

**Annual Report of
The Residential
Institutions
Redress Board
2005**

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FOREWORD

This Report is submitted to the Minister for Education and Science pursuant to Section 26(1) of Residential Institutions Redress, Act 2002.

The final date for receipt of applications has now passed and the Board has received a total of 14,541* applications; 9,432 of which were received in 2005. The Board sat throughout the year and completed the process in 2,208 cases in 2005 making a total of 4,625 since it was established. Completions have now increased to more than 180 per month, up from 150 in 2004.

The strength of the Board has been increased from 4 to 12 since Establishment Day with the final appointee commencing duty in February 2006.

The Board would like to pay a special tribute to Dr. John Mason who served as a member of the Board from the 23rd of September 2003 until his untimely death on the 10th of September 2005. His experience, sound judgement and consideration for others is sadly missed by all his colleagues at the Board.

The Board owes an immense debt to its dedicated staff who perform a difficult task under the leadership of Mr Michael O'Beirne in the highest traditions of the public service.

The Board is fortunate to have an outstanding legal team under the leadership of its two full-time lawyers Mr John McDonagh SC and Ms Sharon Moohan Solicitor.

**This figure differs from that published in the Board's newsletter of 16th December 2005. In some cases it was found that applicants had given preliminary instructions to solicitors and later made personal applications or instructed new solicitors. As the closing date was quite inflexible some applicants had duplicate applications lodged on their behalf by both firms.*

The Board has enjoyed a good relationship with the appropriate section of the Department of Education and Science and notes that the independence of the Board continues to be respected and reflected in any necessary contact.

The Board remains mindful that individual applicants and their legal advisers continue to assist greatly in the finalisation and processing of the applications and that those who represent any institutions which are the subject of applications (referred to in the Act as Relevant Persons) continue to assist in what is for them a difficult task.

The Board's Mission

The Residential Institutions Redress Board was established under the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 to make financial awards to assist in the recovery of certain persons who as children were abused while resident in certain institutions in the State and who have or have had injuries that are consistent with that abuse.

Membership & Functions of the Board

The Redress Board, which was established on 16th December 2002 under the provisions of section 3 of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (The Act), consists of a Chairman and 11 ordinary members appointed by the Minister for Education & Science. These are:

The Honourable Mr. Justice Sean O'Leary (Chairman)	appointed 16 th December 2002
Professor Desmond Greer	appointed 16 th December 2002
Dr. Helen Cummiskey	appointed 16 th December 2002
Dr. Ruth Pilkington	appointed 16 th December 2002
Ms. Ann O'Brien B.L.	appointed 23 rd May 2003
Dr. Mary Bluett	appointed 25 th September 2003
Ms. Dariona Conlon, Solicitor	appointed 8 th January 2004
Dr. Fionnuala O'Loughlin	appointed 27 th April 2004
Mr. John A. Campbell, Solicitor	appointed 27 th April 2004
Dr. Harry Bugler	appointed 15 th December 2004
Ms. Samantha Cruess Callaghan B.L.	appointed 20 th October 2005
Dr. William Delaney	appointed 27 th February 2006

Dr. John Mason was a member of the Board from his appointment on 23rd September 2003 until his untimely death on 10th September 2005.

Since Establishment Day the number of Board members has increased from 4 to 12. The Minister for Education and Science has extended the appointment of all Board members to the end of 2007.

As provided in the Act, the Board and its members are wholly independent in the performance of their duties.

As provided under Section 5 of the Act, the Board has two main functions. The first is to make all reasonable efforts, through public advertisement, direct correspondence and otherwise, to ensure that persons who were residents of an institution listed in the Act are made aware of the existence of the Board, so that they may consider making an application for redress.

It is then the Board's function in relation to each case in which an application is made to determine whether the applicant is entitled to an award, and, if so, to make an award in accordance with the Act which is fair and reasonable having regard to the unique circumstances of the applicant.

In the performance of these functions, the members of the Board are assisted by –

- (a) 30 administrative staff of the Board.
- (b) 1 full time and 3 part-time Counsel.
- (c) 1 full time solicitor to the Board.
- (d) the Board's panel of medical advisers.

The Work of the Board

In accordance with its remit under section 5 (b) of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 to “make all reasonable efforts, through public advertisement, direct correspondence with persons who were residents of an institution and otherwise, to ensure that persons who were residents of an institution are made aware of the function.....of the Board” an extensive advertising campaign has been undertaken by the Board.

Advertisements have been placed in all the national broadsheet and tabloid newspapers as well as the main provincial newspapers. Advertisements have also been placed on RTE 1 television, Network 2, Sky 1, Sky News, TV3 and TG 4. The Board has also placed advertisements on all national and major local radio stations. The Board held 12 information days throughout England in 2004 as well as placing advertisements in Sunday newspapers, daily newspapers and publications aimed specifically at the Irish community. The Board also distributed 7,500 leaflets and 7,500 pamphlets to the network of Irish Societies. The Board has placed advertisements in all Irish daily newspapers and selected papers in the U.K. highlighting each Ministerial Order which added institutions to the schedule to the Redress Act. In November 2005 the Board placed advertisements which highlighted the closing date for receipt of applications in the main Irish newspapers, selected United Kingdom publications and Irish publications in the U.S.A. and Australia. In total the Board has placed 1,492 advertisements since it was established.

In addition the Department of Foreign Affairs, at the request of the Board, sent information on the role and functions of the Board, as well as highlighting the closing date for receipt of applications, to its embassies asking them to forward this information to all relevant Irish bodies with whom they have contact.

This campaign, the Board's newsletters, annual reports and subsequent media reports have ensured that the Board retains a high public profile. In addition the various controversies involving the Board have further raised the profile of the process, as has the frequency with which the Board is mentioned on talk and news programmes on both radio and television as well as in the

Oireachtas. The Board is also aware that there was extensive advertising by third parties here in Ireland as well as abroad which served to inform people of its existence. This advertising was predominantly in the print media.

The Board's web-site (www.rirb.ie) has been in operation for three years and is used as the conduit for newsletters and statements. The site contains all relevant information on the work of the Board such as the Act of 2002, the Regulations, the guides to the scheme and more. The web-site continues to receive thousands of visits per month.

The procedure followed by the Board for the processing of applications is largely prescribed by the Act and by Regulations made by the Minister for Education and Science in accordance with the Act. These Regulations and the Act are available from the Board's office free of charge or may be viewed on the Board's website. Part 4 of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act, 2005 amended the Act in a number of ways which affected the practice and procedure of the Board with immediate effect. These amendments may be summarised as follows:

- A new provision was made to cover the case where an award is made by the Board but the applicant dies before deciding whether to accept or reject the award or to submit it to the Review Committee.
- The Board was given a discretion to request a report from its own medical advisers; previously, such a report was required in every case.
- An applicant who submitted an award for review by the Review Committee is now allowed to withdraw from the review process provided that he or she does so within two weeks from the date of the submission to the Review Committee.
- In cases where the Board directed that an award is not paid to an applicant in a single lump sum but in instalments or in some other manner, the applicant's right to have the

direction reviewed by the Review Committee must now be exercised within one month from the date on which the Board's direction was given.

- More generally, in all cases where the Board made a direction that an award is paid by instalments or in some manner other than by way of a single payment, the Board may now pay the appropriate sum into the High Court where it will be administered by the Accountant's Office.
- Any person, whether or not an applicant for redress, who gives false evidence to the Board may be found guilty of a criminal offence and fined and/or imprisoned.
- The Act of 2002 has been amended to make it clearer that an applicant may decide not to give oral evidence at a Board hearing - though the Board may still request him or her to do so.
- It is now provided that where a person has died since 11 May 1999, the Board may (instead of "shall") rely on the oral evidence of that person's spouse or children and on medical reports submitted on behalf of the deceased person.
- The Act of 2002 generally prohibits the disclosure to other persons of documents or other information used in connection with an application to the Board. An exception has now been made to this prohibition which will, for example, permit the Board to provide the Incorporated Law Society of Ireland with appropriate documents or information in connection with the hearing of complaints by the Society. The Law Society has announced that it has commenced an investigation into complaints against some of its members. The Board has supplied the Law Society with all information requested in accordance with the Act of 2005.

- Five institutions were referred to twice in the Schedule to the 2002 Act; the list has now been tidied up by the removal of the duplicate references, but no institution has been removed from the list of Scheduled Institutions.

Applications for Redress are submitted on a standard application form and in order to facilitate applicants the Board has issued the following publications:

- "A Guide to the Redress Scheme under the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 ". A fully updated and revised third edition of the Guide, which incorporates changes necessitated by the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act 2005, was issued by the Board in December 2005.
- "A Short Guide to the Redress Scheme under the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002".
- "The Residential Institutions Redress Board Guide to Hearing Procedures".
- Newsletters and statements (in order to keep applicants and their legal advisers updated on procedures and developments). The 2005 newsletters and statements are attached as appendices (e) to (j) and may be viewed on the Board's website www.rirb.ie.
- A Board Decision on its procedures for dealing with applications from outside Ireland.

These publications may be viewed on the Board's website and are also available from the Board's office free of charge.

Number of Applications

The closing date for receipt of applications was the 15th of December 2005. The Board received 9,432 applications in 2005 and has now received a total of 14,541 applications making an average of approximately 400 applications per month.

Processing of Applications

A question which is asked regularly is: "How long will it take to process my application?" Regrettably there is no simple answer to this. The Board notifies applicants once it has received all necessary documentation in relation to their case. These notifications, known as completion letters, issue at a rate commensurate with the Board's ability to finalise applications. These letters do not always issue immediately after the Board has complied with its obligations in relation to the notification of relevant persons as outlined in the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2002. At the time of writing it can take up to 6 months for a case to be scheduled once the Board has issued a completion letter to the applicant or his/her solicitor indicating that the application is ready to proceed to hearing or settlement. This timeframe does not apply to those entitled to priority on grounds of age or medical condition.

The Board is conscious that, given the disproportionately large number of applications lodged immediately before the statutory deadline of December 15th 2005, (3,700 applications were lodged in the first two weeks of December 2005 compared with 109 for the same period in 2004) there will be a considerable time lapse before these applications can be finalised. In response to this the Board will seek approval from the Minister for Education and Science for an amendment to its settlement procedures which will permit the Board, in appropriate cases, to make written offers. This approval will not be sought until the backlog of applications, arising from the above mentioned deadline, are registered on the Board's case management system. This process will be completed by mid 2006.

Number and Amounts of Awards

The Board commenced making awards in May 2003 and by 31st December 2005 had completed the process in 4625 cases as detailed below:

- 3385 offers/awards made following settlement.
- 977 awards made following hearings (5 awards rejected by applicant).
- 112 awards following Review.
- 151 applications withdrawn, refused or resulted in a nil or no award

The average value of awards to 31st December 2005 is approximately €76,000, the largest award being €300,000 and the lowest €0.00.

The average award following a hearing by the Board is €73,350.

The average award following settlement is €76,300.

The average award following a failed settlement which went to hearing is €75,420.

Financial Management of Awards

In accordance with Section 21 of the Residential Institutions Redress Act, 2002, the Board has established a free, confidential and independent financial management service which is available to all award recipients. Its purpose is to give advice which is general in nature, covering the options open to award recipients, but not directing them to named financial institutions or brokers.

The Board has appointed an existing body called MABS (Money Advice and Budgeting Service) to operate the service. The MABS are locally-based independent information and advice providers operating as limited companies. The MABS service has been in operation since 1992 and more

details about it are available on its website: www.mabs.ie. The Redress Board scheme is separate from MABS usual advice services. The Board provides contact details for MABS to all applicants who accept their award.

Payment of Awards by Instalment

Section 13 (8) of the Redress Act provides that, in certain circumstances, awards may be paid to applicants in instalments. The Board was of the view that this could best be done through the Courts Service which has considerable expertise in this area. The Courts Service has agreed to provide this service and the necessary arrangements have now been put in place in accordance with the provisions of section 34 (e) (iv) of the Commission to Enquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act 2005. These arrangements can be summarised as follows:

Where the Board has made a direction that an award be paid in instalments or in some other manner than by way of a single payment, the Board will direct the Department of Education and Science to make the initial payment to the applicant and then lodge the balance of the award in the High Court, where it will be dealt with by the Accountant's Office. Once this has been done, the Board will have no further responsibility for the award.

The address of this office is The Accountant's Office, Courts Service, Phoenix House, Phoenix Street North, Dublin 7. The Accountant's Office will administer the award for the benefit of the applicant in accordance with the original direction of the Board and with rules of court.

Where an award has been paid into the Accountant's Office, an applicant may at any time apply to the High Court to vary the terms of the original direction by the Board on which the funds are administered, and the Court may do so if it considers it appropriate having regard to the circumstances of the applicant at that time. Applicants should apply in writing to the Principal Registrar, High Court, Four Courts, Inns Quay, Dublin 7 stating the reason they are seeking a variation of the terms of the award. These applications will be heard by a judge of the High Court on the next available Monday. The Court will inform applicants of the date and time of the hearings.

In accordance with rules of court, interest will be paid on any sum which is being administered by the High Court.

Fraudulent Claims

Section 7 (6) of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002, as amended, provides: “A person who gives false evidence to the Board or the Review Committee in such circumstances that, if the person had given the evidence before a court, the person would be guilty of perjury, the person shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction on indictment to the penalties applying to perjury”.

Section 28 (5) of the Act provides inter alia: “a person shall disclose information other than the information specified in *subsection (4)* that is provided to the Board or the Review Committee and obtained by that person in the course of the performance of the functions of the person under this Act to

(a) a member of the Garda Síochána if the person is acting in good faith and reasonably believes that such disclosure is necessary in order to prevent an act or omission constituting a serious offence”.....

