

Expression of Interest to host the British Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy Annual Scientific Meeting 2024/2025

Host(s): Name: **Shaun McGowan**

Title: **Dr.**

Institution: **Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, Belfast, Northern Ireland**

Conference venue: **ICC Belfast Dates**
Wed 10th – Fri 12th April/ Wednesday 1st- Friday 3rd May 2024 (held 1st option)
Wed 29th- Friday 31st May 2024 (held 2nd option)

Maximum delegate capacity: **up to 576 in Plenary space** * Increased capacity available with possible sightline issues

Area available for trade stands: **1065 sq. m** with additional **500 sq. m** if needed

Meets Eucomed Code of Ethical Business Practice requirements (<http://www.ethicalmedtech.eu/>): **YES**

Hotel availability within 5 miles (>500 beds): **YES**

What would be your proposed title/theme of the ASM conference?

2024 also marks the year of the 33rd Olympiad, we therefore mirror the Olympic motto - "Citius, Altius, Fortius - Communiter" - Faster, Higher, Stronger- Together

Why should BSGE choose your proposal to host the ASM 2024/25? (Max 500 words)

It gives me great pleasure to confirm our ambition to host the British Society of Gynaecological Endoscopy annual scientific meeting 2024, in Belfast. Below I highlight some important features of the bid however have attached a detailed bid document (appendix 1) that gives further information on the location, venue, costs and options available which we believe fulfils all requirements of the society.

Our venue is a purpose built, award winning conference centre providing excellent value for money and the ability to host up to 600 delegates with ease. The ICC team have a wealth of experience delivering high level events at national/ international level, having recently held the BSCCP annual conference. The venue is centrally located near 2 airports serving Belfast with Dublin Airport only 90 minutes away, further extending route options. The venue is easily reached by road and rail giving easy options with public and private transport and ample parking. The team have specific expertise in accommodating those with mobility, hearing or visual impairments making the ICC accessible for all.

We have secured 2 event days with a prior set up day and use for pre-congress events. There are two date options in April/May held on first option with a further option in May. Floor plans are shown in appendix 2 with ample options including requirements for break-out sessions and meetings that can be tailored to the society's specific needs. A comprehensive technical package is available with options to display e-posters. To further the reach of the event we also enclose costings for a Hybrid option allowing live viewing and post-

conference viewing in person and for virtual attendees. Further details on all costs are contained in appendix 1; this includes the unique possibility of a substantial "City Support Scheme" grant from Tourism NI, likely to be worth £20-£30,000 that can be taken from the overall conference costs.

Belfast is a vibrant and diverse, yet immensely friendly place to welcome delegates. It is a safe, walkable city with all major hotels within 5-10 minutes walk of the venue, the city centre and various attractions. There are over 18000 bed spaces to suit all tastes and budgets. There is much to see and do within Belfast and the social programme promises to be one to remember for everyone involved. We suggest a Gala dinner in the Titanic Suites, themed on the interiors of the Titanic with White Star Line crockery and a sumptuous menu, other options have been included within appendix 1. Social activities could include a "meet the council" drinks reception, designed to welcome early arrivals to the city and to allow engagement with the society's officers. We also will plan to offer tours of the city on both conference days for travellers accompanying delegates, that will be designed to give informative and enjoyable insight into some non-medical highlights on offer within Belfast and beyond.

The organising committee of BSGE members is inclusive and diverse, reflecting the ethos of the entire bid for Belfast 2024 and includes a multidisciplinary team of consultants, nursing professionals and trainees from a range of subspecialties within gynaecology. We have experience and expertise in hosting comparable meetings in the past and intend to create a diverse programme with broad appeal. In keeping with our theme of "faster, higher, stronger- together", the programme will include topics to improve efficiency of working, creation and improvement of services with a focus on multidisciplinary collaboration. We wish to maintain the focus on high quality minimal access surgery but are keen to include a broader range of topics including risk management and medicolegal matters.

While there is a strong tradition and participation within the BSGE in Northern Ireland we have not yet had the honour of hosting an ASM. We believe that this is the right time to complete the tour of the nations for the society. Taking all of this experience and enthusiasm, basing the meeting in the heart of a friendly capital city and being accommodated within the spacious and highly organised ICC campus leads me to believe that we have constructed a worthy case to be awarded the privilege of hosting our society in 2024.

Yours faithfully

Dr. Shaun McGowan, MB BCH BAO, MRCOG

Consultant Gynaecologist, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust.