

Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board
24th March, 2009

Date	Topic	Decision
24.3.09	<p>Finance It was agreed to change the agenda in order to hear the presentation of the Draft Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2008 by Crowleys DFK Accountants.</p> <p>The Board was informed by Crowleys DFK that risk assessment and staff records would be among the issues which were being addressed by the Comptroller and Auditor General during this year in the audit of accounts in bodies such as the Board.</p> <p>Following discussion it was decided that the Draft Financial Statements 2008 be approved for submission to the C&AG for Audit.</p> <p>The Board also decided that a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control would be carried out in 2009.</p> <p>Crowleys DFK Accountants thanked CDVEC and the EFB office for their assistance in compiling the Draft Financial Statements 2008.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Noted</p>
	<p>Minutes of meeting held on 3rd March, 2009 The minutes of the meeting were adopted. Reports of meetings two and three were deferred until the next meeting</p>	<p>Approved</p>
	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes The Chairperson brought to the attention of the Board the need for the Board to elect a Deputy Chairperson for the new Board.</p>	<p>It was agreed that this would be included on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>
	<p>Notification of Motions The meeting considered a number of motions as follows:</p> <p>a) <i>“That the Board inform the members of how many copies of the Criteria were printed over the last three years, the cost, and how many were used?”</i> The meeting was informed that 1,500 copies of the Criteria were printed in 2007 at a cost of €1,570.</p> <p>b) <i>“That this Board at all times, when a member is making a representation on behalf of the Board, whether it be legal or otherwise, a former resident accompany them”.</i> The Board agreed that this proposal is desirable and, even if it is not always practicable, it should be considered as part of the Board's normal way of working as far as possible.</p> <p>c) <i>“That this Board start all the meetings at the time stated and conclude within two and a half hours to show consideration for the members who have travelled a long distance”.</i> It was agreed that this proposal be incorporated in the Board's standing orders and that consideration of any urgent matters which may require to be dealt with outside that specific timeframe could take place if required through the suspension of standing orders for that purpose.</p>	
	<p>Correspondence Email from Alliance Victim Support Group in relation to updating former resident documentation.</p>	<p>It was agreed to defer a decision on this issue until the review of the Criteria when documentation for eligibility to the fund would be discussed</p>
	<p>Letter from National Disability Authority including Monitoring Report of the Code of Practice re statutory obligations under the National Disability Authority Act 1999 and the Disability Act 2005.</p> <p>Department of Finance Circular 07/2008 outlining Motor Travel and Subsistence rates.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
	<p>Approvals, Appeals and Queries There were 167 approvals in respect of 160 applicants to a total value of €131,956.76. The Board also approved 5 applications under reasonable expectation to a total value of €11,602.59. The breakdown of the approvals is as follows: former resident 29 (17.37%);</p>	

	child 94 (56.28%); grandchild 34 (20.36%); spouse 8 (4.79%); stepchild 2 (1.20%). The country analysis is: Ireland 129 (77.24%); UK 32 (19.16%); Australia 2 (1.20%); USA 3 (1.80%); France 1 (0.60%). Queries, Appeals and Reasonable Expectations were processed.	
	Criteria Deferred until next meeting.	
	Finance NTMA Report: The total Fund value on 28.2.09 was €6,622,576.50. CDVEC requested draw-down from National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) Quarterly management accounts from 1 st October to 31 st December 2008 were presented to the Board from Crowleys DFK Accountants.	Noted and agreed Noted
He Com	Annual Report 2008 The draft Education (Former Residents of Certain Institutions for Children) Finance Board Annual Report 2008 was presented to the Board. The Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act 2005, Section 32:1 requires that the Annual Report be published on the website www.educationfinanceboard.com on or before 31 st March. The Department of Education and Science will lay the Annual Report 2008 before the Houses of the Oireachtas as per section 32.3 of the Act. The Chairperson drew attention to the welcome increase in applications and thanked the Board members for their commitment to the publicity campaign which had also been assisted by the efforts of a number of the support groups and which had contributed to this increase.	Approved
	IT and Communication Requirements Deferred to next meeting.	
	Staffing IT was agreed to consult with CDVEC to review the staffing and contractual obligations of the Board in the light of recent Government decisions and related developments.	Noted
	AOB The next meeting of the Board was fixed for Thursday, 30 th April 2009 at 10.45	