Of the 4,625 cases completed, 1 has been referred to the Garda Síochána under this section of the Act. An investigation has been concluded in this matter and the Board has been informed that no criminal prosecution is to be pursued.

Additional Institutions

By order entitled the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Additional Institutions) Order 2005 dated July 1st 2005 the Minister for Education and Science has amended the Schedule to the 2002 Redress Act by adding the following institutions:

Mary Immaculate School for the Deaf, Beechpark, Co. Dublin.

“The Boys Home” Grand Canal Street, Dublin 2.

“Racefield”, Upper Mountown Road, Dun Laoghaire.

The Board placed advertisements in all the major Irish daily and Sunday newspapers as well as a selection of United Kingdom newspapers advising potential applicants that the institutions listed above had been added to the schedule to the 2002 Redress Act. The Board also published this information on its website on the 28th of July 2005.

Legal Costs

The issue of costs relating to an application to the Board is dealt with in section 27 (1) of the Residential Institutions Redress Act, 2002 which provides that the Board will pay to an applicant, to whom an award has been made, either by the Board or on Review, a reasonable amount for expenses incurred by the applicant in the preparation and presentation of the application to the Board. This section further provides that the said expenses/costs should be agreed between the Board and the applicant (or the applicant's solicitors or other representative); however, if the costs cannot be agreed between the Board and the applicant, then the costs will be taxed before a Taxing Master of the High Court. Once the costs have been referred to the Taxing Master, submissions will be made to the Taxing Master on behalf of the Board and the applicant and the Taxing Master will ultimately decide what costs will be paid by the Board to the applicant and/or his or her solicitors/representatives. It should be noted that the costs will not be paid until an application has been finally determined and an award has been made.

In addition to the costs relating to an application to the Board it should also be noted that Section 27 (2) of the Act provides that the Board shall also pay to an applicant who accepts an award, the costs of any associated Court proceedings which were instituted by that applicant against a public body or a person who has made a contribution to the special account established under Section 23 of the Act, provided the applicant has signed the necessary Form of Waiver in respect of these proceedings. The Form of Waiver is, quite simply, written confirmation by the applicant that he/she will not pursue any right of action which the applicant may have against a public body or a person who has made a contribution to the fund or in a case where proceedings have already issued (which is the situation in a large number of the applications), the applicant is agreeing not to go ahead with those proceedings.

As in the case of an application to the Board, the applicant costs of the Court Proceedings should be agreed between the Board and the applicant (or the applicant's solicitors or other representative); however, if the costs cannot be agreed between the Board and the applicant, then the costs will be taxed before a Taxing Master of the High Court. Once the costs have been

referred to the Taxing Master, submissions will be made to the Taxing Master on behalf of the Board and the applicant and the Taxing Master will ultimately decide what costs will be paid by the Board to the applicant and/or his or her solicitors/representatives.

The Board's position in relation to costs is outlined below in a letter received from Mr. Peter Fitzpatrick, Legal Costs Accountant, who was retained by the Board to advise on costs matters and to represent the Board at hearings before the Taxing Master of the High Court.

"There is no Cost precedent for this type of Application. In some cases the Solicitors have been involved in three sets of action. Firstly the Civil Proceedings, secondly bringing an Application to the Residential Institutions Redress Board, and thirdly, bringing an Application to the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse.

In other cases the Solicitors are involved only in the Civil Proceedings and the Application to the Residential Institutions Redress Board. Lastly, there are cases where Solicitors are involved in an Application to the Redress Board only. Each of these circumstances gives rise to its own Costs problems.

Where Proceedings issued these are at different stages. Some have reached the Plenary Summons stage only. Some have reached the stage where Proceedings are closed and Discovery was being dealt with. While some of the Applications to the Residential Institutions Redress Board are reasonably straight forward, others are difficult and complex.

Where possible the Board has settled the Costs and I am satisfied great care has been taken to ensure that these are kept to a reasonable amount.

Where the Board considered Costs excessive, my firm has been consulted and if necessary these have been taxed by the Taxing Master of the High Court. Indeed, where the Board considered the allowances made by the Taxing Master to be excessive, Objections were lodged pursuant to Order 99, Rule 38 of the Rules of the Superior Courts.

The final step is asking the High Court to review some of the allowances made by the Taxing Master and a number of such Applications are at present waiting Hearing before the High Court.

The Board is continuing with this business of assessing awards to Claimants and dealing with their Solicitors Costs. The Board only agree Costs and expenses when they are considered reasonable, those considered unreasonable are being referred for Taxation to the Taxing Master of the High Court but were appropriate to the High Court itself."

To date costs have been finalised in 2,710 applications. €32,237,696.59 has been paid in respect of applications to the Board. In accordance with section 27 (2) of the Act, which provides that the Board shall also pay to an applicant who accepts an award the costs of any associated Court proceedings, €5,227,187.42 has been paid. This makes a total of €37,464,884.01.

Legal Costs			
	To end 2004	2005	Total
<i>Finalised Applications</i>	677	2033	2710
<i>Costs of Applications to the Board</i>	€7,442,792.34	€24,794,904.25	€32,237,696.59
<i>Costs of Associated Court Proceedings</i>	€1,402,275.16	€3,824,912.26	€5,227,187.42
<i>Total Costs</i>	€8,845,067.50	€28,619,816.51	€37,464,884.01

The average costs and expenses paid to applicants' solicitors in respect of applications to the Board amount to €11,895 per application, or 15.65% of the award.

The figures shown above to the end of 2004 differ somewhat from those published in the 2004 annual report. This is mainly due to a number of additional payments being made in 2005 to solicitors who had lodged incomplete bills in 2004

Audit

During the year, the Board invited the Comptroller and Auditor General to conduct an audit and report to the Board on whether

- The processing and payment of awards and associated legal costs are duly effected on foot of determinations by the Board.
- The associated administrative systems, procedures and practices of the Board are adequate and applied in practice.

This audit was carried out in February and March 2006 and the Comptroller's certificate of satisfaction is attached in appendix (k).

Publications

The following publications have been issued by the Board.

- A Guide to the Redress Scheme under the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002
(Revised and updated in December 2005)
- A Short Guide to the Redress Scheme under the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002
- The Residential Institutions Redress Board Guide to Hearing Procedures.
- 12 newsletters. The newsletters issued in 2005 are attached as appendices (e), (f), (h) and (j) and can also be viewed on the Board's website www.rirb.ie.
- A Board Decision on procedures for dealing with applications from outside Ireland.

These publications may be viewed on the Board's website and are also available from the Board's office free of charge.

These publications are provided as an aid to applicants and their legal advisers who wish to know what is involved in making an application to the Board. They let the applicants know in some detail

what is involved in the process and what options are available to them. They explain the difference between settlements and hearings and inform applicants of what to expect when they arrive at the Board's offices. Along with the Board's newsletters they provide information on such issues as costs and expenses as well as answering a range of questions applicants may have about such matters as: "What happens at a hearing?", or "Must I make up my mind immediately whether to accept or reject an offer?". Every effort has been made to use plain English in these publications so that they will benefit the personal applicant and solicitor alike.

Statistics*

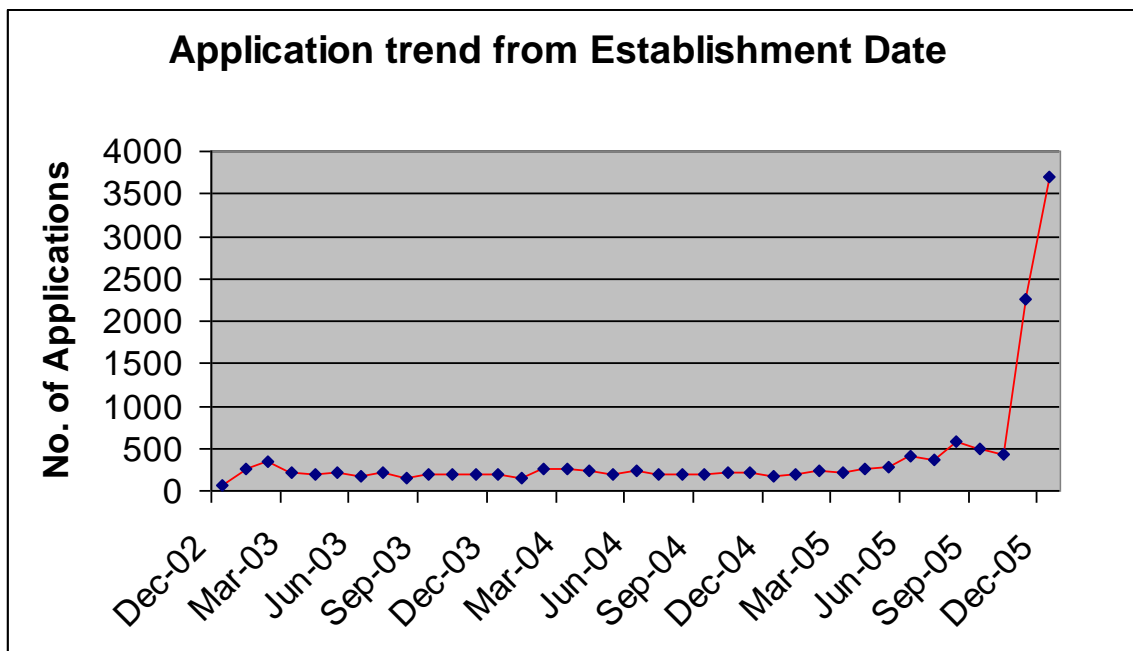
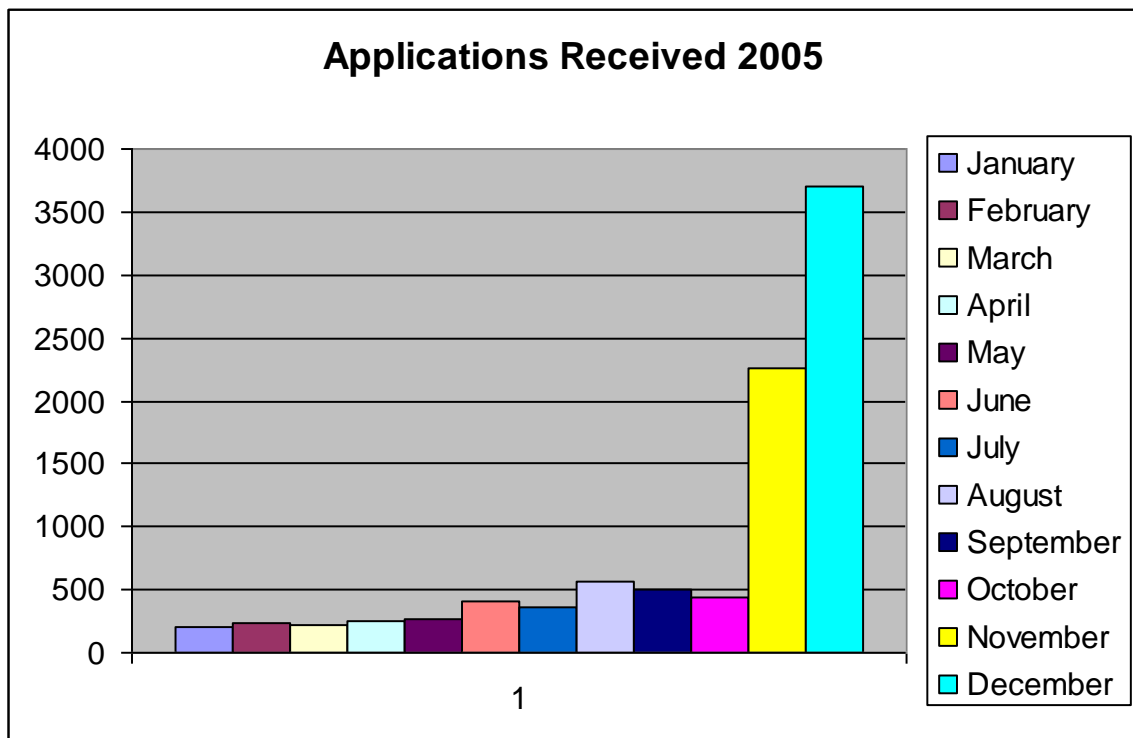
The charts and tables in this section, such as those showing the country of residence of applicants are, where indicated, based on the 9,745 applications which were registered on the Board's case management system on the 31st of December 2005.

** Some figures may vary from those in the 2004 report. This is due to factors such as awards being changed on Review or personal applicants choosing to be legally represented after they have lodged an application.*

Applications Received

The table and graph below show a breakdown of the applications received per month in 2005, together with an overall breakdown of applications received. This shows that almost 41% of applications were lodged in the last 6 weeks in which the Board could receive applications. The second graph shows the monthly trend of new applications since the establishment of the Board.

