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Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board
16th/17th June 2009

Date	Topic	Decision
16/17th June 09	<p>The Board was requested to defer two items on the agenda until 17th June when the Criteria for Awarding Grants by the Education Finance Board were due for review.</p> <p>The attention of the Board was drawn to the meeting of the Board on 4th June 09 which took place to consider and reflect on the Judge Ryan report. It was agreed that the meeting was an initial step towards crystallising the Board's thoughts on the Report with a view to having their particular insights and views considered in relation to education and the work of the Board once the meetings between the Former Resident Support Groups, the Religious Orders and the Government had taken place over the coming months.</p> <p>The Board was informed that had been an increase in applications sent out to new applicants subsequent to the publishing of the Report and telephone enquiries had increased.</p> <p>It was also agreed with the Board that a meeting should be arranged with the Communications Department of CDVEC in relation to media policy.</p>	Agreed
	<p>Minutes of meeting held on 30th April 2009</p> <p>The Minutes of the fifth meeting were adopted. The reports of the second, third and fourth meetings were approved for publication on the website. The amendments to the Minutes of the fourth meeting were noted and approved.</p>	
	<p>Matters arising from Minutes</p> <p>It was agreed to raise the issue of the independent status of the EFB with the Department of Education and Science.</p> <p>The Board was informed that the proposed publicity night for the Irish Deaf Women's Group, hearing impaired former residents and their relatives had been cancelled due to the unavailability of the services of an interpreter. It was suggested that the Board should have its own contacts in order that this should never happen again.</p> <p>The amendments to the Standing Orders for the Conduct of Meetings of the Education Finance Board document were noted and approved.</p>	Noted
	<p>Notification of Motions</p> <p>There were no Motions notified for this meeting.</p>	
	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Letter from Support Group requesting Minutes of the last two meetings of the EFB. The content of web posted information was considered.</p> <p>Request from Right of Place, Cork requesting meeting with the Board.</p> <p>Email received from two employees of CDVEC expressing their positive experience at the parade in solidarity with former residents of institutions on 10th June 2009.</p>	<p>It was agreed that the reports of the meetings on the website will continue to be published on the Board's website.</p> <p>It was agreed that, once the Criteria for Awarding Grants 2009 was reviewed, the Board would seek meetings with all former resident support groups and the outreach services UK as part of the publicity programme of the Board.</p> <p>Noted</p>
	<p>Introduction to the work of the Board for new members (as agreed at the meeting of 3rd March, 2009).</p> <p>Deferred until 17th June when Board will review Criteria.</p>	Agreed
	<p>Appointment of Deputy Chairman (Para. 4(1-6) of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment Act) 2005</p> <p>Deferred until 17th June 09 when Board will review Criteria.</p>	

	<p>Approvals, Appeals and Queries There were 164 approvals in respect of 151 applicants to a total value of €134,825.47. The Board also approved 1 application under reasonable expectation to a total of €850. The breakdown of the approvals is as follows: former resident 32 (19.51%); child 92 (56.10%); grandchild 31 (18.90%); spouse 08 (4.88%); stepchild 1 (0.61%); The country analysis is: Ireland 123 (75%); UK 27 (16.46%); Australia 2 (1.22%); USA 4 (2.44%); Sweden 2 (1.22%); New Zealand 5 (3.05%); Austria 1 (0.61%).</p>	
	<p>Finance The financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2008 were approved for signature. An email from the senior auditor on a presentational change was approved. It was agreed that when the Director of Audit had cleared the account for certification the Chairperson and another Board member in Dublin would sign the accounts for 2008. The quarterly accounts period ended 31st March 2009 as prepared by the Accountants were noted.</p> <p>NTMA Report: The total Fund value on 31/5/09 was €5,986,703.38. City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee (CDVEC) Financial Statement to May 2009. CDVEC requested draw-down from the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA). The invoice for the preparation of accounts for the year ended 31st December 2008 for audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General was noted and agreed. The invoice for the preparation of accounts for the month ended 31st March 2009 was noted and agreed.</p>	<p>Noted Noted Noted and agreed</p>
	<p>Annual Report 2008 The Annual Report 2008 as gaeilge was approved for uploading onto the EFB website. The quotation for the printing of 250 copies of the Annual Report 2008 was approved.</p>	
	<p>IT and Communication Requirements Following information from the National Disability Authority it was proposed that the Board consider updating the EFB's website to be Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 compliant. The Board is at present WCAG 1 compliant.</p>	<p>The Board agreed that further information be sought on this subject as the Board wished to facilitate in whatever way possible applicants to the Education Fund.</p>
	<p>Staffing The Board's contractual obligation arising from the recent government decisions in relation to the income and public sector pension levies was discussed.</p>	<p>It was decided to explore this issue with the Department of Education and Science and to report back at the next meeting of the EFB.</p>
	<p>AOB The meeting adjourned until 17th June.</p>	
17.6.09	<p>Introduction to the work of the Board for new members The Chairperson brought the members through the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act 2005 and emphasised the roles of the members within the Board and the legal obligations of being an independent statutory body within the Act.</p>	
	<p>Appointment of Deputy Chairperson Paragraph 4 (1-6) of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment Act) 2005 refers. The Board agreed that the appointment of a Deputy Chairperson would rotate between the former residents and the other members for periods of one year at a time. It was agreed that the first appointee during the term of the current Board would be a former resident. The newly elected Deputy Chairperson to the Board is Michael O'Brien PC. The Board expressed their appreciation and thanks to Brian Mooney the outgoing Deputy Chairperson for his term of office at the</p>	

	Board.	
	<p>Review of Criteria A lengthy discussion took place in relation to issues such as eligibility and entitlement, funding levels and limits and desirable priorities to be adopted.</p>	It was agreed that a sub-committee would review in detail the current Criteria, having regard to the discussion, and would report back to the Board at the next meeting.
	<p>Publicity The Board agreed that once the review of the Criteria for Awarding Grants 2009 was complete, the Board would initiate a series of meetings with former resident support groups to invite them to be partners in publicising the Criteria 2009.</p> <p>It was suggested that a business card should be designed with the Board's contact details to assist the members and former resident support groups when publicising the Education Fund.</p>	
	<p>Next meeting The next meeting was fixed for 14th July, 2009.</p>	