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Dear Peter

ETI AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT INQUIRY - INSPECTIONS

I refer to your letter dated 8 November 2013. I will answer each point in turn.

1. Further information on the typical size and composition of inspection teams (for the current academic year) – i.e. how many District Inspectors, Associate Assessors etc. are involved.

Primary inspections (2/3 day and 5 day model)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pre-inspection day for the Reporting Inspector is programmed for each primary inspection to allow the RI to visit/contact the school, meet with the principal and brief the staff on the inspection process • Wherever possible, and subject to other competing priorities, the District Inspector will be a team member • The size of the inspection team will be dependent on the size of the school. A general guide is one member of ETI for 3/4 teachers • Minimum team size of 2 ETI • Maximum team size of 7 ETI + AA(s)
Post-primary inspections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pre-inspection day for the Reporting Inspector is programmed for each post-primary inspection to allow the RI to visit the school, meet with the principal and brief the staff on the inspection process • Wherever possible, and subject to other competing

	<p>priorities, the District Inspector will be a team member</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum team size of 4 ETI + AA• Maximum team size of 7 ETI + AA(s)• A post-primary team is based on the size of school.
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The information above represents 'typical' team size and composition. It should be noted, however, that the size and composition of an inspection team may also be determined on the basis of proportionate risk, and that there may be additional members added to a given team, for example, to facilitate the induction of new inspectors. Associate Assessors are also involved in survey evaluations and dissemination work.

2. Clarification as to how ETI determines the frequency of inspections for schools and an indication of the typical and longest time periods between inspections.

Frequency of Inspections and Typical Time Periods between Inspections

Until September 2010, ETI aimed to inspect each school at least once every seven years with more frequent inspection of a school being undertaken where it was deemed necessary.

In September 2010, ETI introduced a more proportionate and risk-based inspection strategy whereby the need for an inspection is identified by information from school performance indicators, risk factors including the length of time since the last formal inspection and from on-going monitoring of schools by inspectors at local level.

Yours sincerely



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