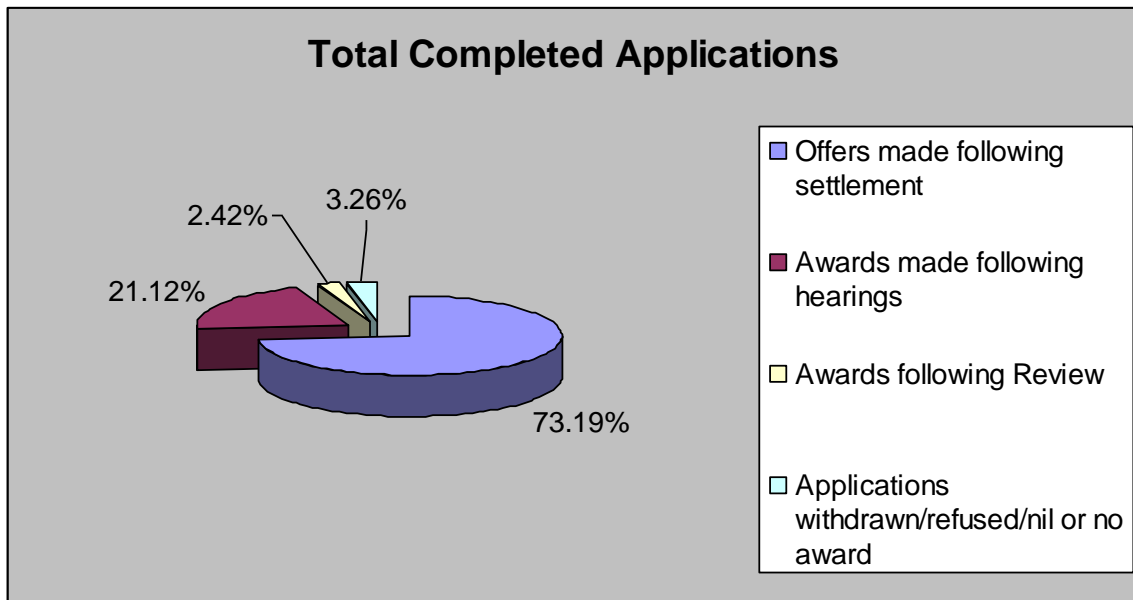
Month	Number of applications received in 2005	% of applications received in 2005	Total applications received (Dec 02 to Dec 05)	% of total applications received (Dec 02 to Dec 05)
January	199	2.11%	598	4.11%
February	239	2.53%	833	5.73%
March	223	2.36%	702	4.83%
April	258	2.74%	695	4.78%
May	269	2.85%	676	4.65%
June	410	4.35%	816	5.61%
July	366	3.88%	794	5.46%
August	571	6.05%	904	6.22%
September	504	5.34%	895	6.16%
October	438	4.64%	841	5.78%
November	2255	23.91%	2658	18.28%
December	3700	39.23%	4129	28.40%
Total	9432	100.00%	14541	100.00%



Completed Applications

On the 31st December 2005 the Board had completed the process in 4,625 cases, as detailed below

• Offers made following settlement	-	3385
• Awards made following hearings	-	977
• Awards following Review	-	112
• Applications withdrawn/refused/nil or no award	-	151



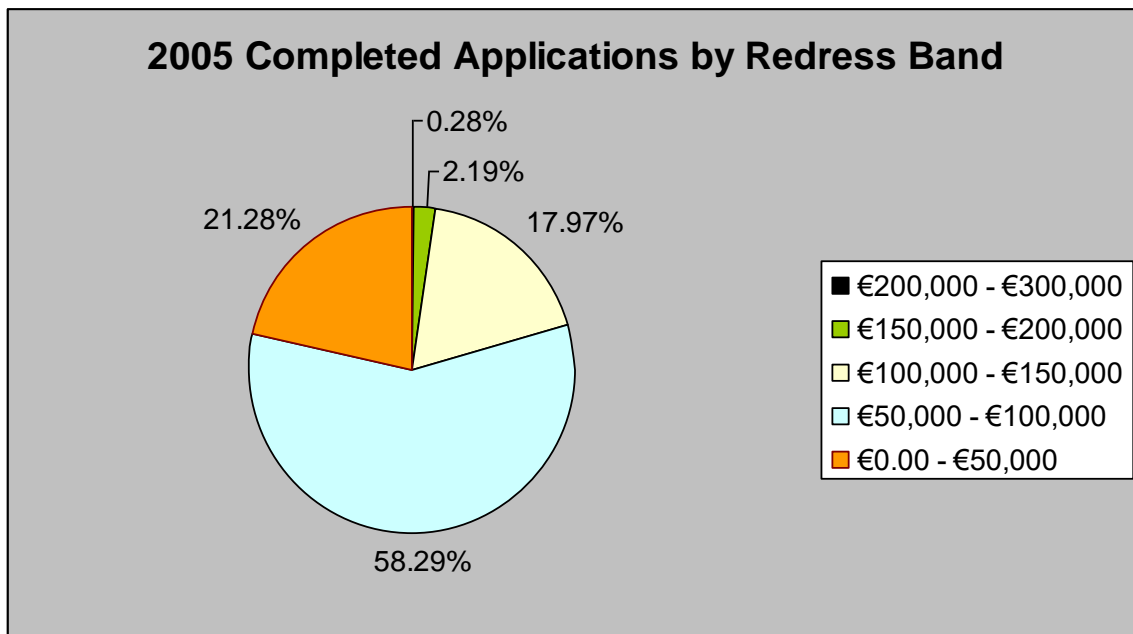
The breakdown of the completed cases to 31st December 2005 is detailed in the following table.

Completed Applications	To End 2004	2005	Total
Offers made following settlement	1802	1583	3385
Awards made following hearings	483	494	977
Awards following Review	59	53	112
Applications withdrawn/refused/nil or no award	73	78	151
Total Completed Cases	2417	2208	4625

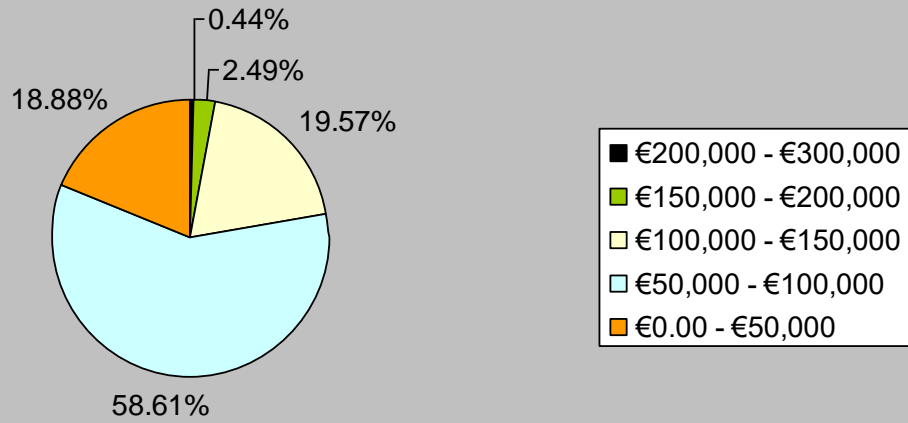
Number of Awards by Redress Band

The breakdown of awards by Redress Bands is as follows:

Redress Bands	Total Weighting	Award Payable	No. of Apps 2005	%	Total Apps	%
v	70 or more	€200,000 - €300,000	6	0.28%	20	0.44%
iv	55-69	€150,000 - €200,000	47	2.19%	112	2.49%
iii	40-54	€100,000 - €150,000	386	17.97%	880	19.57%
ii	25-39	€50,000 - €100,000	1252	58.29%	2635	58.61%
i	less than 25	€0.00 - €50,000	457	21.28%	849	18.88%
Total			2148	100.00%	4496	100.00%



Total Completed Applications by Redress Band



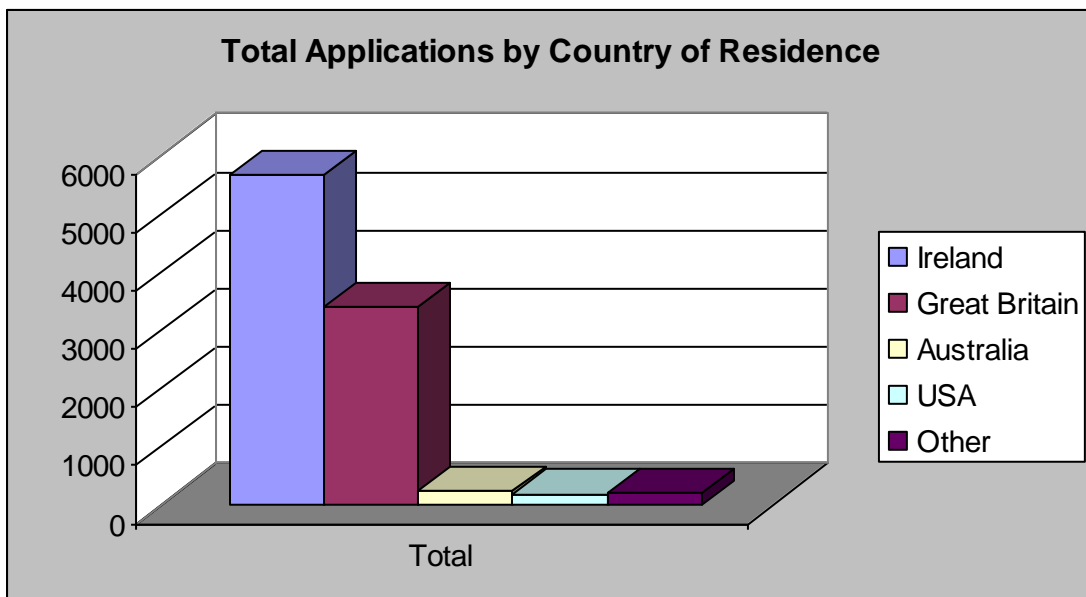
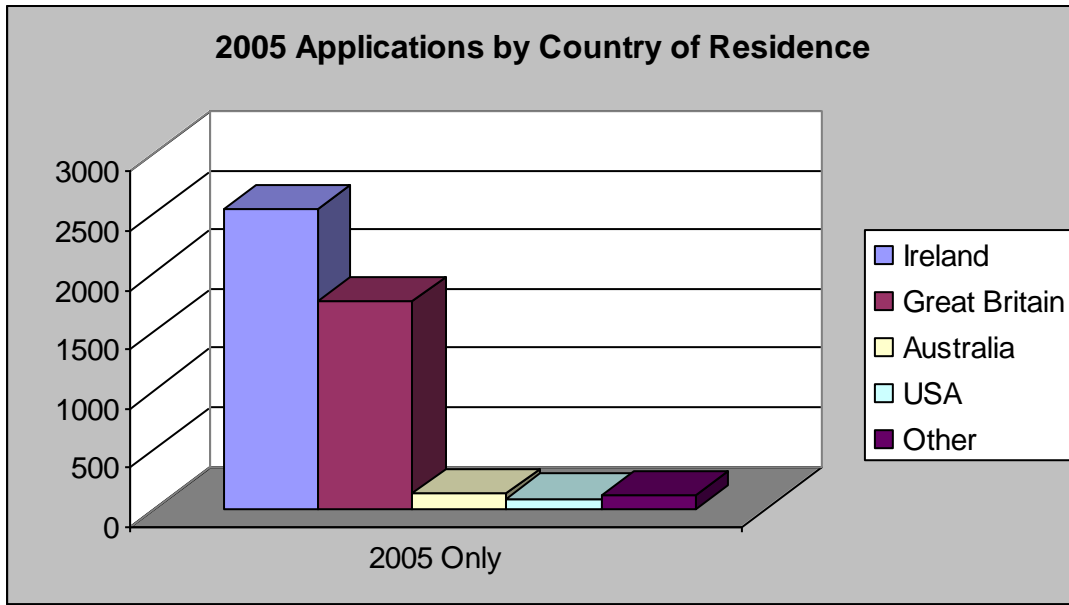
Country of Residence of Applicants

The figures below refer to the 9,745 applications registered on the Board's case management system on the 31st of December 2005.

Country of Residence	2005 Applications	% of 2005 Applications Received	Total Applications Received	% of Total Applications Received
Ireland	2534	54.66%	5678	58.27%
Great Britain	1763	38.03%	3409	34.98%
Australia	132	2.85%	245	2.51%
USA	90	1.94%	198	2.03%
Northern Ireland	40	0.86%	69	0.71%
Canada	28	0.60%	60	0.62%
New Zealand	11	0.24%	16	0.16%
Spain	10	0.22%	17	0.17%
The Netherlands	5	0.11%	11	0.11%
Denmark	4	0.09%	4	0.04%
France	4	0.09%	7	0.07%
Germany	3	0.06%	11	0.11%
Channel Islands	2	0.04%	2	0.02%
South Africa	2	0.04%	3	0.03%
Belguim	1	0.02%	1	0.01%
Malta	1	0.02%	1	0.01%
Nigeria	1	0.02%	1	0.01%
Portugal	1	0.02%	1	0.01%
Panama	1	0.02%	1	0.01%
Sweden	1	0.02%	4	0.04%
The Philippines	1	0.02%	1	0.01%
West Indies	1	0.02%	1	0.01%
Finland	0	0.00%	1	0.01%
Italy	0	0.00%	1	0.01%
Morocco	0	0.00%	1	0.01%
U.A.E.	0	0.00%	1	0.01%
Total	4636	100.00%	9745	100.00%

The proportion of applications received from Great Britain has increased from 32 % at the end of 2004 to almost 35% at the end of 2005 , while applications from Ireland have fallen

from 61.5% to 58% in the same period. Approximately 93% of applicants reside in the two countries while applicants from the USA and Australia now constitute approximately 4.5% (up from 2% in 2004).

