# Annual Report of The Residential Institutions Redress Board 2006

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## FOREWORD

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

Events at the Board in 2006 were overshadowed by the illness and subsequent death on December 22<sup>nd</sup> of our beloved friend, colleague and chairman, the Honourable Mr. Justice Seán O'Leary.

It is impossible to quantify the contribution that Mr. Justice O'Leary made to the redress process. During his four years as Chairman of the Board he immersed himself in every aspect of the work and ensured that applications were finalised as expeditiously as possible while taking care that they were dealt with thoroughly, thoughtfully and with due consideration and fairness to all concerned. Through his commitment and diligence he led the development of the Board's procedures enabling 2,667 applications to be finalised in 2006.

Ever mindful of the needs of applicants Mr. Justice O'Leary was also conscious of the immense debt owed by the Board to its highly dedicated and hard working staff who perform a difficult task in the highest traditions of the public service under the leadership of Mr. Michael O'Beirne. Mr. Justice O'Leary was also conscious of the Board's good fortune in having an outstanding legal team lead by its two full time lawyers Mr. John Mc Donagh S.C. and Ms. Sharon Moohan Solicitor.

Mr. Justice O'Leary appreciated the good relationship which the Board enjoys with the Dept. of Education and Science and acknowledged that the Board's independence was respected and reflected in any dealings. As Chairman he was mindful that individual applicants and their legal advisers assist the Board in the processing and finalising of applications. He was mindful also that those who represent institutions which are the subject of applications (referred to in the Act as Relevant Persons) continue to assist the Board in what is a difficult task.

The Board would like to extend its deepest sympathy to Judge O'Leary's wife Mary and to his family. His wisdom, sense of fairness and the good humour which he brought to his work will be sadly missed by all his colleagues at the Board.

# 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 16<sup>th</sup> December 2002 under the provisions of section 3 of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 (The Act), consists of a Chairperson and 11 ordinary members appointed by the Minister for Education & Science. These are:

The Honourable Mr. Justice Bryan McMahon	appointed 4th May 2007
Professor Desmond Greer	appointed 16th December 2002
Dr. Helen Cummiskey	appointed 16th December 2002
Dr. Ruth Pilkington	appointed 16th December 2002
Ms. Ann O'Brien B.L.	appointed 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2003
Dr. Mary Bluett	appointed 25th September 2003
Ms. Dariona Conlon, Solicitor	appointed 8thJanuary 2004
Dr. Fionnuala O'Loughlin	appointed 27th April 2004
Mr. John A. Campbell, Solicitor	appointed 27th April 2004
Dr. Harry Bugler	appointed 15th December 2004
Ms. Samantha Cruess Callaghan B.L.	appointed 20th October 2005
Dr. William Delaney	appointed 27th February 2006

Since Establishment Day the number of Board members has increased from 4 to 12.

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

Section 5 of the Act provides that 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) 29 administrative staff of the Board.
- (b) 1 full time and 4 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 was undertaken by the Board up to the end of 2005.

Advertisements were 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 in Britain. The Board also distributed 7,500 leaflets and 7,500 pamphlets to the network of Irish Societies. The Board placed advertisements in all Irish daily newspapers and selected newspapers in the United Kingdom highlighting each Ministerial Order which added institutions to the schedule to the Redress Act. In November 2005 the Board placed advertisements highlighting 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 placed 1,492 advertisements since it was established. The closing date for applications being 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005, this campaign is now finished.

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 redress scheme 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 four 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 Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002, as amended by Part 4 of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (Amendment) Act, 2005 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.

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 2006 newsletters and statements are attached as appendices (e) to (j) and may be viewed on the Board's website <u>www.rirb.ie.</u>
- 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 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005 by which time the Board had received 14,513 applications.

Pursuant to the provisions of section 8(2) and 8(3) of the 2002 Act the Board may, at its discretion and where it considers there are exceptional circumstances, extend the period for receipt of applications. Any applicant wishing to lodge an application after 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005 is asked to explain in writing to the Board why the application was not lodged in time. The Board considers each such submission individually. By the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 the Board had received 174 such submissions which were dealt with as follows:

- 18 submissions were accepted by the Board
- 72 submissions were disallowed by the Board
- 1 submission was withdrawn
- In 72 cases the Board was awaiting further information from the applicant
- 11 submissions remained to be considered by the Board

The Board has received a total of 14,531 applications (including 18 late applications accepted up 31st December 2006).

# **Processing of Applications**

Consideration of an application requires the obtaining of written information and reports from a variety of sources. The Board notifies applicants once it has received all necessary documentation in relation to their application. 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 for consideration by the Board once the Board has issued a completion letter to the applicant or his/her solicitor indicating that the application is ready to proceed to settlement or hearing. 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 15<sup>th</sup> December 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. The Board continues to make every effort to ensure all applications are finalised as expeditiously as possible.

