her so much throughout her career as a childminder and being elected member brought her so much, Jemma wanted to experience it for herself. Jemma is really looking forward to networking and having a say in the future of childminding.

Susannah Knox

Inverclyde

Susannah is a childminder from Inverclyde and became a SCMA Elected Member in 2015.

Susannah has been working as a childminder for 12 years, and in that time she has looked after children from six weeks old right up to 12 years. She really enjoys her job and the ability it gives her to make a real difference in children's lives.

Susannah got involved with SCMA as she was really interested to see how things worked at a national level. She wanted to provide real feedback about what was happening in an everyday childminding setting. Susannah also wanted to give back within the working community as she is passionate about childminders all working together.

Ally MacDonald

Stirling

Ally has been a childminder since March 2014 and takes pride in applying a child-centred approach, providing a wide range of play and learning opportunities in the form of fun and challenging activities. This enables her minded children from all backgrounds and abilities to develop and learn in a caring and supportive environment.

Over the past few years, Ally has worked with a variety of children and families from those with additional support needs, to families with English as a second language.

Ally wanted to become a SCMA Elected Member in order to use her experience of working within the community to support the development of childminding in Scotland. Ally is also keen to support childminders reach their full potential within the profession.

Margaret MacDougall

Argyll and Bute

Margaret is a childminder from Argyll and Bute and was co-opted to the Scottish Executive Board in 2016. She became a SCMA Elected Member in 2017.

Margaret has been childminding for 11 years and works with children from six months to 16 years old. Working alongside Argyll and Bute Council, Margaret is also a SCMA Community Childminder and provides funded Early Learning and Childcare places for eligible two year olds.

Margaret was keen to get involved with SCMA and further develop its Vision: "Quality childminding... building confident children within a family childcare experience."

Susan Mooney

Orkney

Susan is a childminder from Orkney and became a SCMA Elected Member in 2015. Childminding since 1991, Susan believes that being a childminder is wonderful. Susan thrives on helping the children and parents to be all they can be and more.

Susan enjoys being part of the Scottish Executive Board, being part of the developments and the way it champions childminding across Scotland.

Katy Pollok

Argyll and Bute

Katy is a childminder from Argyll & Bute and was co-opted to the Scottish Executive Board in 2016. She became a SCMA Elected Member in 2017.

Katy has been a childminder for 12 years, and alongside her three children of her own, she has cared for lots of other children. Katy loves being involved in their early years, seeing their daily achievements and knowing that parents trust her with their precious little ones.

Katy has been a member of SCMA since she became registered and wanted to be more involved with what the Association does for childminding across Scotland.

Paula Preston

Scottish Borders

Paula has been childminding since 2004 and during this time she has expanded her business and is currently working with four assistants.

Paula is proud of her home-from-home childminding service in an environment that is unique, inclusive and diverse.

Christine Ross

North Lanarkshire

Christine is a childminder from North Lanarkshire and was co-opted to the Scottish Executive Board in 2013. She became a SCMA Elected Member in 2017.

Christine has been childminding for more than 25 years and loves her job; caring for children from six weeks to 14 years old. Christine has also been a SCMA Community Childminder and a day carer providing services to North Lanarkshire Council. Christine loves the fact that she has a job that makes her laugh every day.

Christine originally got involved with SCMA to find out more about how the organisation worked. After realising how much the organisation does for childminding in Scotland, Christine wanted to help where she could; providing information and helping to spread the word.

Johanne Wood

Fife

After 30 years in childcare, Johanne has experienced many changes within the sector, but nothing that has made her consider changing careers. Johanne loves her job and counts herself as very fortunate to be doing something she loves.

Having previously been an Elected Member and enjoyed her time, Johanne is now looking at getting back involved with the organisation at a critical time for childminding. With all the new changes and challenges facing childminders with the new funded hours that are planned, Johanne is looking forward to helping the organisation and childminders stay strong and positive.