

**Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board
30th April, 2008**

Date	Topic	Decision
30.4.08	Minutes of Meeting held on 13th March, 2008.	Approved.
	<p>Matters arising from Minutes</p> <p>The Chairperson reported that the annual audit fieldwork from the Comptroller and Auditor General's office was under way. He has also met with the Secretary General of the Department of Education & Science (DES) who has consented to the Board using the services of the Department's professional accountant and head of internal audit who will assist the Board in reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control.</p>	Noted
	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Letter received from Alliance requesting that attendance at Board meetings be recorded in the report of each meeting that is currently on the EFB website. ➤ Letter received from Ombudsman for Children acknowledging the Board's correct procedure and that the issue will now be dealt with by the Ombudsman. ➤ Letter received from Support Group, Right of Place, Cork outlining the areas in Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Galway, Waterford and Wexford where publicity material has been placed in a voluntary capacity. 	<p>Advice to be sought from DES to establish what obligations, if any, apply in relation to DES or any related Boards or agencies. In the case of such matters further consideration will then be given by the Board to Alliance's request.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>The Chairperson acknowledged the hospitality received by the Board in Cork and the overall positive response to the Fund from support groups throughout the country.</p>
	<p>Annual Report 2007</p> <p>Board members were requested to write the Irish version of their names so that the translation of the Annual Report into Irish could be completed for inclusion on the website. 250 copies of the Report will be made for statutory and publicity purposes.</p>	Noted
	<p>Approvals, Appeals and Queries</p> <p>There were 162 approvals in respect of 154 applicants to a total value of €159,692.44. The Board also approved 1 application under reasonable expectation to the value of €4,600. The breakdown of the approvals is as follows: former resident 40 (24.69%); child 94 (58.02%); grandchild 18 (11.11%); spouse 9 (5.56%); stepchild 1 (0.62%). The country analysis is: Ireland 131 (80.86%); UK 23 (14.20%); USA 6 (3.70%); Australia 1 (0.62%); Sweden 1 (0.62%).</p> <p>The next approval meeting : 15th May, 2008.</p> <p>Queries, Appeals and Reasonable Expectations were processed.</p>	
	<p>Criteria</p> <p>The issue of duration of residency was raised due to a number of queries arising from applications to the EFB.</p>	<p>It was agreed that the period of residency would no longer be applicable for applicants who were resident in industrial schools. However, in the case of hospitals as listed in the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 as amended by the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act 2005 these would be decided on a case by case basis.</p>
	<p>Advertising/Information Campaign</p> <p>The publicity group reported that they had met with the Alliance group and the Justice and Healing for the Institutionally Abused group in Dublin on 15th April and the Right of Place group in Cork on the 18th April. SOCA UK declined to meet the Board but indicated that they would help to publicise the Fund. Irish Survivors of Institutional Abuse International also declined to meet the Board. There will be a meeting with Irish SOCA on 15th May and it is hoped to have a meeting with the Outreach Services in London before the next Board meeting. A report will then be available on all the meetings that have taken place.</p>	

	The Board thanked Brian Mooney for publicity inputs on the Pat Kenny Show on 14 th April and with Matt Cooper on Today FM on the 16 th April. As a result of these information slots there were 74 telephone calls and 48 information packs were sent out.	
	Finance NTMA Report: The total fund value on 31/3/08 was €8,631,905.49. CDVEC Financial Statement of EFB to February 2008. CDVEC requested drawdown from NTMA. The Quarterly Management Accounts for the months ended 31 st March 2008 from Crowleys DFK was presented to the Board.	Noted. Noted Noted and agreed. Noted.
	IT and Communication Requirements A statement letter for the former resident was agreed. As part of the data protection strategy of the EFB it was agreed that all documentation would be shredded on site. It was agreed to use the current firm under CDVEC procurement contract to meet the Board's needs.	Noted and agreed.
	Staffing The full complement of staff is now complete and the backlog of applications has been dealt with.	Noted.
	Next meeting of EFB tentatively agreed for 11th June, 2008.	