

**Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board
19th May 2011**

Date	Topic	Decision
19.5.11	<p>Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 14th April 2011 were adopted.</p> <p>The minutes of the Audit Committee held on 10th March 2011 were circulated at the meeting and were noted.</p>	<p>Adopted</p> <p>Noted</p>
	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes The Board was informed of a change of personnel (Principal Officer) in the Residential Institutions Redress Unit of the Department of Education and Skills.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
	<p>Notification of Motions No Notices of Motions were received for this meeting.</p>	
	<p>Correspondence Letter from the Director of the Aislinn Education and Support Centre to the Board requesting a meeting to discuss the backlog of applications and the delays in processing same. The Board was informed that the Director of the Centre had subsequently agreed to postpone such a meeting until the publicity arrangements had been made for all the former resident support groups.</p> <p>Letter on behalf of former resident from the Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence regarding the delay in the processing of applications for the Fund. The Chairperson informed the Board that, whilst he was unable to comment on a particular case as per paragraph 32(5) of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act 2005 which precluded the disclosure of any information regarding any applicant to the Fund, he would reply to the Minister's letter in a general response outlining the pattern of the increase in applications since mid-July 2008 and following the publication of the Ryan Report in May 2009.</p> <p>Email from John Kelly, Irish SOCA, stating that, although he was prepared to come to the meeting with members of the Board that afternoon, he agreed to make a new date for the meeting due to the traffic restrictions in place for the Queen's visit.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>It was agreed that the Chairperson would reply to the Minister and the letter would be emailed to members as soon as it became available.</p> <p>Noted and it was agreed that the Secretary/Manager would contact Mr. Kelly with a view to re-arranging the meeting.</p>
	<p>Approvals, Appeals and Queries There were 149 approvals in respect of 137 applicants to a total value of €146,901.74. The breakdown of the approvals is as follows: former resident 40 (26.85%); child 74 (49.67%); grandchild 29 (19.46%); spouse 4 (2.68%); stepchild 2 (1.34%). The country analysis is: Ireland 135 (90.61%); UK 13 (8.72%); Malta 1 (0.67%).</p>	
	<p>Criteria Following discussion regarding the date and agenda for the meeting to review the Criteria for Awarding Grants 2010 it was agreed that a review of the commitments would be necessary. The Board was informed that the commitments as at the end of April may be available for the July meeting, but not before. The approval of the 2011 Criteria may have to reflect the decreasing amount in the Fund, which may result in limiting applications.</p> <p>It was agreed that, in the light of these issues, contact would be made</p>	

	with the Assistant Secretary General of the DES with a view to making arrangements for a meeting with the Board or representatives of the Board to consider the most appropriate strategies for the future.	
	Publicity A discussion took place regarding the difficulties experienced by members in relation to the backlog of applications.	It was agreed to discuss this matter further at the June meeting.
	Finance The Quarterly Management Accounts for the period ended 31 st March 2011 were presented to the Board and, after a report from the Chairperson of the Audit Committee, it was agreed that the accounts were a true reflection of the work of the Board. NTMA Report: The total Fund value at 30/4/11 is €2,739,102.97 There was a request for a draw-down from the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) to CDVEC. City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee (CDVEC) Financial Statement to April 2011.	Noted and agreed Noted.
	IT and Communications Requirements There was no business for this item.	
	AOB There was no business for this item.	
	Next Meeting The date of the next meeting was agreed as Thursday 9th June at 13.30 pm.	