

**Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board
14th July, 2009**

Date	Topic	Decision
14 th July 09	Minutes of meeting held on 16/17th June 2009 The minutes of the sixth meeting were adopted.	Approved
	Matters arising from Minutes A discussion took place on the Dail member's remarks regarding the EFB during the Dail debate (8 th July) on the Labour Party's Private Members' Institutional Abuse Bill. The speech was also reported in the Irish Times on 9 th July, 2009.	It was decided to draft a letter to the Minister for Education and Science requesting that he set the record straight regarding the EFB whenever an opportunity arises within the procedures of Dail Eireann Noted
	Notification of Motions No Motions were notified for the meeting.	
	Correspondence Letter from Ombudsman's office stating that she has completed her examination of the complaint received by her office and she accordingly regards the case as closed. Letter from Standards in Public Office Commission notifying the Board of its Annual Report 2008.	Noted
	Approvals, Appeals and Queries There were 121 approvals in respect of 114 applicants to a total value of €137,723.49. The Board also approved 1 application under reasonable expectation to a total of €1,915.70. The breakdown of the approvals is as follows: former resident 34 (28.10%); child 54 (44.63%); grandchild 31 (25.62%); spouse 2 (1.65%). The country analysis is: Ireland 96 (79.34%); UK 17 (14.05%); Australia 1 (0.83%) USA 4 (3.30%); Canada 2 (1.65%); Jersey 1 (0.83%).	
	Criteria The Criteria for awarding grants by the Education Finance Board 2009 was adopted by the Board with some minor amendments to improve the presentation and clarity of the Criteria for former residents and their eligible relatives.	
	Publicity It was agreed on foot of the Criteria being approved that partnership with former resident support groups who have assisted the Board in the past four years was a major step in publicising the Criteria.	The Board agreed to put in process a series of meetings with the former resident support groups to seek their continuing help in generating an every higher volume of applications for 2009/2010.
	Finance The signed Financial Statements and the Letter of Representation for the year ended 31 st December 2008 were presented to the Board. NTMA Report: The total Fund value on 31/6/09 was €5,990,148.68. City of Dublin VEC Financial Statement to May 2009. The Chairperson informed the Board that he was waiting for written notification from the Principal Officer, Redress Unit, noting that a signature from the Department of Education & Science was no longer a legal requirement on the draw-down from the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) from the Redress Unit to CDVEC.	Noted Noted Noted
	IT and Communication Requirements Further details on the updating of the EFB's website to be Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 compliant is in process and a break-down of what is required will be available for the next meeting.	
	Staffing The Board was informed that the Chairperson had been in touch with DES requesting a meeting with a DES official in legal services to explore some of the issues in relation to staff contracts.	
	AOB Tentative dates of 25 th , 26 th and 27 th August were proposed for the next meeting.	