

# SICI General Assembly

Transforming inspection to support improvement  
for all

Edinburgh  
9 – 11 October 2013

Programme and general information



## SICI Executive Committee member events

**Tuesday, 8 October 2013**

### SICI Executive Committee

19:30	Executive Committee dinner	Panorama Suite, The George Hotel
-------	----------------------------	----------------------------------

**Wednesday, 9 October 2013**

### SICI Executive Committee

09:00	Executive Committee meeting	Panorama Suite, The George Hotel
-------	-----------------------------	----------------------------------

**Friday, 11 October 2013**

### SICI Executive Committee

14.00	Executive Committee Meeting	Panorama Suite, The George Hotel
-------	-----------------------------	----------------------------------



## SICI General Assembly and conference events

### Tuesday, 8 October 2013

#### Registration

18:00 – 19:30	Early registration and information	Foyer, The George Hotel
---------------	------------------------------------	-------------------------

### Wednesday, 9 October 2013

#### Cultural tour

08:45	Formal registration	Foyer, The George Hotel
09:00	Cultural tour of Edinburgh, including The Royal Mile	Leave by coach from The George Hotel front entrance promptly at 09:00
11:00	Tour returns to The George Hotel	The George Hotel
11:15 – 11:45	Break to prepare for conference	The George Hotel
11:45	Coach to The Balmoral	Leave by coach from The George Hotel front entrance promptly at 11:45
12:00 – 12:45	Lunch with musical performance by children from Edinburgh	Hadrian's Brasserie, The Balmoral
12:45 – 13:00	Registration	Holyrood Suite foyer, The Balmoral

## Conference: 'Transforming inspection to support system improvement for all'

13:00	Welcome Live performance from Scottish learners	Holyrood Suite, The Balmoral
13:15	Official Opening Dr Alasdair Allan, Minister for Learning, Science and Scotland's Languages	Sir Walter Scott Suite, The Balmoral
13:25	Improving education the Scottish way Dr Bill Maxwell, Chief Executive, Education Scotland	Sir Walter Scott Suite, The Balmoral
14:00	Response from SICI SICI Executive	Sir Walter Scott Suite, The Balmoral
14:15	Synergies for Better Learning Mr Michael Davidson, OECD Director of Education	Sir Walter Scott Suite, The Balmoral
15:00	Q&A and comments Facilitated by Craig Munro Strategic Director, Education Scotland	Sir Walter Scott Suite, The Balmoral
15:15	Afternoon break and practice showcase	Holyrood Suite, The Balmoral
15:45	Inspection and Innovation – the Bratislava memorandum SICI Executive	Sir Walter Scott Suite, The Balmoral
17:15	End of day reflections Dr Bill Maxwell Chief Executive, Education Scotland	Sir Walter Scott Suite, The Balmoral
17:25	Coach to The George	Leave by coach from The Balmoral front entrance promptly at 17:25

## Gala dinner

18:15	Leave The George Hotel by coach	Leave by coach from The George Hotel front entrance promptly at 18:15
18:30	Private viewing of The Honours of Scotland, The Crown Jewels	Edinburgh Castle
19:00	Live musical performance by Knightswood Secondary School	Edinburgh Castle
19:20	Gala dinner	The Jacobite Room, Edinburgh Castle
	Leadership in challenging times Norman Drummond, Founder of Drummond International	The Jacobite Room, Edinburgh Castle
22:30	Depart for The George Hotel	Leave by coach from Edinburgh Castle front entrance promptly at 22:30

## Thursday, 10 October 2013

### Visits to a range of educational provision

09:00	Visits to establishments Accompanied groups travelling by taxi from The George Hotel	City of Edinburgh schools, centres and Edinburgh College
12:00	Travel by taxi from visits to The Roxburghe Hotel	The Roxburghe
12:30	Lunch	The Roxburghe restaurant
13:15	Practice showcase	The Roxburghe

### Group work

13:30	Introduction Alastair Delaney, Director of Inspection, Education Scotland	The George Suite, The Roxburghe
13:40	Group discussion	The George Suite, The Roxburghe
14:30	Workshops (Please see separate document detailing workshops)	The Roxburghe
15:30	Coffee and practice showcase	The Roxburghe
16:00	Group reports	The George Suite, The Roxburghe
16:30	Summary and conclusions SICI Executive	The George Suite, The Roxburghe
16:45	Transport to The George Hotel	Leave from The Roxburghe front entrance promptly at 16:45



