

**Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board**  
15<sup>th</sup> February, 2007

Date	Topic	Decision
15.2.07	<b>Minutes of meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2007</b>	Approved
	<p><b>Matters arising from Minutes</b> Two amendments made to minutes,</p> <p>A member requested that the Chairperson should be accompanied by another Board member at future meetings with the DG of the Law Society.</p> <p>Following discussion on e-mail from the Secretary of the National Counselling Helpline, the Chairperson agreed to contact DES seeking confirmation that Helpline service is agreed by the state.</p> <p>An officer of DES has sought advice from Department of Finance as to whether Board is exempt from Circular 44/2006.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>On receipt of this information, this item will be put on agenda for further discussion. Agreed.</p> <p>Noted</p>
	<p><b>Approvals</b> There were 114 proposed approvals in respect of 108 applicants.</p>	Approved
	<p><b>Appeals &amp; Queries</b> There were 3 appeals in January and 1 appeal in February. 5 queries in December. 4 queries in January. 10 reasonable expectation approvals. 6 processing queries Queries, processing queries and reasonable expectation applications for February were deferred until the next meeting.</p>	Noted
	<p><b>Advertising/Information Campaign</b> A discussion took place and various points were established.</p>	
	<p><b>IT and Communications requirements.</b> Three quotations were discussed and it was decided to get updated quotations with specific areas of service highlighted so that they would be similar in content for easy comparison by the Board.</p>	Noted
	<p><b>Staffing</b> It was agreed that the temporary Grade 3 contract should be extended for a further 3 months from 13<sup>th</sup> February until 11<sup>th</sup> May.</p>	Noted
	<p><b>Finance – Internal Control Issues</b> The Board has been notified by the C&amp;AG's office to present their accounts by 30<sup>th</sup> March 2007 and there will be an audit in June/July. The Chairperson raised various points on this issue.</p>	
	<p><b>AOB</b> At the request of the Chairperson, the Principal Officer of the Residential Institutions Redress Unit will raise the issue of who should pay members' expenses (Minister or Fund) with the Department of Finance.</p>	