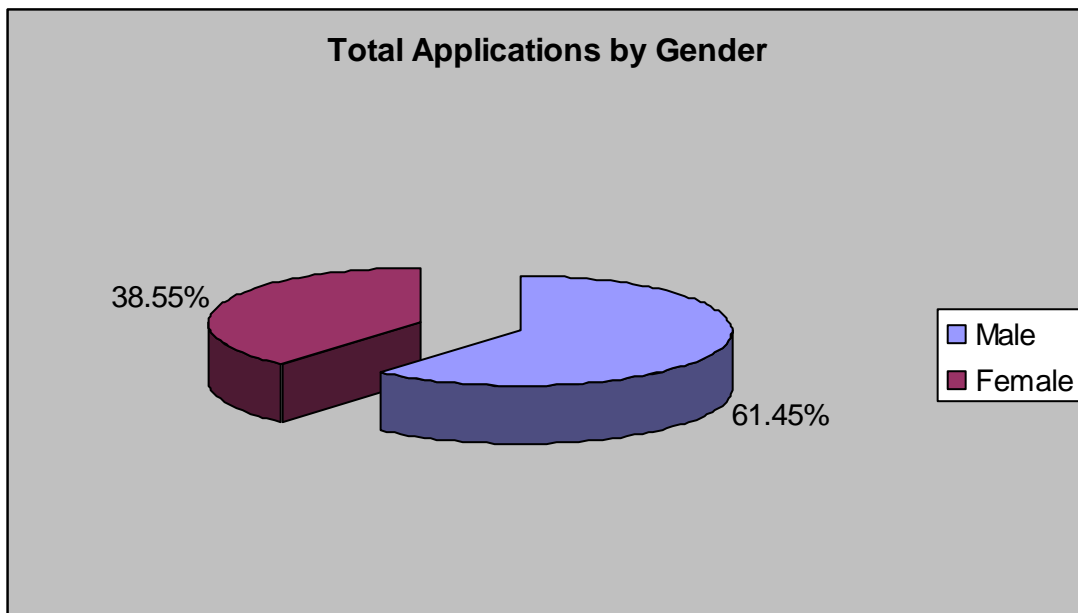


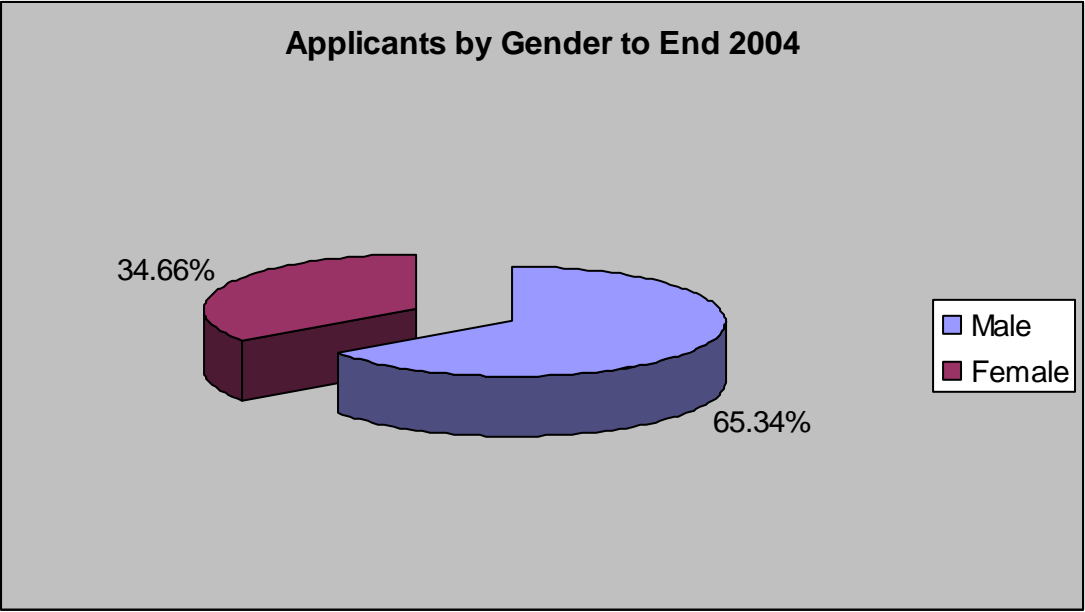
Gender of Applicants

The figures below refer to the 9,745 applications registered on the Board's case management system on the 31st of December 2005. Of these 9745 applications, 5988 are from men and 3757 are from women.

Gender	To End 2004	2005	Total Applications
Male	3338 (65.34%)	2650 (57.16%)	5988 (61.45%)
Female	1771 (34.66%)	1986 (42.84%)	3757 (38.55%)
Total	5109	4636	9745

The proportion of female applicants has increased from just over 31% at the end of 2003 to more than 38.5% at the end of 2005.





Applications on behalf of injured persons

The figures below refer to the 9,745 applications registered on the Board's case management system on the 31st of December 2005.

Where an applicant is an adult unable to manage his or her own affairs an application may be made by a person properly authorised to do so. The Board has received 196 such applications up to 31st December 2005.

Applicant Not the Injured Party	
To End 2004	75
2005	121
Total	196

Applications on behalf of persons who died after 11th May 1999

The figures below refer to the 9,745 applications registered on the Board's case management system on the 31st of December 2005.

Where a person who is or may be entitled to redress has died since 11th May 1999 without making an application, the spouse or children of that person may make an application on his or her behalf. If an applicant dies after making an application, his/her spouse or children may continue to pursue the application. A "spouse" for this purpose includes a person with whom the deceased person is or was at a time cohabiting.

193 such applications have been made to the Board. 70 were received up to the end of 2004 and a further 123 were received in 2005.

Priority Applications

The figures below refer to the 9,745 applications registered on the Board's case management system on the 31st of December 2005.

In its consideration of applications, the Board gives priority to applicants –

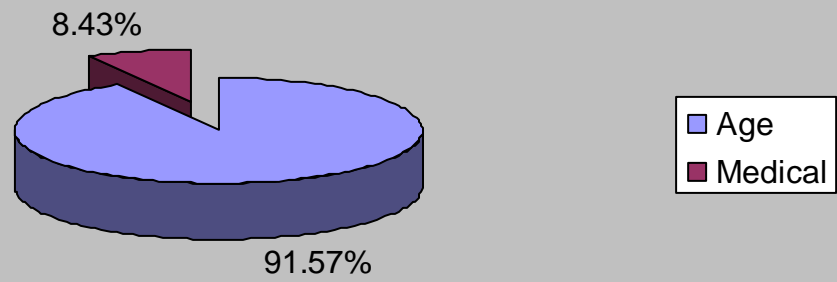
- (i) who were born before 1st January 1935, or
- (ii) who are at the time when the application is made suffering from a medical illness or psychiatric condition which is life threatening, as confirmed in writing by a letter from their regular medical adviser.

From the end of 2005 the Board will give priority to applicants born before 1st January 1936.

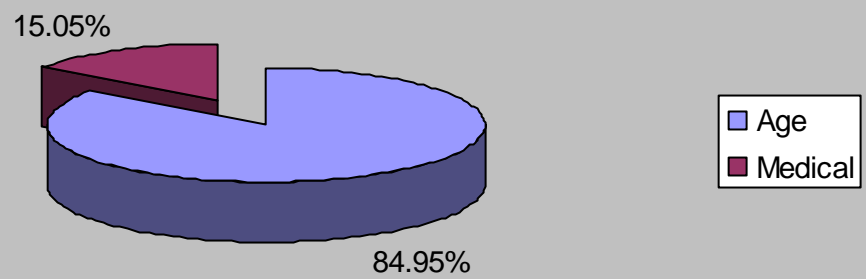
In 2005 684 applications have been received from applicants born before 1st January 1935 and 63 applications have been granted priority on the grounds of medical or psychiatric condition.

Priority	To End 2004	2005 Only	Total
Age	693	684	1377
Medical	181	63	244
Total	874	747	1621

Priority Applications - 2005 Only



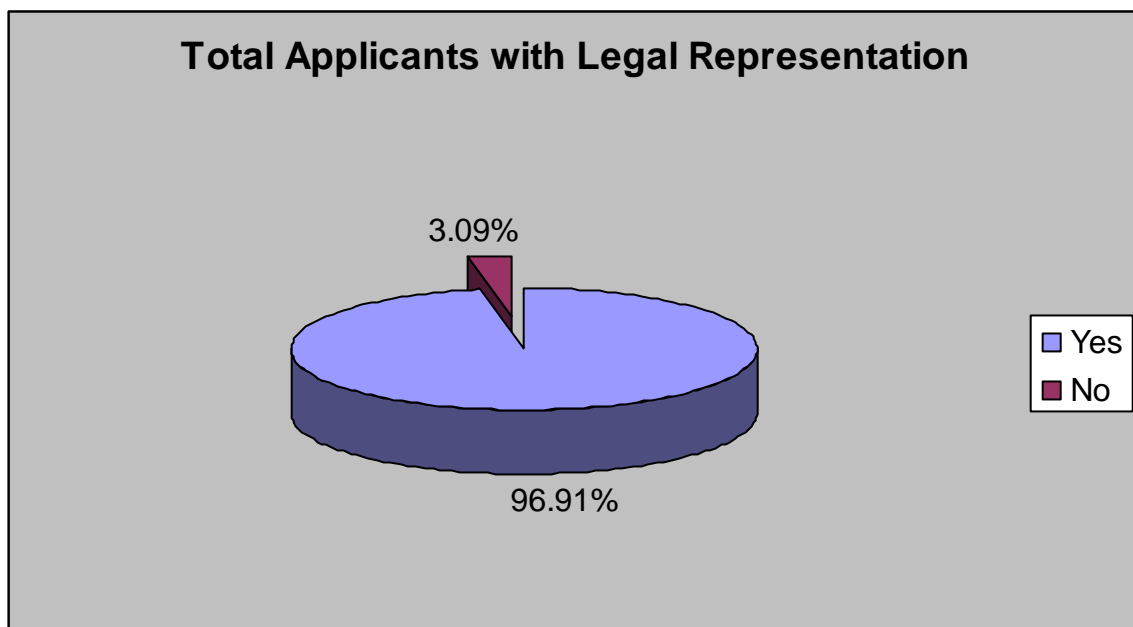
Total Priority Applications



Legal Representation

The chart below refers to the 9,745 applications registered on the Board's case management system on the 31st of December 2005.

The percentage of applications from applicants represented by a solicitor stands at 96.91%, up from 94.6% at the end of 2004.



Applicants are represented by a total of 732 firms of solicitors and costs have been paid to date in respect of 2,710 applications. The 2,033 costs payments made by the Board in 2005 are listed below. It should be noted that the Board has not yet received bills in respect of all the applications it has finalised.

These costs are divided into two categories

- (a) Costs in respect of the application to the Board.
- (b) Costs in respect of associated High Court proceedings.

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
AbelIn Sluis De Neef	1	€ 10,251.31	€ 0.00	€10,251.31
Abney Garsden McDonald	15	€ 158,885.25	€ 0.00	€158,885.25
Ahern O'Shea	6	€ 53,509.75	€ 0.00	€53,509.75
Ahern Roberts O'Rourke Williams & Partners	2	€ 18,725.29	€ 0.00	€18,725.29
Aiden Barry	2	€ 21,410.08	€ 2,110.66	€23,520.74
Aitken Clay & Collins	1	€ 14,452.00	€ 0.00	€14,452.00
Alan Mitchell & Co	1	€ 13,379.50	€ 0.00	€13,379.50
Allen & Associates	1	€ 6,231.50	€ 0.00	€6,231.50
Anderson & Gallagher	1	€ 7,315.50	€ 0.00	€7,315.50
Andrew Wiseman & Co	1	€ 14,568.75	€ 0.00	€14,568.75
Angell & Company	1	€ 7,854.80	€ 0.00	€7,854.80
Ann C. Walsh	1	€ 7,348.06	€ 0.00	€7,348.06
Anne L Horgan & Co	2	€ 22,711.45	€ 2,829.19	€25,540.64
Anthony Barry & Co	1	€ 7,862.50	€ 2,122.11	€9,984.61
Anthony Brady	2	€ 13,304.60	€ 0.00	€13,304.60
Arthur P McLean & Co	2	€ 14,615.04	€ 0.00	€14,615.04
Augustus Cullen & Son	2	€ 41,534.56	€ 14,664.20	€56,198.76
B C M Hanby Wallace	1	€ 9,945.50	€ 0.00	€9,945.50
B. & P. Byrne	1	€ 5,855.50	€ 0.00	€5,855.50
B. Vincent Hoey & Co	1	€ 10,499.87	€ 0.00	€10,499.87

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Barror & Co,	1	€ 6,604.86	€ 0.00	€6,604.86
Barry Turnbull & Co	1	€ 5,892.00	€ 0.00	€5,892.00
Barry Healy & Co	1	€ 21,210.00	€ 0.00	€21,210.00
Baynes & Co	2	€ 13,815.00	€ 0.00	€13,815.00
Beauchamps	1	€ 10,248.00	€ 0.00	€10,248.00
Becker Tansey & Co	3	€ 42,305.86	€ 4,810.06	€47,115.92
Berkeley White	1	€ 18,542.37	€ 0.00	€18,542.37
Birnberg Peirce & Partners	4	€ 47,686.52	€ 0.00	€47,686.52
Bismilla & Co	1	€ 16,751.75	€ 11,330.38	€28,082.13
Blake Horrigan	2	€ 9,960.00	€ 0.00	€9,960.00
Bolger White Egan & Flanagan	1	€ 5,032.00	€ 0.00	€5,032.00
Bourke & Co	2	€ 26,185.85	€ 2,651.00	€28,836.85
Bowler Geraghty & Co	6	€ 78,533.97	€ 4,881.55	€83,415.52
Branigan & Co	1	€ 8,048.81	€ 0.00	€8,048.81
Branigan Berkery	3	€ 29,446.70	€ 0.00	€29,446.70
Brendan Irwin & Co	1	€ 7,473.89	€ 0.00	€7,473.89
Brendan L. Johnson	3	€ 35,442.83	€ 0.00	€35,442.83
Brian Berrills & Co	1	€ 16,870.50	€ 2,183.81	€19,054.31
Brian Galvin	1	€ 19,081.00	€ 2,516.05	€21,597.05
Brian Johnston & Company	1	€ 14,567.15	€ 0.00	€14,567.15

