

**Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board
14th April, 2011**

Date	Topic	Decision
14.4.11	<p>Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2011 were adopted.</p>	Adopted
	<p>Matters arising from Minutes There was no business for this item.</p>	
	<p>Notification of Motions Following a discussion on a motion submitted by a Board member requesting an amendment to the Criteria on applicants' financial entitlements going forward it was decided to withdraw the motion.</p>	Motion withdrawn.
	<p>Correspondence Letter from CDVEC re the secondment of the Secretary/Manager for the year 2011/2012.</p> <p>Email from Department of Education and Skills (DES) informing of the Parliamentary Question regarding the delay in various educational establishments receiving payment from the EFB and their response stating that there had been a significant increase in applications which had given rise to an inevitable delay in clearing payments to applicants to the Board.</p> <p>The Chairperson informed the Board that he had drafted a comprehensive response for the DES giving statistics outlining the pattern of the increase in applications since the publication of the Ryan Report in May 2009.</p> <p>Letter to Chairperson from former resident regarding funding.</p>	<p>The Board noted the document and it was agreed that further discussion would take place under staffing.</p> <p>Noted</p>
	<p>Approvals, Appeals and Queries There were 179 approvals in respect of 172 applicants to a total value of €179,367.94. The breakdown of the approvals is as follows: former resident 25 (13.97%); child 100 (55.87%); grandchild 44 (24.58%); spouse 8 (4.46%); Stepchild 2 (1.12%). The country analysis is: Ireland 153 (85.47%); UK 26 (14.53%).</p>	
	<p>Criteria It was recommended that a Review of the Criteria for Awarding Grants 2010 should take place once more in June. The members were also informed that a review of the commitments would be necessary given the present application rate to the fund and whether this would inform discussion on the Criteria for Awarding Grants.</p>	Noted
	<p>Publicity It was agreed that a timetable would be drawn up for a meeting with Former Resident Support Groups for an exchange of views at the next meeting.</p>	Agreed
	<p>Finance A copy of the final draft Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2010 was presented to the Board as had been sent to the Comptroller and Auditor General on 31st March, 2011.</p> <p>The Management Accounts for the period ended 31st December 2010</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

	<p>were presented to the Board, although these are now superseded by the Financial Statements for the year ended 2010.</p> <p>NTMA Report: The total Fund value at 31/3/11 is €2,936,755.11</p> <p>There was a request for a draw-down from the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) to CDVEC.</p> <p>City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee (CDVEC) Financial Statement to March 2011.</p> <p>Invoice from Accountants to the Board for preparation of draft Financial Statement for the year ended 2010 and attendance of Director at Finance Committee meeting.</p>	<p>Noted and agreed</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted and agreed</p>
	<p>IT and Communication Requirements</p> <p>The Board was informed that the server was being updated and a system board would need to be replaced.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
	<p>Staffing</p> <p>The Board was informed that a total of 613 applications had been received in a six month period from mid-July 2008. However, following the publication of the Ryan Report in May 2009 this had increased to 979 and 1275 applications for the corresponding six-month periods from mid-July 2009 and 2010 – an increase of 58% and 108% respectively on the 2008 position. At the same time the Board was operating on a lower level of staff resources, both in numbers and expenditure. These factors had given rise to the backlog in the processing of applications to the Board. The Board was advised that, following consultation with the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Audit Committee, it was decided to proceed on an urgent basis with the recruitment of some limited additional staffing and to arrange for paid overtime (in accordance with agreed processes and procedures) by the existing staff in an effort to clear the backlog.</p>	<p>The Board agreed with this approach.</p>
	<p>AOB</p> <p>There was no business for this item.</p>	
	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The date of the next meeting was agreed as Thursday, 19th May, 2011 at 13.30 p.m.</p>	