



SICI 10th General Assembly, Dublin

6-9 October 2009

**hosted by
the Inspectorate of
the Department of Education and Science,
Ireland**

***Venue: Department of Education and Science, Dublin
and
Castleknock Hotel and Country Club, Dublin***

**MAKING PUBLIC SERVICES WORK:
CUSTOMER SERVICE, EDUCATION AND
INSPECTION**

FINALISED PROGRAMME



Monday, 5 October 2009

Arrival of Executive Committee members
Check in at Castleknock Hotel and Country Club

Tuesday, 6 October 2009

- 10.00-13.30 **Meeting of Executive Committee**
Secretary's Conference Room in the eighteenth century headquarters building of the Department of Education and Science
- 13.30-14.30 Lunch
- 14.45-17.00 **Meeting of the Executive Committee**
- 19.00 **Dinner for Executive Committee members**

Wednesday, 7 October 2009

- 08.30 Depart hotel
- 09.00-13.00 **Visit to primary school: St Seachnall's National School and the Centre for European Schooling, Dunshaughlin**

St Seachnall's NS is a large primary school serving an area where the school population has been growing rapidly. The Centre for European Schooling which is based at the school is recognised as a centre for European schooling under the Convention of the European Schools and provides mother-tongue tuition to the children of parents at the EU Commission's Food and Veterinary Offices
&
Visit to post-primary school: Ratoath Community College
This is a large post-primary school which is working on a number of curricular projects and in particular on the use of ICT in schools. The school operates under a local education authority and the visit will include a short presentation on how this authority is using ICT-based learning systems in its schools
- 13.00-14.00 Snack lunch hosted by County Meath VEC (local education authority) Ratoath Community College
- 14.30-17.30 **Visit to megalithic tombs in the Boyne Valley**
The Boyne Valley was a site of extensive settlement in pre-historic times and the passage tombs there are the largest megalithic graves of their type in Europe. Three of the tombs – Knowth, Dowth and Newgrange – form the nucleus of a world heritage site. The visit will include an opportunity to view Knowth, the largest of the tombs, and over seventeen other smaller satellite tombs. Further details at www.knowth.eu/knowth.htm
- 14.30-19.00 Check-in for delegates arriving at hotel
Castleknock Hotel and Country Club
- 19.30 **Dinner in hotel: After-dinner talk**
Inspection of schools: the Irish context and recent developments
Eamon Stack
Chief Inspector, Department of Education and Science, Ireland

Thursday 8 October 2009: Themed conference day

**MAKING PUBLIC SERVICES WORK:
CUSTOMER SERVICE, EDUCATION AND INSPECTION**

Castleknock Hotel and Country Club

09.15-09.30

Official opening of SICI General Assembly

Eamon Stack

Chief Inspector, Department of Education and Science, Ireland

Graham Donaldson

President, SICI and Senior Chief Inspector, HMIE, Scotland

09.30-10.30

Towards an Integrated Public Service: the OECD Review of Ireland's Public Service

Brigid McManus

Secretary General, Department of Education and Science, Ireland

In 2008, the OECD completed a study examining how public service modernisation could be developed further in Ireland. Brigid McManus, Secretary General (permanent secretary) at the Department of Education and Science, who is a member of the Irish government's implementation group which was charged with overseeing the implementation of the OECD's recommendations, will outline the lessons for public services that arose from the OECD study.

10.30-11.00

Coffee

11.00-12.30

Improving the Effectiveness of Educational Systems: Lessons from effective educational systems

Fenton Whelan

Fenton Whelan works with governments and other organisations around the world to improve education systems. He acted as advisor to the team that prepared the McKinsey & Company report *How the world's best performing school systems come out on top* (2007) and was co-author with Michael Barber and Michael Fullan of *Lessons Learned: How Good Policies Produce Better Schools* (2009).

Fenton's paper will look at the lessons arising from several educational systems and how these can be used by policy makers and evaluators in seeking to identify and act on key factors that affect the quality of educational provision

12.30-14.00

Lunch

14.00-14.45

The Strategic Role that Inspection Can Play in Delivering Better Public Education

Graham Donaldson

Senior Chief Inspector, HMIE, Scotland

This paper will examine how Inspectorates could use the lessons from the reform of public services and from research on effective educational systems to shape their work. Graham's presentation will draw on Scottish and other examples and will be the trigger paper for the workshops that follow.

14.45-17.00	<p>Workshops</p> <p>These workshops will provide delegates with an opportunity for more intense discussion on the implications that the earlier papers have for the work of inspectorates.</p>
18.30-19.00	<p>Bus transfer to Farmleigh House Farmleigh House is the State Guest House located in the Phoenix Park</p>
19.00-19.45	<p>Drinks reception and launch of <i>A History of Ireland's School Inspectorate</i> by Professor John Coolahan</p> <p>The Department of Education and Science has commissioned Professor John Coolahan, formerly professor of education and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth to write a history of the Irish schools inspectorate. The work will be launched officially this evening.</p>
19.45-22.30	<p>Gala Dinner <i>Hosted by Eamon Stack, Chief Inspector, Ireland</i></p>
22.30-22.45	<p>Return to hotel</p>

Friday, 9 October 2009

GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Castleknock Hotel and Country Club

09.00-09.30	<p>Reflection on "Making Public Services Work: Customer Service, Education and Inspection" <i>Professor Teresa O'Doherty</i> <i>Education Department, Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick</i></p> <p>Professor O'Doherty is head of the Education Department at Mary Immaculate College at the University of Limerick, Ireland. She will be acting as <i>academic rapporteur</i> for this SICI conference and in this morning's presentation she will outline her initial reflections on the outcomes of yesterday's papers and discussions. Following the conference, Teresa will be preparing a report on the conference proceedings for SICI.</p>
09.30-10.00	<p>Inspectorates' profiles: Conclusions; Comparative analysis <i>Johan van Bruggen, former SG of SICI</i></p>
10.00-10.30	<p>New Tools for VET: ECVET and EQARF <i>Juergen Horschinegg, ENQA-VET, Board Chairperson</i></p>
10.30-11.00	<p>Coffee</p>

11.00-11.30	<p>SICI Business Meeting including:</p> <p>Approval of reports and accounts <i>Paul Schatteman, Secretary-General</i></p> <p>Status of memberships <i>Paul Schatteman, Secretary-General</i></p> <p>Presentation of budgets and SICI events, 2009-2010 <i>Paul Schatteman, Secretary-General</i></p> <p>SICI Strategic Paper including SIA <i>Graham Donaldson, President</i></p> <p>SICI website and SICI Review <i>Heinz Kipp, EC Member</i></p> <p>The EC 2010 – 2011: - role of the EC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nomination/election of members - approval EC - nomination and approval SG <i>Graham Donaldson, President</i></p>
12.30	<p>Official closing of General Assembly <i>Graham Donaldson, President</i> <i>Eamon Stack, Chief Inspector, Ireland</i></p>
12.30-13.30	Lunch
13.30	Departure of delegates