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Brian Long & Co	1	€ 10,641.40	€ 0.00	€10,641.40
Brooks & Company	4	€ 63,887.10	€ 0.00	€63,887.10
Brophy	4	€ 59,444.90	€ 10,635.44	€70,080.34
Browne & Co	1	€ 3,247.20	€ 0.00	€3,247.20
Butler, Cunningham & Molony	1	€ 11,935.90	€ 0.00	€11,935.90
C A Hickey and Company	1	€ 17,996.17	€ 0.00	€17,996.17
C P Crowley & Co	2	€ 29,096.35	€ 0.00	€29,096.35
Carmody & Company	1	€ 18,813.69	€ 0.00	€18,813.69
Carvill Rickard & Co	2	€ 33,654.33	€ 85,813.58	€119,467.91
Catherine J Hughes & Co	1	€ 23,365.31	€ 3,674.54	€27,039.85
Charles B. W. Boyle & Son	1	€ 7,010.00	€ 0.00	€7,010.00
Chris O'Shea	1	€ 8,239.00	€ 0.00	€8,239.00
Chris Ryan	1	€ 17,361.00	€ 7,463.78	€24,824.78
Christie & Gargan	1	€ 21,233.72	€ 21,750.28	€42,984.00
Ciaran Feighery	3	€ 20,727.65	€ 0.00	€20,727.65
Clarksons	4	€ 44,973.34	€ 0.00	€44,973.34
Cleall Pahl	1	€ 8,438.39	€ 0.00	€8,438.39
Clifford Sullivan & Co	1	€ 15,729.50	€ 0.00	€15,729.50
Colgan & Company	1	€ 6,873.61	€ 0.00	€6,873.61
Colm S O Riain & Co	1	€ 23,412.67	€ 4,819.16	€28,231.83

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Connolly Sellors Geraghty	2	€ 34,983.60	€ 29,164.50	€64,148.10
Conor O'Shaughnessy & Co	1	€ 13,307.50	€ 0.00	€13,307.50
Crean O'Cleirigh & O Dwyer	3	€ 32,519.18	€ 0.00	€32,519.18
Cullen & Co	1	€ 6,164.05	€ 0.00	€6,164.05
D A Houlihan	1	€ 14,376.70	€ 0.00	€14,376.70
D J O'Malley & Co	1	€ 6,968.00	€ 0.00	€6,968.00
Damien Tansey & Associates	1	€ 17,190.54	€ 0.00	€17,190.54
Daniel J Callanan	1	€ 6,751.00	€ 0.00	€6,751.00
Daniel Murphy & Co	1	€ 5,898.73	€ 0.00	€5,898.73
Daniel Spring & Co	3	€ 30,719.20	€ 26,285.03	€57,004.23
David Herlihy	1	€ 7,147.00	€ 0.00	€7,147.00
David Kenny & Co	3	€ 33,739.20	€ 0.00	€33,739.20
Denis Healy & Co	1	€ 0.00	€ 10,987.41	€10,987.41
Dermot G O'Donovan & Partners	1	€ 20,373.20	€ 0.00	€20,373.20
Dermot Lavery & Co	3	€ 23,758.96	€ 8,266.82	€32,025.78
Dermot O' Neill & Co	3	€ 36,081.00	€ 0.00	€36,081.00
Dobbyn & McCoy	2	€ 32,628.53	€ 12,211.68	€44,840.21
Dockrell Farrell	3	€ 48,688.75	€ 0.00	€48,688.75
Donagh McGowan & Co	3	€ 44,194.11	€ 15,876.67	€60,070.78
Donal Reilly & Collins	1	€ 8,398.20	€ 2,357.03	€10,755.23

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Donnelly Neary & Donnelly	1	€ 25,450.31	€ 1,842.50	€27,292.81
Dowling Kilpatrick	3	€ 32,871.50	€ 7,230.86	€40,102.36
Doyle & Company	1	€ 12,382.00	€ 0.00	€12,382.00
Doyle Hanlon	1	€ 9,761.75	€ 0.00	€9,761.75
Eamon Murray & Co	21	€ 252,088.74	€ 5,687.00	€257,775.74
Elizabeth Ferris & Co	1	€ 3,918.03	€ 0.00	€3,918.03
Eugene Carey & Co	2	€ 17,564.27	€ 0.00	€17,564.27
F A Murphy & Co	1	€ 10,105.50	€ 0.00	€10,105.50
F B Keating & Co	10	€ 120,630.63	€ 27,590.64	€148,221.27
F H O'Reilly & Co	2	€ 81,735.12	€ 83,342.98	€165,078.10
F J Gearty & Co	1	€ 4,503.50	€ 0.00	€4,503.50
F X Rowan & Co	1	€ 13,995.48	€ 2,072.68	€16,068.16
Fahy McGeever	2	€ 16,076.77	€ 0.00	€16,076.77
Fair & Murtagh	1	€ 7,770.20	€ 0.00	€7,770.20
Farrell & Partners	1	€ 20,528.00	€ 0.00	€20,528.00
Ferrys	27	€ 332,748.29	€ 79,458.26	€412,206.55
Finbarr A Murphy & Co	1	€ 12,721.00	€ 0.00	€12,721.00
Finian Brannigan & Co	1	€ 10,671.50	€ 0.00	€10,671.50
Fleming O'Flaherty	1	€ 16,467.52	€ 0.00	€16,467.52
Fowle & Company	1	€ 36,550.00	€ 0.00	€36,550.00

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Francis C Kelleher & Co	3	€ 22,689.50	€ 7,095.72	€29,785.22
Francis X Burke & Co	1	€ 12,643.50	€ 0.00	€12,643.50
Frank Walsh & Co	1	€ 16,994.49	€ 0.00	€16,994.49
Frank Ward & Co	3	€ 33,112.00	€ 0.00	€33,112.00
Frizelle O'Leary & Co	3	€ 29,236.80	€ 31,754.98	€60,991.78
Gaffney Halligan & Co	2	€ 17,117.01	€ 0.00	€17,117.01
Gallagher Shatter	31	€ 349,501.03	€ 47,423.00	€396,924.03
Galvin Broderick	1	€ 18,544.70	€ 0.00	€18,544.70
Garrett J Fortune and Co	2	€ 13,856.08	€ 0.00	€13,856.08
Gartlan Winters	3	€ 22,886.39	€ 0.00	€22,886.39
Gerald Griffin	1	€ 16,145.50	€ 1,620.88	€17,766.38
Gerard I Lambe	1	€ 9,788.00	€ 0.00	€9,788.00
Gerard McCarthy & Co	1	€ 2,931.75	€ 0.00	€2,931.75
Gleeson & Kean	1	€ 12,036.75	€ 0.00	€12,036.75
Gleeson McGrath Baldwin	1	€ 16,847.70	€ 72,444.61	€89,292.31
H D Keane & Co	1	€ 12,686.50	€ 0.00	€12,686.50
Hall Smith Whittingham	1	€ 19,425.05	€ 0.00	€19,425.05
Harris Walsh	2	€ 22,201.38	€ 0.00	€22,201.38
Hartnett Hayes	1	€ 9,499.18	€ 0.00	€9,499.18
Henry P. Kelly & Co	1	€ 6,981.00	€ 2,275.90	€9,256.90

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Hickey Fitzgerald	1	€ 20,860.75	€ 0.00	€20,860.75
Hodge Jones & Allen	85	€ 942,536.31	€ 0.00	€942,536.31
Holland Condon	1	€ 10,865.80	€ 0.00	€10,865.80
Howes Kaye Halpin	1	€ 6,249.33	€ 0.00	€6,249.33
Hugh P.J. Byrne & Co	1	€ 15,267.00	€ 0.00	€15,267.00
Hughes Murphy & Co	1	€ 8,941.00	€ 3,071.50	€12,012.50
Hussey & Bates	1	€ 12,572.64	€ 0.00	€12,572.64
Hussey Fraser	1	€ 7,118.46	€ 2,838.61	€9,957.07
Ivor Fitzpatrick & Co	1	€3,029.48	€0.00	€3,029.48
J A Shaw & Co	1	€ 5,451.00	€ 0.00	€5,451.00
J F Goold & Co.	1	€ 11,990.89	€ 0.00	€11,990.89
J Hodnett & Son	1	€ 6,527.50	€ 0.00	€6,527.50
James A. Connolly & Co	1	€ 5,824.62	€ 0.00	€5,824.62
James Hanley & Co	1	€ 8,695.57	€ 0.00	€8,695.57
James K Quinn & Co	1	€ 15,181.00	€ 0.00	€15,181.00
James O'Brien & Co	1	€ 11,311.80	€ 0.00	€11,311.80
James P. Coghlan & Co	1	€ 30,355.35	€ 0.00	€30,355.35
James Reilly & Son	2	€ 16,869.85	€ 0.00	€16,869.85
James V. Walsh & Son	1	€ 14,424.80	€ 0.00	€14,424.80
John B O'Connor & Co	1	€ 15,406.00	€ 0.00	€15,406.00

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
John Devane	38	€ 329,021.04	€ 81,231.91	€410,252.95
John G. O'Donnell	1	€ 7,316.75	€ 0.00	€7,316.75
John Gaynor & Co	2	€ 11,055.00	€ 0.00	€11,055.00
John Hussey & Co	4	€ 67,101.19	€ 4,398.54	€71,499.73
John L Keane & Son	1	€ 10,834.47	€ 0.00	€10,834.47
John O'Leary & Co	2	€ 19,746.50	€ 0.00	€19,746.50
John P. Prior & Co	1	€ 8,267.50	€ 0.00	€8,267.50
John Sherlock & Co	1	€ 10,735.38	€ 4,031.57	€14,766.95
John V Kelly & Co	1	€ 17,648.86	€ 0.00	€17,648.86
Jones Magee	1	€ 5,881.98	€ 0.00	€5,881.98
Jordans	5	€ 44,555.63	€ 0.00	€44,555.63
Joseph S. Cuddigan & Co	3	€ 32,906.60	€ 0.00	€32,906.60
Joseph T. Mooney & Co	1	€ 11,591.32	€ 0.00	€11,591.32
Joy, Brennan & Co	36	€ 455,992.91	€ 0.00	€455,992.91
Justin Sadleir	1	€ 17,746.00	€ 0.00	€17,746.00
Karen O'Neill & Associates	1	€ 19,609.00	€ 0.00	€19,609.00
Keans	1	€ 8,009.50	€ 0.00	€8,009.50
Kelly & Corr	1	€ 12,247.50	€ 0.00	€12,247.50
Kelly & Ryan	1	€ 7,223.00	€ 0.00	€7,223.00
Kelly Caulfield Shaw	2	€ 14,985.50	€ 0.00	€14,985.50

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Kent Carty	2	€ 17,773.00	€ 0.00	€17,773.00
Kevin Hegarty	2	€ 25,252.34	€ 0.00	€25,252.34
Kieran McCarthy & Co	4	€ 50,037.86	€ 2,213.66	€52,251.52
Kieran McCourt	1	€ 7,675.50	€ 0.00	€7,675.50
Kieran O'Brien & Associates	1	€ 6,124.50	€ 0.00	€6,124.50
Kieran O'Callaghan and Co	1	€ 10,103.50	€ 0.00	€10,103.50
Killeen	1	€ 11,822.00	€ 3,827.18	€15,649.18
Kings	2	€ 22,770.44	€ 7,173.42	€29,943.86
Kinsella Heffernan Foskin	10	€ 85,775.93	€ 32,145.03	€117,920.96
Kundert & Co	1	€ 9,593.76	€ 0.00	€9,593.76
Lavelle Coleman	325	€ 4,065,824.59	€ 835,217.33	€4,901,041.92
Lawline	3	€ 29,632.70	€ 0.00	€29,632.70
Lawrences	1	€ 7,552.16	€ 0.00	€7,552.16
Lees	4	€ 36,784.77	€ 4,840.00	€41,624.77
Leo F. Branigan & Co	1	€ 10,903.00	€ 0.00	€10,903.00
Liam Keane & Co	1	€ 8,933.43	€ 0.00	€8,933.43
Linder Myers	1	€ 26,213.29	€ 0.00	€26,213.29
M A Regan, McEntee & Partners	2	€ 14,875.90	€ 0.00	€14,875.90
M J Horgan & Sons	12	€ 179,944.18	€ 0.00	€179,944.18
M M Halley & Son	2	€ 18,771.68	€ 8,829.67	€27,601.35

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
MacBride & Co	1	€ 12,786.50	€ 10,432.89	€23,219.39
MacGeehin Toale Nagle	4	€ 57,418.98	€ 0.00	€57,418.98
MacGuill & Co	31	€ 349,209.01	€ 24,565.21	€373,774.22
Madden & Associates	48	€ 552,819.44	€ 78,410.31	€631,229.75
Maddens Lawyers	6	€ 52,475.61	€ 0.00	€52,475.61
Madigans	1	€ 7,481.00	€ 0.00	€7,481.00
Maguire McClafferty	1	€ 10,948.00	€ 0.00	€10,948.00
Malcomson Law	1	€ 10,089.20	€ 0.00	€10,089.20
Mander Hadley & Co	1	€ 11,156.14	€ 0.00	€11,156.14
Mannix & Co	1	€ 18,904.50	€ 0.00	€18,904.50
Manus Sweeney & Co	3	€ 15,553.72	€ 0.00	€15,553.72
Margaret Campbell	152	€ 1,882,399.76	€ 76,852.99	€1,959,252.75
Martin & Brett	1	€ 17,608.59	€ 0.00	€17,608.59
Martin A Harvey & Co	10	€ 122,181.49	€ 32,946.60	€155,128.09
Martin J Neilan	1	€ 12,922.80	€ 1,921.66	€14,844.46
Martin Sheehan & Co	1	€ 3,504.00	€ 0.00	€3,504.00
Martin	1	€ 11,545.50	€ 0.00	€11,545.50
Matthew Gold & Co	34	€ 380,627.40	€ 0.00	€380,627.40
Matthew J. Nagle & Co	1	€ 15,317.25	€ 0.00	€15,317.25
Matthew MacNamara & Son	1	€ 11,422.00	€ 0.00	€11,422.00

