

**Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board
28th March 2007**

Date	Topic	Decision
28.3.07	Minutes of meeting held on 15th February, 2007	Approved
	<p>Matters arising from Minutes Chairperson explained reason for changing date of the meeting, i.e. to facilitate approval of the draft accounts for the EFB. Chairperson informed Board that he had not been in a position to contact DG of the Law Society. Chairperson reported that he had written on 21.3.07 to RIRU asking if the DES could establish that National Counselling Helpline Service is recognised as approved state-funded support service for former residents. Chairperson informed Board that under Section 29(3) of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act 2005, in the view of the Department of Finance, travelling and subsistence expensed should be met from funds available to the Board.</p>	It was agreed that the matter be further discussed with DES
	<p>Correspondence Proposed letter from DES to Department of Finance to include the EFB under FOI. Invitation from Federation of Irish Societies re Annual Information Seminar. Agreed that a member of staff of EFB would attend and give a presentation to outreach workers on the criteria for awarding grants by the EFB. All expenses to be paid by the Federation of Irish Societies. Meeting held on 5th March to explore how EFB and NCGE could work together. Number of issues raised relevant to the review of the criteria. Further meetings will be held. Letter from Victim Support Group to Chairperson of EFB re access to the Minutes of EFB. Letter also made observations on the EFB criteria.</p>	<p>Approved.</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>National Co-ordinator of the NCGE to be invited to talk to EFB about work of NCGE.</p> <p>It was agreed to consider the matters raised at a future meeting.</p>
	<p>Advertising/Information Campaign A report was given on behalf of the Publicity Committee regarding the advertising and information campaign.</p>	Publicity Committee will report again at next meeting.
	<p>Finance Draft Accounts for EFB 17th February – 31st December 2006. Internal Control Issues – It was suggested that Board members approve the grants on a fortnightly basis. Work is continuing in relation to documenting the processes being used internally to deal with grant applications and other items of expenditure.</p>	Approved for submission to the C&AG.
	<p>Annual Report Draft Education (Former Residents of Certain Institution for Children) Finance Board Annual Report 2006 presented to the Board. This will be published on the website before 31st March. DES to receive a copy.</p>	Approved.
	<p>Approvals 144 proposed approvals in respect of 134 applicants. Appeals – March – 4 appeals</p>	Noted
	<p>Staffing Chairperson suggested that approval be sought for 3 whole-time staff plus temporary staff at certain busy times of the year.</p>	Approved.
	<p>IT and Communications Issues in relation to the service agreement of the website in motion. Updated quotations should be available for the next meeting.</p>	