

cpp SEMINARS SCOTLAND

Connecting Policy to Practice

'Are we on the right track to improve educational attainment in Scotland'?

A ½ day Education conference and election hustings organised by *cpp Seminars Scotland* and the Commission on School Reform

Date: Wednesday 13 April 2016 (9.00 – 13.30)

Venue: Netherbow Theatre, Scottish Storytelling Centre, Royal Mile, Edinburgh

Cost to attend : £125 + VAT; £99 + VAT for 3rd sector and Charitable Organisations and £80 + VAT for Reform Scotland subscribers

Chair: Ross Martin, Chief Executive, SCDI

Keynote Speakers:

Keir Bloomer, Chair of the Commission on School Reform

Jim McColl OBE, Scottish Businessman & Entrepreneur

Chris McIlroy, Visiting Professor, University of Strathclyde

Politicians Panel –: Alex Cole-Hamilton, Scottish Liberal/Democrats, **Angela Constance MSP**, Scottish National Party (TBC), **Iain Gray MSP**, Scottish Labour, **Alison Johnstone MSP**, Scottish Greens, **Elizabeth Smith MSP**, Scottish Conservatives:

In November 2013, the Commission on School Reform, set up by the think tanks Reform Scotland and the Centre for Scottish Public Policy, published the report 'By Diverse Means'.

The Commission had chosen to concentrate on matters that seemed to be of the greatest importance but which had been relatively neglected. The focus was on change – how it is brought about and why it is often not as successful as intended.

The report found that education reforms over 50 years had failed to make a significant improvement to the exam results of children from disadvantaged backgrounds, with an estimated one in five school leavers having few or no qualifications and poor skills in basic literacy and numeracy.

It is already clear that education will be one of the main policy issues in the forthcoming Scottish Parliament election and, therefore, revisiting some of the key themes of the Commission's report is timely to consider whether we are on the right track to improve educational attainment in Scotland.

This ½ day conference and hustings will include contributions from representatives of the main political parties in Scotland and the Chair of the Commission on School Reform Keir Bloomer. The conference will also focus on two themes - Tackling Educational Disadvantage and Improving Governance Structures.

To reserve a place click onto the link below -:

<http://www.cppseminarsscotland.co.uk/book-event/>

For an agenda or more information please e mail – brian@cppseminarsscotland.co.uk

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