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Matthews	1	€ 12,677.98	€ 0.00	€12,677.98
Maurice Blackburn Cashman	1	€ 4,550.93	€ 0.00	€4,550.93
McCartan & Burke	2	€ 25,301.07	€ 0.00	€25,301.07
McGonagle	1	€ 7,194.50	€ 0.00	€7,194.50
McGovern Walsh & Co	1	€ 18,439.70	€ 0.00	€18,439.70
McKeever Rowan	1	€ 8,251.50	€ 11,629.75	€19,881.25
McMahon & Co	40	€ 377,675.90	€ 0.00	€377,675.90
McMahon O'Brien Downes	20	€ 272,700.45	€ 6,296.34	€278,996.79
McNamara & Co	1	€ 11,720.25	€ 0.00	€11,720.25
McNulty Boylan & Partners	1	€ 12,239.31	€ 0.00	€12,239.31
Michael Buggy & Co	4	€ 61,660.54	€ 79,336.27	€140,996.81
Michael E Hanahoe	240	€ 3,542,211.73	€ 885,799.63	€4,428,011.36
Michael Gleasure & Co	1	€ 13,488.07	€ 0.00	€13,488.07
Michael J Breen & Co	1	€ 12,456.75	€ 0.00	€12,456.75
Michael J Hanrahan	1	€ 3,810.80	€ 0.00	€3,810.80
Michael Lanigan & Co	28	€ 393,506.48	€ 80,544.48	€474,050.96
Michael McDarby & Co	2	€ 19,268.55	€ 3,813.02	€23,081.57
Moloney & Company	1	€ 11,856.00	€ 0.00	€11,856.00
Moriarty & Company	1	€ 18,060.63	€ 0.00	€18,060.63
Mullaney's	1	€ 14,741.50	€ 0.00	€14,741.50

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Mulvey Kenny & Co	1	€ 11,446.81	€ 0.00	€11,446.81
Murphy English & Co	125	€ 1,636,240.76	€ 96,634.96	€1,732,875.72
Murphys	1	€ 8,595.68	€ 0.00	€8,595.68
Murray Flynn	5	€ 90,289.82	€ 18,904.34	€109,194.16
Neilan & Co	1	€ 12,387.00	€ 0.00	€12,387.00
Neville Murphy & Co	1	€ 11,855.50	€ 0.00	€11,855.50
Newell Quinn Gillen	1	€ 10,227.00	€ 0.00	€10,227.00
Niall Corr & Co	1	€ 12,788.49	€ 3,544.04	€16,332.53
Nora Gallagher & Co	2	€ 19,336.50	€ 15,516.61	€34,853.11
Norton	1	€ 10,057.20	€ 0.00	€10,057.20
O'Brien Ronayne	2	€ 21,349.50	€ 0.00	€21,349.50
O'Carroll & Company	2	€ 25,390.36	€ 14,260.28	€39,650.64
O'Donnell Breen-Walsh O'Donoghue	1	€ 24,510.38	€ 8,327.36	€32,837.74
O'Donovan & Cowen	1	€ 7,510.50	€ 0.00	€7,510.50
O'Dowd	1	€ 14,028.40	€ 0.00	€14,028.40
O'Flynn Exhams & Partners	1	€ 19,482.86	€ 4,093.00	€23,575.86
O'Hanrahan & Co	4	€ 36,546.50	€ 5,283.35	€41,829.85
O'Hanrahan Lally	3	€ 38,849.50	€ 4,775.35	€43,624.85
O'Leary Arnold	1	€ 12,060.50	€ 0.00	€12,060.50
O'Leary Maher	1	€ 8,554.00	€ 0.00	€8,554.00

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
O'Leary, Carter and Co	1	€ 17,941.74	€ 0.00	€17,941.74
O'Neill Quinn & Co	1	€ 5,891.80	€ 0.00	€5,891.80
O'Reilly Doherty & Co	6	€ 61,739.00	€ 0.00	€61,739.00
O'Reilly Thomas	1	€ 9,942.85	€ 0.00	€9,942.85
O'Riada	1	€ 5,655.00	€ 0.00	€5,655.00
Orla O Donnchadha & Co	7	€ 96,955.29	€ 7,831.48	€104,786.77
O'Shea Byrne & Co	1	€ 13,682.50	€ 0.00	€13,682.50
P J Lavan & Co	2	€ 13,710.00	€ 9,011.00	€22,721.00
Padraig Foley & Co	14	€ 124,958.89	€ 20,147.97	€145,106.86
Padraig J O'Connell	2	€ 29,292.15	€ 0.00	€29,292.15
Parkinson Wright	1	€ 12,746.40	€ 0.00	€12,746.40
Partners At Law	1	€ 8,923.30	€ 0.00	€8,923.30
Patricia Holohan & Co	1	€ 16,516.79	€ 0.00	€16,516.79
Patrick Casey & Co	3	€ 41,986.35	€ 2,229.41	€44,215.76
Patrick F O'Connor & Co	1	€ 11,180.40	€ 0.00	€11,180.40
Patrick J Cusack & Co	1	€ 10,063.70	€ 0.00	€10,063.70
Patrick J Morrissey & Co	1	€ 13,245.01	€ 2,144.07	€15,389.08
Patrick J. Sweeney & Co	1	€ 10,549.32	€ 0.00	€10,549.32
Patrick Mann & Co	6	€ 102,262.74	€ 74,787.01	€177,049.75
Patrick McMahon	1	€ 11,937.62	€ 0.00	€11,937.62

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Patrick Sheehan and Company	1	€ 11,903.45	€ 0.00	€11,903.45
Patrick V. Boland & Son	2	€ 33,356.88	€ 0.00	€33,356.88
Paul W Tracey	34	€ 309,328.39	€ 0.00	€309,328.39
Paula McHugh	1	€ 13,792.96	€ 0.00	€13,792.96
Pauline O'Reilly & Co	6	€ 93,695.87	€ 58,388.80	€152,084.67
Pearse Mehigan & Co	79	€ 1,008,019.86	€ 172,815.42	€1,180,835.28
Peter G Crean & Co	1	€ 11,217.55	€ 0.00	€11,217.55
Peter J. McKenna	1	€ 9,052.00	€ 0.00	€9,052.00
Peter McDonnell & Associates	50	€ 502,399.54	€ 10,735.24	€513,134.78
Pickworths	2	€ 23,079.15	€ 0.00	€23,079.15
Pierse & Fitzgibbon	1	€ 23,964.43	€ 0.00	€23,964.43
Poe Kiely Hogan	1	€ 12,059.66	€ 2,590.21	€14,649.87
Purcell Cullen Kennedy	2	€ 20,569.00	€ 0.00	€20,569.00
Quinn & Co	4	€ 38,074.64	€ 0.00	€38,074.64
R G Emerson & Co	2	€ 20,196.70	€ 5,988.29	€26,184.99
R T Ringrose & Co	5	€ 42,009.50	€ 3,430.00	€45,439.50
Ralph McMahon	1	€ 14,548.92	€ 0.00	€14,548.92
Regan McEntee & Partners	1	€ 10,626.99	€ 0.00	€10,626.99
Reid & Sweeney	1	€ 5,672.75	€ 0.00	€5,672.75
Reidy and Foley	1	€ 10,487.50	€ 0.00	€10,487.50

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Reidy Stafford	1	€ 18,136.00	€ 0.00	€18,136.00
Richard Cooke & Co	1	€ 7,542.85	€ 0.00	€7,542.85
Richard McGuinness & Co	1	€ 5,139.50	€ 0.00	€5,139.50
Richard R Whelehan	1	€ 16,453.50	€ 0.00	€16,453.50
Robert Ashe	1	€ 11,030.73	€ 0.00	€11,030.73
Robert Cussen & Son	2	€ 16,428.80	€ 0.00	€16,428.80
Rochford Gibbons	1	€ 6,150.00	€ 0.00	€6,150.00
Rollo Davidson McFarlane	1	€ 3,565.99	€ 0.00	€3,565.99
Romaine Scally & Co	2	€ 19,376.00	€ 0.00	€19,376.00
Rory Quigley & Co	1	€ 10,213.50	€ 0.00	€10,213.50
Rosario Lee & Co	1	€0.00	€2,141.50	€2,141.50
Ryan & Ryan	2	€ 22,117.00	€ 0.00	€22,117.00
S C Connolly	1	€ 7,575.00	€ 0.00	€7,575.00
Sandys & Brophy	1	€ 17,002.50	€ 2,090.18	€19,092.68
Scott Ryan	8	€ 77,946.06	€ 4,756.56	€82,702.62
Sean Meaney & Co	2	€ 16,687.50	€ 0.00	€16,687.50
Shaun Elder	1	€ 7,141.75	€ 10,686.92	€17,828.67
Sheedy & Co	1	€ 7,832.71	€ 0.00	€7,832.71
Spelman Callaghan	2	€ 20,231.09	€ 23,746.93	€43,978.02
Stephen Kennedy & Co	1	€ 11,532.00	€ 0.00	€11,532.00

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Sullivan Waters & Co	2	€ 19,659.70	€ 2,708.12	€22,367.82
T Dillon-Leetch & Sons	1	€ 13,761.29	€ 3,023.56	€16,784.85
Taylor & Buchalter	2	€ 14,749.60	€ 15,199.90	€29,949.50
Terence Lyons & Co	7	€ 84,371.77	€ 29,843.42	€114,215.19
Thomas J Kelly & Co	2	€ 33,844.96	€ 11,958.56	€45,803.52
Thomas J Kelly & Son	1	€ 7,644.00	€ 0.00	€7,644.00
Thomas Loomes & Company	2	€ 15,354.00	€ 0.00	€15,354.00
Thomas Quigley & Co	1	€ 3,412.00	€ 0.00	€3,412.00
Thomas W. Enright	2	€ 32,094.83	€ 0.00	€32,094.83
Thornton	1	€ 14,218.50	€ 0.00	€14,218.50
Tiernan & Co	1	€ 4,678.00	€ 0.00	€4,678.00
Tom Collins & Co	3	€ 44,629.81	€ 28,238.99	€72,868.80
Tony Taaffe & Co	5	€ 29,834.00	€ 0.00	€29,834.00
Traynor Mallon & Co	2	€ 20,004.93	€ 0.00	€20,004.93
Tynan Murphy Yelverton	2	€ 15,420.96	€ 0.00	€15,420.96
V P McMullin	2	€ 27,368.00	€ 0.00	€27,368.00
Walker O'Carroll & Hogan	1	€ 13,405.50	€ 0.00	€13,405.50
Wallace Reidy & Co	1	€ 5,504.00	€ 2,117.50	€7,621.50
Walter A Smithwick & Son	1	€ 11,381.80	€ 0.00	€11,381.80
Walter P. Toolan & Sons	1	€ 6,776.50	€ 0.00	€6,776.50

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2005	Board Costs Paid in 2005	Related High Court Costs paid in 2005	2005 Total
Whitfield Hallam Goodall	1	€ 9,498.42	€ 0.00	€9,498.42
Wilkie & Flanagan	1	€ 15,858.50	€ 1,996.50	€17,855.00
William A. James	1	€ 7,223.00	€ 5,567.89	€12,790.89
William Egan & Associates	1	€ 15,778.31	€ 0.00	€15,778.31
Wolfe & Co	22	€ 356,534.96	€ 197,785.03	€554,319.99
Woods Ahern Mullen	1	€ 2,686.20	€ 0.00	€2,686.20
Woods and Company	2	€ 8,268.57	€ 0.00	€8,268.57
Total	2033	€24,794,904.25	€3,824,912.26	€28,619,816.51

Comparative Analysis of Costs

On average, costs and expenses paid to applicants' solicitors amount to €11,895* per application, or 15.65% of the award. By contrast, the average costs and expenses incurred by the Board in respect of an application amount to €3,504** or 4.6% of the award.

* This figure has been calculated by dividing the total amount of costs paid to date by the number of applications in which costs were paid. These figures do not include costs paid in respect of High Court proceedings (which costs average €4,945 per case in which such costs have been paid).

** This figure has been calculated by dividing the total cost of running the Board (excluding awards and applicants' legal costs) by the total number of applications finalised at the end of 2005.

Appendices

Customer Service Plan

Under the terms of the current national agreement “Sustaining Progress Social Partnership Agreement 2003-2005” there is an obligation on all public service organizations to commit publicly to service standards for their customers.

As part of this process, the administrative staff of the Redress Board undertake to commit themselves to serving their customers - applicants, solicitors, barristers, members of the public and Board members in the following manner:

1. Show courtesy and sensitivity and preserve confidentiality in all our dealings with our customers verbally, in writing or in person.
2. Give assistance to those applicants who request it to complete their application forms (in so far as permissible under the Act).
3. Ensure adequate staff are available to answer all queries during office hours (9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday).
4. Register and acknowledge all applications within 5 working days of receipt. (The large volume of applications received at the end of 2005 meant that the Board could no longer meet this commitment. The Board informed its customers in its newsletter of November 2005 (see appendix (h)). By mid 2006 this problem will have been eliminated.)
5. Issue statutory correspondence within 5 working days of the file's readiness to proceed to the next stage.
6. Schedule applications for settlement or hearing as soon as dates are available.