#### Number and Amounts of Awards

The Board commenced making awards in May 2003 and by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 had completed the process in 7,291 cases as detailed below:

- 5,343 offers/awards made following settlement.
- 1,408 awards made following hearings (5 awards rejected by applicant).
- 196 awards following Review.
- 344 applications withdrawn, refused or resulted in a nil or no award

The average value of awards to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 is approximately €70,550.00, the largest award being €300,000.00 and the lowest €0.00.

The average award following a successful settlement is €71,000. The average award following a hearing by the Board is €69,400. The average award following an unsuccessful attempt to settle which therefore went to hearing is €70,500.

#### **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 this service. The MABS is a locally-based independent information and advice provider which has been in general 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 is of the view that this can best be done through the Courts Service which has considerable expertise in this area. The Courts Service has provided this service since 2005 and the necessary arrangements remain 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 Siochana 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 7,291 cases completed, 1 has been referred to the Garda Siochána under section 7(6) 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. In a number of other cases the Board, while not of the opinion that an offence under section 7(6) has or may have been committed, has nevertheless rejected an application in whole or in part on the grounds that it is not satisfied as to the truth of the allegations made by an applicant.

#### 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 these 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. Costs are not paid by the Board in cases where an application has been rejected by the Board.

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 special 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, 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 is 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 4,903 applications. €56,662,347.20 has been paid in respect of applications to the Board. In 1,591 of these applications a further €7,679,704.64 has been paid in respect of the costs of associated court proceedings. This makes a total of €64,342,051.84.

Legal Costs							
To end 2005 2006 Total							
Finalised Applications	2710	2193	4903				
Costs of Applications to the Board	€32,237,696.59	€24,424,650.61	€56,662,347.20				
Costs of Associated Court Proceedings	€5,227,187.42 (1,062 cases)	€ 2,452,517.22 (529 cases)	€7,679,704.64 (1,591 cases)				
Total Costs	€37,464,884.01	€26,877,167.83	€64,342,051.84				

Further details are given in the following table.

The average costs and expenses paid to applicants' solicitors in respect of applications to the Board amount to €11,557 per application, or 16.38% of the award.

# Audit

During the year, the Board once again 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 August 2007 and the Comptroller's certificate of satisfaction is attached in appendix (i).

# **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.
- Newsletters. The newsletters issued in 2006 are attached as appendices (e), (f), (h) and (j) and can also be viewed on the Board's website <u>www.rirb.ie.</u>
- 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 14,380 applications which were registered on the Board's case management system on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2006.

\* Some figures may vary from those in the 2005 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**

Pursuant to the provisions of section 8(2) and 8(3) of the 2002 Act the Board may, at its discretion and where it considers there are exceptional circumstances, extend the period for receipt of applications. Any applicant wishing to lodge an application after 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005 is asked to explain in writing to the Board why the application was not lodged in time. The Board considers each such submission individually. By the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 the Board had received 174 such submissions which were dealt with as follows.

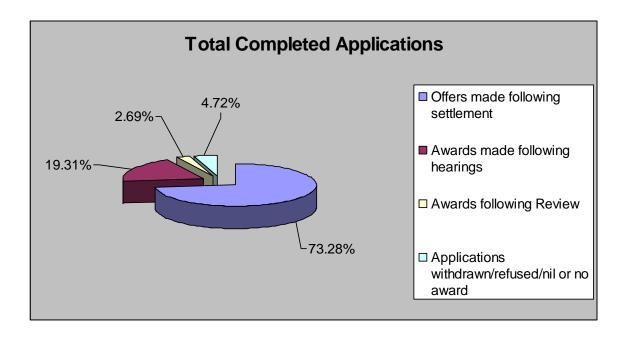
- 18 submissions were accepted by the Board
- 72 submissions were disallowed by the Board
- 1 submission was withdrawn
- In 72 cases the Board was awaiting further information from the applicant
- 11 submissions remained to be considered by the Board

The Board has now received a total of 14,531 applications (including the 18 late applications accepted up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006). This total increase when all outstanding submissions have been finally considered by the Board.

# **Completed Applications**

On the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 the Board had completed the process in 7,291 cases, as detailed below

•	Offers made following settlement	-	5,343
•	Awards made following hearings	-	1,408
•	Awards following Review	-	196
•	Applications withdrawn/refused/nil or no award	-	344



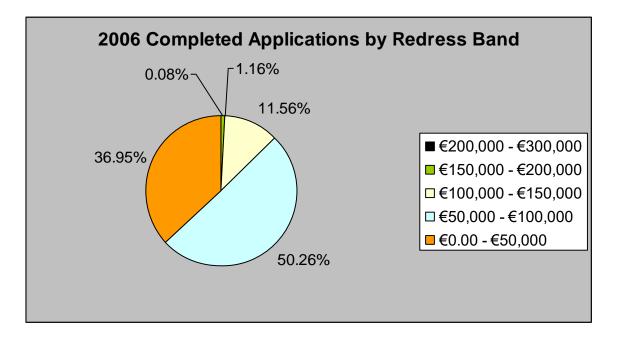
The breakdown of the completed cases to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 is detailed in the following table.

