

**Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board  
11<sup>th</sup> February, 2009**

Date	Topic	Decision
11.2.09	<p><b>Minutes of meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009</b>            The Minutes of the meeting were adopted subject to a number of amendments approved at the meeting.            The reports for the website of the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> meetings were considered and approved for uploading to the website.            The report of the first meeting 2009 will be considered at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>
	<p><b>Matters arising from the minutes</b>            The attention of the Board was drawn to the issue of the motion put forward asking the Board to re-examine the Criteria for Awarding Grants by the EFB, September 2008. Schedule 6: Schedule of Grants towards tuition fees, related charges and educational assistance.</p> <p>The Standing Orders Committee presented the final Standing Orders document to the Board.</p> <p>A letter of response by the Chairperson to Alliance – Munster support Group.</p>	<p>Following discussion it was agreed that the full contents of a member's presentation to the Board would be included as an appendix to the minutes of the first meeting.</p> <p>The Board thanked the committee for its work in the preparation of the document.</p>
	<p><b>Correspondence</b>            Letter of notification of Audit of Financial Statements – 2008 received from the Comptroller and Auditor General's Office.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
	<p><b>Approvals, Appeals and Queries</b>            There were 186 approvals in respect of 180 applicants to a total value of €171,790.71. The Board processed no applications under reasonable expectation for this meeting. The breakdown of the approvals is as follows: former resident 41 (22.78%); child 118 (65.55%); grandchild 16 (8.89%); spouse 5 (2.78%); stepchild 0 (0.0%) Due to the continuing work on the database the countries of applicants were not available for the Minutes.            Queries and Appeals were processed.</p>	
	<p><b>Criteria 2008</b>  <b>Advertising/Information Campaign</b>            Information on the hearing impaired publication DEAFHEAR Matters was presented to the Board and it was suggested that the Board consider publicising the EFB within it.</p> <p>The Board's attention was also brought to the availability of free newspapers throughout the country and the use of local radio in the publicising of the Board.</p>	<p>Noted and agreed.</p> <p>The Board agreed to refer the issue of publicising its activities for positive consideration by the incoming Board to be established on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.</p>
	<p><b>Finance</b>  <b>NTMA Report:</b> The total Fund on 31.01.09 was €6,866,166.87            No CDVEC statement was available for the meeting.            There was no request for a drawdown from the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA)</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
	<p><b>IT and Communication Requirements</b>            Work is continuing on preparing the commitments report for the Financial Statements for the year ended 2008.</p>	
	<p><b>Staffing</b>            The Board agreed to monitor the staffing arrangements within the office on an ongoing basis.</p>	
	<p><b>AOB</b>            The Board expressed its thanks to all staff members for their hard work in the service of the Board over the last three years. Thanks were also expressed to the</p>	

	<p>Chairperson for his dedication and empathy and these sentiments were endorsed by other members of the Board. The Chairperson responded to these good wishes and expressed a wish that the incoming Board would give urgent consideration to the Criteria.</p>	
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