7. Greet applicants and their party cordially and give every reasonable assistance on the day of their attendance at the Redress Board offices.
8. Issue notice of award to the applicant within 5 working days of the decision of the Board.
9. Ensure appropriate facilities are available for people with disabilities or special needs.
10. Update information on our website to ensure that the fullest information possible is available to the public.
11. Post regular newsletters on the website in the interests of openness and transparency.
12. Periodically review this plan in accordance with section 20.13 of the Sustaining Progress Social Partnership Agreement 2003-2005.

EXPENDITURE DATA FOR THE YEAR 2005

CATEGORY	AMOUNT €
ADVERTISING	€446,426.38
STENOGRAPHY SERVICES	€125,650.23
PHONES (SERVICE)	€50,037.65
PHONES (EQUIPMENT)	€2,203.88
POSTAGE - COSTS	€56,870.00
POSTAGE – RENTAL & SERVICES	€8,368.44
COMPUTER HARDWARE/SOFTWARE	€9,264.97
COMPUTER SUPPORT SERVICES	€52,286.69
PHOTOCOPYING	€8,973.76
OFFICE MACHINERY	€223.77
HEAT, POWER & LIGHT	€13,047.91
CONTRACT CLEANING	€23,817.70
OFFICE SUPPLIES	€39,102.25
PRINTING	€18,690.75
FURNITURE & FITTINGS	€5,004.58
TRAVEL & SUBSISTENCE	€116,706.81
TAXI/COURIER SERVICE	€29,911.53
VENDING MACHINE & WATER SUPPLIES	€11,163.61
MAINTENANCE	€2,052.16
HOTEL ROOM HIRE/ACCOMODATION	€13,638.77
MEDICAL FEES*	€298,400.00
MEDICAL PAYMENTS**	€1,205,994.46
LEGAL FEES ***	€1,261,398.57
ADVICE AS TO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE AWARD	€118,423.00

ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES	€1,460,334.36
BOARD MEMBERS FEES	€1,165,566.23
TRAINING	€12,985.14
PUBLICATIONS	€1,070.00
SECURITY	€66,610.86
BOARD CATERING	€23,127.30
MISCELLANEOUS	€11,019.72
TOTAL	€6,658,371.48

*These fees are for medical reports prepared by doctors appointed by the Board under section 11 of The Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002

**These figures represent payments made by the Board for medical reports received prior to the completion of an application with respect to the injuries suffered by applicants.

*** These fees relate to Counsel employed by the Board and other legally related services.

AWARDS DATA FOR THE YEAR 2005

AWARDS	AMOUNT €
TOTAL	€157,062,720.01

LEGAL COSTS DATA FOR THE YEAR 2005

COSTS	AMOUNT €
COSTS PAID IN RESPECT OF APPLICATIONS TO BOARD	€24,794,904.25
COSTS PAID IN RESPECT OF RELATED HIGH COURT PROCEEDINGS	€3,824,912.26
TOTAL	€28,619,816.51

Newsletter June 2005

This is the 9th in a series of newsletters which the Board has decided to produce to keep applicants informed from time to time as to the procedures it follows and other developments. The Board's "Guide to Hearing Procedures" issued in April 2003 and in October of last year the Board issued the second edition of its Guide to the Redress Scheme. The Board's annual report for 2004 issued to the Minister for Education and Science in April of this year. This report can be viewed on the Board's website www.rirb.ie and is available free of charge from the Board's office.

Applications

The Board continues to receive applications at a steady rate and has received a total of 6,300 to date. The Board notifies applicants once it has received all necessary documentation in relation to their case. These notifications, known as completion letters, issue at a rate commensurate with the Board's ability to finalise applications and therefore do not always issue immediately after the Board has complied with its obligations in relation to the notification of relevant persons as outlined in the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2002. At the time of writing it can take up to 6 months for a case to be scheduled once the Board has issued a completion letter to the applicant or his/her solicitor indicating that the application is ready to proceed to hearing or settlement. This timeframe does not apply to those entitled to priority on grounds of age or medical condition.

Awards

To date the Board has completed the process in 3,277 cases. 2,420 offers have been made following settlement talks and 784 awards have been made following hearings. 4 applicants have rejected their awards. No award was made in 2 applications. In applications covering 71 applicants refusals have issued for one reason or another. These applications have been refused as, on the face of the documentation, the application was outside the Board's terms of reference as laid down in the 2002 Act. In other words the applications did not relate to residential institutions as defined in the Act. These applications are determined by the Board immediately on receipt so that the applicant is informed at the earliest possible date that his/her application is outside the ambit of the redress scheme. If the refusal refers to an institution now included in the scheme as a result of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Additional Institutions) Order 2004 the application will be reconsidered by the Board.

The average value of awards to date is €78,000, the smallest award being €0.00 and the largest award being €300,000.

Redress Board Bands

The breakdown of awards by Redress Band is as follows:

Redress Bands	Total Weightings for Severity of Abuse and Injury/Effects of Abuse	Award Payable by way of Redress	Number	Percentage
V	70 or more	€200,000 - €300,000	14	0.44%
IV	55 – 69	€150,000 - €200,000	87	2.71%
III	40 – 54	€100,000 - €150,000	668	20.85%
II	25 – 39	€ 50,000 - €100,000	1884	58.80%
I	Less than 25	Up to €50,000	551	17.20%
Total			3,204	100%

Sittings

The Board sits every day in its premises in Clonskeagh and now completes approximately 180 cases per month. It has also sat in Galway and Limerick. The Board sits for approximately one week per month in Cork and will continue to do so as long as there are sufficient applications from the region.

Closing Date for Receipt of Applications

The Board will shortly be advertising in the national media to advise potential applicants that, in accordance with the provisions of section 8 (1) of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002, the closing date for receipt of applications is the 15th of December 2005.

Legal Costs

The Board has received a number of complaints from applicants who are unhappy with fees charged by solicitors over and above the sums allowed on taxation or by agreement by the Board.

The Board points out that the correct sums due (if any) are a matter for agreement between solicitor and client based on the nature of the contract entered into by the parties i.e. the solicitor and his/her client. While the Board has no function in the matter it is lead to believe that the issue

will be addressed in the forthcoming Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Bill 2005 which is currently before the Oireachtas.

Counselling

In view of concerns expressed regarding the attendance of counsellors at its office in Clonskeagh the Board has decided to reproduce the relevant section from its Guide to Hearing Procedures, first published in April 2003:

“The Board appreciates that giving evidence may be a distressing experience, and that you may wish to be accompanied by a relative, friend or professional counsellor. This is a matter for you to decide, and the Board will do its best to make appropriate facilities available so that you can discuss any matter connected with your application in private before and after the hearing. The provision of these facilities will be more structured in the main office in Clonskeagh than in other locations.

As many applicants will already be receiving help as part of an ongoing programme (into which the Board would not wish to interpose a new counsellor), if you wish to have a counsellor available for you on the day of the hearing, you should make the necessary arrangements with your own counsellor. But if this is not possible for any reason, and you wish to have available the services of a professional counsellor before or after the hearing, the Board will make the necessary arrangements provided you give it advance notice.

A professional counsellor will not normally be permitted to sit in at the hearing itself. If you are legally represented, it is expected that you will be supported at the hearing by your solicitor and/or barrister. If you are not legally represented, if you wish you may bring a family member or friend to sit with you during the hearing in order to give you moral support.

You may also be accompanied during the hearing if you have any disability or need a helper or if you have hearing difficulties and need someone to act as a signer.

If you have any doubts about who can attend the hearing with you, please telephone the Board.”

The full “Guide to Hearing Procedures” is available on the website or directly from the Board’s office.

Newsletter July 2005

This is the 10th in a series of newsletters which the Board has decided to produce to keep applicants informed from time to time as to the procedures it follows and other developments. The Board's "Guide to Hearing Procedures" issued in April 2003 and in October of last year the Board issued the second edition of its Guide to the Redress Scheme. The Board's annual report for 2004 issued to the Minister for Education and Science in April of this year. This report can be viewed on the Board's website www.rirb.ie and is available free of charge from the Board's office.

Applications

The rate at which the Board receives applications has increased noticeably in recent months with the Board receiving more than 400 in June and a total of 7046 to date. The Board notifies applicants once it has received all necessary documentation in relation to their case. These notifications, known as completion letters, issue at a rate commensurate with the Board's ability to finalise applications and therefore do not always issue immediately after the Board has complied with its obligations in relation to the notification of relevant persons as outlined in the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2002. At the time of writing it can take up to 6 months for a case to be scheduled once the Board has issued a completion letter to the applicant or his/her solicitor indicating that the application is ready to proceed to hearing or settlement. This timeframe does not apply to those entitled to priority on grounds of age or medical condition.

Awards

To date the Board has completed the process in 3665 cases. 2704 offers have been made following settlement talks and 876 awards have been made following hearings. 5 applicants have rejected their awards. 11 applications resulted in an award of €0.00 or no award. In applications covering 74 applicants refusals have issued for one reason or another. These applications have been refused as, on the face of the documentation, the application was outside the Board's terms of reference as laid down in the 2002 Act. In other words the applications did not relate to residential institutions as defined in the Act. These applications are determined by the Board immediately on receipt so that the applicant is informed at the earliest possible date that his/her application is outside the ambit of the redress scheme. If the refusal refers to an institution now included in the scheme as a result of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Additional Institutions) Order 2004 or the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Additional Institutions) Order 2005 the application will be reconsidered by the Board.

The average value of awards to date is €77,150, the smallest award being €0.00 and the largest award being €300,000.

Redress Board Bands

The breakdown of awards by Redress Band is as follows:

Redress Bands	Total Weightings for Severity of Abuse and Injury/Effects of Abuse	Award Payable by way of Redress	Number	Percentage
V	70 or more	€200,000 - €300,000	15	0.42%
IV	55 – 69	€150,000 - €200,000	94	2.62%
III	40 – 54	€100,000 - €150,000	727	20.26%
II	25 – 39	€ 50,000 - €100,000	2119	59.03%
I	Less than 25	Up to €50,000	634	17.67%
Total			3589	100%

Sittings

The Board sits every day in its premises in Clonskeagh and now completes approximately 180 cases per month. It has also sat in Galway and Limerick. The Board sits for approximately one week per month in Cork and will continue to do so as long as there are sufficient applications from the region. As in previous years the Board will sit as normal throughout August.

Closing Date for Receipt of Applications

The Board has placed advertisements in all the major Irish daily and Sunday newspapers as well as a selection of United Kingdom newspapers advising potential applicants that, in accordance with the provisions of section 8 (1) of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002, the closing date for receipt of all applications is the 15th of December 2005.

New Institutions

By order entitled the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Additional Institutions) Order 2005 dated July 1st 2005 the Minister for Education and Science has amended the Schedule to the 2002 Redress Act by adding the following institutions:

Mary Immaculate School for the Deaf, Beechpark, Co. Dublin.

“The Boys Home” Grand Canal Street, Dublin 2.

“Racefield”, Upper Mountown Road, Dun Laoghaire.

This means that anyone who was abused as a child while resident in one of the above institutions may be entitled to redress from the Board.

You or your solicitor should contact the Board for further information.

Any applicant who was a resident in one of the institutions listed above and who has lodged an application with the Board (and who has not mentioned his or her residence in one of the above institutions on the application form in circumstances where s/he wishes to make a complaint in respect of his or her time in that institution) should, for safety's sake, contact the Board. Applicants who have already received an award in respect of a listed institution and who wish to make an additional claim in respect of a newly listed institution should also contact the Board.

The Board has placed advertisements in all the major Irish daily and Sunday newspapers as well as a selection of United Kingdom newspapers advising potential applicants that the institutions listed above have been added to the schedule to the 2002 Redress Act.

Amendments to the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002.

Part 4 of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act, 2005 has amended the Residential Institutions Redress Act, 2002 in a number of ways which affect the practice and procedure of the Board with immediate effect. These amendments may be summarised as follows:

- A new provision is made to cover the case where an award is made by the Board but the applicant dies before deciding whether to accept or reject the award or to submit it to the Review Committee.
- The Board has been given a discretion to request a report from its own medical advisers; previously, such a report was required in every case.
- An applicant who has submitted an award for review by the Review Committee is now allowed to withdraw from the review process provided that he or she does so within two weeks from the date of the submission to the Review Committee.
- In cases where the Board has directed that an award is not paid to an applicant in a single lump sum but in instalments or in some other manner, the applicant's right to have the direction reviewed by the Review Committee must now be exercised within one month from the date on which the Board's direction was given.

- More generally, in all cases where the Board has made a direction that an award is paid by instalments or in some manner other than by way of a single payment, the Board may now pay the appropriate sum into the High Court where it will be administered by the Accountant's Office.
- Any person, whether or not an applicant for redress, who gives false evidence to the Board may be found guilty of a criminal offence and fined and/or imprisoned.
- The Act of 2002 has been amended to make it clearer that an applicant may decide not to give oral evidence at a Board hearing - though the Board may still require him or her to do so.
- It is now provided that where a person has died since 11 May 1999, the Board may (instead of "shall") rely on the oral evidence of that person's spouse or children and on medical reports submitted on behalf of the deceased person.
- The Act of 2002 generally prohibits the disclosure to other persons of documents or other information used in connection with an application to the Board. An exception has now been made to this prohibition which will, for example, permit the Board to provide the Incorporated Law Society of Ireland with appropriate documents or information in connection with the hearing of complaints by the Society.
- Five institutions were referred to twice in the Schedule to the 2002 Act; the list has now been tidied up by the removal of the duplicate references, but no institution has been removed from the list of Scheduled Institutions.