## Dinner and informal meeting of Chief Inspectors

19:30

Dinner

Howies Restaurant – private dining room



**Friday, 11 October 2013**

**SICI General Assembly**

08:45	Transport to The Roxburghe	Leave from The George Hotel front entrance promptly at 08:45
09:00	Official opening of the Assembly Business agenda I SICI Executive	The George Suite, The Roxburghe
10:30	Morning break and SICI photo	The Roxburghe
11:10	Business agenda II	The George Suite, The Roxburghe
12:45	Final comments SICI Executive and Dr Bill Maxwell, Chief Executive, Education Scotland	The George Suite, The Roxburghe
13:00	Lunch and depart	The Roxburghe restaurant
13:45	Transport to The George Hotel	Leave from The Roxburghe front entrance promptly at 13:45





## Programme Content

### Wednesday 9 October 2013

#### **Wednesday morning programme: cultural tour of Edinburgh and the Royal Mile**

SICI members are invited to join a private bus and walking tour of Scotland's capital.

#### **Wednesday afternoon programme: Conference – 'Transforming inspection to support improvement for all'**

Colleagues will be welcomed by young Scottish performers to Edinburgh. Dr Alasdair Allan, Minister for Learning, Science and Scotland's Languages, will welcome colleagues to Scotland and provide an overview of the Scottish educational context. Dr Bill Maxwell, Chief Executive of Education Scotland, will focus on the Scottish approach to improvement and the important role of Education Scotland in supporting our strong educational system.

The main aim of the conference is to present the latest developments and enable discussion about current trends and challenges facing inspectorates across Europe. The conference will reflect on improvement across all levels of the system, from the outcomes of young people, the teacher, the school or establishment, to the national educational system. To support the focus on system improvement, we are delighted to have Michael Davidson, OECD Director of Education, provide a keynote related to the recent 2013 OECD report *Synergies for Better Learning*. Colleagues are invited in the registration form to register their interest in contributing to the practice showcase area, which will be on show during the conference and General Assembly.

#### **Wednesday evening programme: gala dinner**

The gala dinner will be held in Edinburgh Castle and travel will be provided by coach.

### Thursday 10 October 2013

#### **Thursday morning programme: visits to educational establishments**

SICI members are invited to visit a range of educational provision across the City of Edinburgh. Visits will be accompanied and a short briefing about the provision will be provided for all participants. The selected establishments are centres, schools or colleges which are on an improvement journey, tackling such challenges as attainment and achievement, disengagement and transition into the workplace. Colleagues are asked to select three options on the registration form.

**Thursday afternoon programme: workshops and groups**

Following the establishment visits, colleagues will have the opportunity to share their experiences in groups. Colleagues from Education Scotland will join the groups to provide the Scottish context and answer specific points and questions. The second part of the afternoon will consist of a number of workshops led by SICI colleagues. The seminars will focus on innovation in the work of inspectorates and schools.

**Thursday evening**

No official program (informal dinner for heads of inspectorates).

**Friday 11 October 2013**

The General Assembly will be held in the morning. The Assembly ends with lunch at 13:00. There will be a short meeting of the SICI Executive Committee after lunch.

## **General Assembly and conference information**

### **Date and venues**

The international conference, workshop and General Assembly will take place from Wednesday 9 October 2013 til Friday 11 October 2013. The conference accommodation will be provided by The George Hotel. The conference itself will be held in The Balmoral on Wednesday and The Roxburghe on Thursday and Friday.

### **Language**

The language of the international conference and General Assembly will be English.

### **Meals**

All lunches will be provided for the duration of the event.

A real Scottish welcome will be provided at the Gala dinner in Edinburgh Castle on Wednesday 9 October 2013, with a musical accompaniment from talented young musicians. We are also delighted that Norman Drummond is able to provide an after dinner speech on 'Leadership in challenging times'.

On Thursday 10 October 2013, an informal dinner for Heads of Inspectorates has been organised and will take place in Howies Restaurant.

### **Travelling from Edinburgh Airport**

- **By Taxi**  
Edinburgh International Airport is only seven miles from The George Hotel and approximately 25 minutes. The fare will cost around £20 .
- **By Bus**  
There's a regular service, Airport Express X100 ([further details](#)) for £3.50 single or £6 return. This takes approximately 30 minutes and stops at Waverley Bridge which is near Waverley Station. You can then walk or take a taxi to The George Hotel:
  - On foot: It is only half a mile or a five minute walk away so please see the map for directions when leaving the station.
  - By taxi: from the station takes 5 minutes and costs between £4 and £6.

### **Currency**

Scotland uses UK currency, the British Pound (GBP, £). Credit cards are accepted in nearly all establishments. Most currencies and traveller's cheques can be exchanged at local banks, of which there are many in and around George Street.