A more detailed account of the effect of the amendments to the 2002 Act will be published shortly in an update to the "Guide to the Redress Scheme under the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002". This update will be added to the Board's website as soon as it is completed and will be available free of charge from the Board's office.

Medical Reports

In a number of instances the Board has received medical reports after a completion letter has issued. In some cases these reports contain references to abuse not mentioned in the applicant's original statement of abuse. In such instances an additional statement of abuse is required if the Board is to consider any new abuse mentioned in these medical reports.

Letter issued to the Law Society of Ireland 18th October 2005

Mr. Ken Murphy,
Director General,
Law Society of Ireland,
Blackhall Place,
Dublin 7.

Dear Mr. Murphy,

Thank you for your letter of the 17th instant. I am directed by the Board to reply as follows.

The Board notes that the Law Society is engaged in seeking out and adjudicating on complaints of deductions from awards and of additional charges made by solicitors in circumstances where they have already been paid by the Board. This development is welcomed.

It is only fair however to point out that much of this difficulty could have been averted if the Law Society had been more proactive in the manner in which it dealt with the original complaints. The Board is aware that the legal advice to the Law Society in the past was that, by reason of section 28 of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002, the Law Society was restricted in the manner in which it could investigate such complaints. The Board accepts the validity of this advice. Therefore the Board was pleased when the Oireachtas, at the request of the Minister for Education and Science, amended the legislation in July of this year to permit the type of investigation now suggested.

It is however noteworthy that there was nothing in the original legislation to prevent the Law Society taking other action of a general nature such as writing a stern note to its members pointing out the inappropriateness of the alleged deductions. The Board regrets that such a proactive stance apparently was not taken by the Law Society.

The Board is of course willing to assist in any proper way the Law Society in fulfilling its statutory obligation. To that end there is no difficulty in supplying the Law Society with a list of the solicitors who have cases pending or already finalised by the Board. The Board has already decided to publish in each annual report such a list in relation to costs paid to each firm of solicitors. The provision of the relevant extract from such an updated list at this time to the Law Society presents no difficulty. Of course such a list would not imply that any particular firm had acted improperly. Please have the appropriate officer contact the Board if you wish to access this list which has been prepared in anticipation of your request.

The Law Society's later suggestion, that we would write directly to those who have been represented by solicitors and have already received awards, is not possible by reason of the duty

of confidentiality between the Board and each applicant. The Board is aware that in many cases applicants have not informed family members of their applications. The Board is extremely conscious that there may be many reasons why applicants need privacy. Many of the applicants have used a solicitor as a buffer between the Board and themselves. The dispatching of letters to addresses supplied in such cases, which very often are addresses of convenience, would be a breach by the Board of its duty of confidentiality. In these cases the addresses were supplied on the clear understanding that they would not be used for correspondence. The Board would be posting letters which could be opened by anybody. Further, has a body such as the Board engaged in a quasi-judicial process the right to go over the head of a nominated solicitor and communicate with the solicitor's client? The recent High Court case involving Declan O'Brien v Personal Injuries Assessment Board (MacMeniman J 25th January 2005) would suggest such communications without consent are legally flawed.

Further in a high percentage of cases before the Board the applicants have pleaded for closure of their past experiences. On many occasions the Board has been requested to come to a final decision so that the applicants can move towards recovery. Your suggestion of a further communication, not at the applicant's initiative, would be a breach of the Board's policy of facilitating the applicant's recovery.

The Board now understands that when the suggestion was made the Law Society did not appreciate the implications of its request. The Board accepts this explanation. However it would have been prudent to put the suggestion to the Board and await its response before announcing this proposal. The airing of such a suggestion, before seeking the advice of those whose co-operation is necessary for its implementation, might tend to show that policy has been formed in an ad hoc way in this most serious matter.

Furthermore, when (post publication) you did consult the Board through the undersigned your characterisation of my response as recommending acceptance was inaccurate.

The Board at this stage is of the view that it is necessary that its response be put into the public domain. It will do so through its web-site.

If the Law Society believes the Board can assist in any other way it should not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Michael O' Beirne,
Secretary.
18th October 2005.

Newsletter November 2005

This is the 11th in a series of newsletters which the Board has decided to produce to keep applicants informed from time to time as to the procedures it follows and other developments. The Board's "Guide to Hearing Procedures" issued in April 2003 and in October of last year the Board issued the second edition of its Guide to the Redress Scheme. The Board's annual report for 2004 issued to the Minister for Education and Science in April of this year. This report can be viewed on the Board's website www.rirb.ie and is available free of charge from the Board's office.

Applications

The rate at which the Board receives applications has increased noticeably in recent months with the Board now receiving more than 600 per month and a total of 9551 to date. While all applications will continue to be acknowledged as soon as is practicable this will inevitably take considerably more time than heretofore.

The Board notifies applicants once it has received all necessary documentation in relation to their case. These notifications, known as completion letters, issue at a rate commensurate with the Board's ability to finalise applications and therefore do not always issue immediately after the Board has complied with its obligations in relation to the notification of relevant persons as outlined in the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2002. At the time of writing it can take up to 6 months for a case to be scheduled once the Board has issued a completion letter to the applicant or his/her solicitor indicating that the application is ready to proceed to hearing or settlement. This timeframe does not apply to those entitled to priority on grounds of age or medical condition.

Awards

To date the Board has completed the process in 4267 cases. 3154 offers have been made following settlement talks and 1006 awards have been made following hearings. 5 applicants have rejected their awards. 17 applications resulted in an award of €0.00 or no award. In applications covering 90 applicants refusals have issued for one reason or another. These applications have been refused as, on the face of the documentation, the application was outside the Board's terms of reference as laid down in the 2002 Act. In other words the applications did not relate to residential institutions as defined in the Act. These applications are determined by the Board immediately on receipt so that the applicant is informed at the earliest possible date that his/her application is outside the ambit of the redress scheme. If the refusal refers to an institution now included in the scheme as a result of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Additional Institutions) Order 2004 or the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (Additional Institutions) Order 2005 the application will be reconsidered by the Board.

The average value of awards to date is €76,500, the smallest award being €0.00 and the largest award being €300,000.

Redress Board Bands

The breakdown of awards by Redress Band is as follows:

Redress Bands	Total Weightings for Severity of Abuse and Injury/Effects of Abuse	Award Payable by way of Redress	Number	Percentage
V	70 or more	€200,000 - €300,000	16	0.38%
IV	55 – 69	€150,000 - €200,000	109	2.61%
III	40 – 54	€100,000 - €150,000	827	19.81%
II	25 – 39	€ 50,000 - €100,000	2466	59.07%
I	Less than 25	Up to €50,000	757	18.13%
Total			4175	100%

Dealings with Staff

In the recent past a small number of applicants have acted in an unacceptable manner when dealing with staff. Abusive language has been used and threats of violence made both over the telephone and in person. The staff endeavour at all times to provide a professional and courteous service to applicants and their legal representatives and the Board will not tolerate such abusive conduct. Accordingly staff members have been instructed to note any unacceptable conduct and bring it to the attention of the Board.

The Board has a duty to protect its staff members while processing the maximum numbers of cases in the shortest time. The processing of cases where staff members are abused by applicants

entails the devotion of inordinate periods of staff time as the protection of staff members may require duplication of personnel. Where staff members are mistreated in this fashion the Board will adjourn the case to the end of the list so as to assist the prompt processing of the maximum number of applications in the common good.

Sittings

The Board sits every day in its premises in Clonskeagh and now completes approximately 180 cases per month. It has also sat in Galway and Limerick. The Board sits for approximately one week per month in Cork and will continue to do so as long as there are sufficient applications from the region.

Advertising

In accordance with its remit under section 5 (b) of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 to “make all reasonable efforts, through public advertisement, direct correspondence with persons who were residents of an institution and otherwise, to ensure that persons who were residents of an institution are made aware of the function.....of the Board” an extensive advertising campaign has been undertaken by the Board.

Advertisements have been placed in all the national broadsheet and tabloid newspapers as well as the main provincial newspapers. Advertisements have also been placed on RTE 1 television, Network 2, Sky 1, Sky News, TV3 and TG 4. The Board has also placed advertisements on all national and major local radio stations. The Board held 12 information days throughout England in 2004 as well as placing advertisements in Sunday newspapers, daily newspapers and publications aimed specifically at the Irish community as well as distributing 7,500 leaflets and 7,500 pamphlets to the network of Irish Societies. The Board has also placed adverts in all Irish daily newspapers and selected papers in the U.K. highlighting each Ministerial Order which added institutions to the schedule to the Redress Act. This month the Board has also placed advertisements in the main Irish newspapers, selected United Kingdom publications and Irish publications in the U.S.A. and Australia. In total the Board has placed 1,492 advertisements.

In addition the Department of Foreign Affairs has, at the request of the Board, sent information on the role and functions of the Board, as well as highlighting the closing date for receipt of applications, to its embassies asking them to forward this information to all relevant Irish bodies with whom they have contact.

The Board’s web-site has been in operation for three years and is used as the conduit for newsletters, statements and media releases and includes all relevant information on the Board such as the Act of 2002, the Regulations, the guides to the scheme and more. The web-site received almost 5,000 visits in October.

This campaign, the Board's newsletters, annual reports and subsequent media reports have ensured that the Board retains a high public profile. In addition the various controversies involving the Board have further raised the profile of the process, as has the frequency with which the Board is mentioned on talk and news programmes on both radio and television as well as in the Oireachtas. The Board is also aware that there continues to be extensive advertising by third parties here in Ireland as well as abroad which has served to inform people of its existence. This advertising has been predominantly in the print media.

As a result of the foregoing the Board is satisfied that it has fulfilled its mandate in relation to informing potential applicants of its existence and functions. Nonetheless it would welcome any practical suggestions as to how it could inform other potential applicants who may not be aware of its functions.

Statement of Redress Board
Friday, 25th November 2005

The Board is issuing the following statement in response to recent queries regarding the validity of applications.

The Board accepts that matters such as proof of residence, which may be outside the control of the applicant and his/her solicitor, may follow the application form even though, as a matter of good practice, this information should where possible be included. A completed and detailed statement of abuse might in exceptional circumstances be supplied after the application has been lodged but the outline of the nature of the abuse and those responsible must surely be within the knowledge of the applicant and his/her solicitor before a decision to apply is made. Otherwise an application would be based on no known fact except residence. How could an application be lodged based only on the fact of residence when residence on its own does not form a valid reason for applying?

End of statement.

Newsletter December 2005

This is the 12th in a series of newsletters which the Board has decided to produce to keep applicants informed from time to time as to the procedures it follows and other developments. The Board's "Guide to Hearing Procedures" issued in April 2003 and the Board's annual report for 2004 issued to the Minister for Education and Science in April of this year. Earlier this month the Board issued the third edition of its Guide to the Redress Scheme which reflects changes in its practice and procedure occasioned by Part 4 of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act 2005.

Christmas Opening Hours

The Board's offices in Clonskeagh will be open until 4.00 p.m on Friday December 23rd and will re-open on Thursday December 29th. The office will be closed on New Year's Day.

The Board and staff would like to take this opportunity to wish all applicants a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. A special note of thanks is extended to all those who contributed to the establishment of the Board and who continue to help us in our attempt to provide the best possible service to all applicants.

Applications

The closing date for receipt of applications has now passed. The Board has now received a total of 14,768 applications.

Residential Institutions Redress Board

By agreement with the Residential Institutions Redress Board, I am reporting the results of my examination of the processing for payment of awards made by the Board and their payment from a Special Account established under the Residential Institutions Redress Act, 2002 (as amended by the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act, 2005). The Special Account is maintained jointly by the Department of Education and Science and the Department of Finance (the Departments).

The report covers the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

Basis of Report

The report is based on the results of audit testing which formed part of my audit of the Special Account. This testing was carried out in accordance with auditing standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

I have obtained all the information and explanations that I considered necessary for the purpose of my report.

Awards and Costs discharged by the Board¹

Awards and Costs represent amounts actually disbursed, in 2005, from the Special Account following instructions to pay issued by the Board whereas the figures cited in the 2004 Audit Report represent awards determined by the Board (and costs associated with those awards) but not necessarily actually disbursed in that period.

Awards and Costs paid in the year ended 31 December 2005 were

	€	€
Awards		
2005 Awards paid	154,685,937	
Awards paid (2004 instructions)	4,004,618	
Less credit adjustments	<u>(428,360)</u>	158,262,195
Costs		
2005 Costs paid	29,863,216	
Costs paid (2004 instructions)	261,281	
Less credit adjustments	<u>(44,022)</u>	<u>30,080,475</u>
Total Award Related Expenditure		<u>188,342,670</u>

In addition to the above, there are 2005 instalments outstanding at year-end to the value of €672,694. These have been transferred to the High Court in 2006 pursuant to an Order of the Court made under Section 34(e) of the 2005 Act.

Opinion

In my opinion, proper records were maintained by the Residential Institutions Redress Board and the Departments and

- payments made during the period were duly made on the foot of valid awards

- all awards which came in the course of payment were discharged
- the system of internal control employed by the Board is adequate and operated effectively during the period.

Fergus Glavey
for and on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General
June 2006

¹ The figures shown elsewhere in the Board's Report are not directly comparable as these reflect determinations by the Board and not actual disbursements from the Special Account.