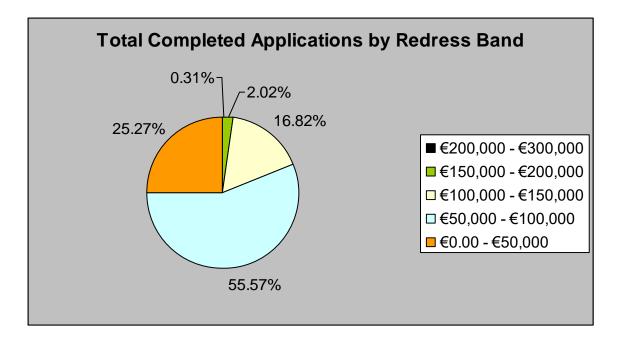
Completed Applications	To End 2005	2006	Total
Offers made following settlement	3,382	1,961	5,343
Awards made following hearings	940	468	1,408
Awards following Review	151	45	196
Applications withdrawn/refused/nil or no award	151	193	344
Total Completed Cases	4,624	2,667	7,291

#### Number of Awards by Redress Band

Redress Bands	Total Weighting	Award Payable	No. of Apps 2006	%	Total Apps	%
v	70 or more	€200,000 - €300,000	2	0.08%	22	0.31%
iv	55-69	€150,000 - €200,000	29	1.16%	141	2.02%
iii	40-54	€100,000 - €150,000	289	11.56%	1177	16.82%
ii	25-39	€50,000 - €100,000	1257	50.26%	3888	55.57%
i	less than 25	€0.00 - €50,000	924	36.95%	1768	25.27%
Total			2501	100.00%	6996	100.00%

The breakdown of awards by Redress Bands is as follows:



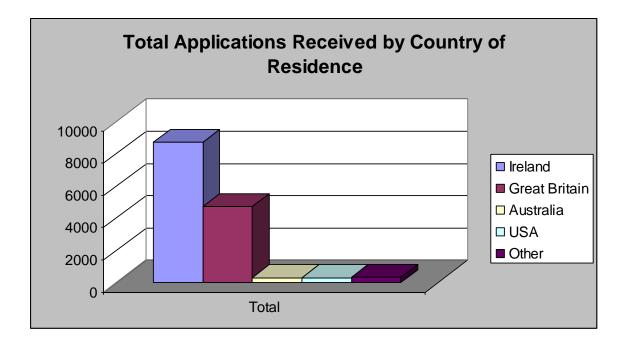


# **Country of Residence of Applicants**

The figures below refer to the 14,380 applications registered on the Board's case management system on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006.

Country of Residence	Total Applications Received	% of Total Applications Received
Ireland	8720	60.64%
Great Britain	4732	32.91%
Australia	301	2.09%
USA	300	2.09%
Northern Ireland	111	0.77%
Canada	91	0.63%
Spain	30	0.21%
New Zealand	20	0.14%
Germany	16	0.11%
The Netherlands	15	0.10%
France	8	0.06%
Sweden	6	0.04%
Denmark	5	0.03%
South Africa	4	0.03%
Channel Islands	3	0.02%
Belguim	2	0.01%
Italy	2	0.01%
Malta	1	0.01%
Nigeria	1	0.01%
Portugal	1	0.01%
Republic of Panama	1	0.01%
The Philippines	1	0.01%
West Indies	1	0.01%
Finland	1	0.01%
Zimbabwe	1	0.01%
Thailand	1	0.01%
Sri Lanka	1	0.01%
Morocco	1	0.01%
Norway	1	0.01%
Austria	1	0.01%
United Arab Emirates	1	0.01%
Total	14380	100.00%

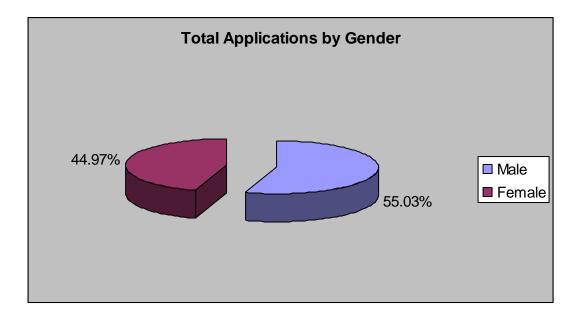
Great Britain and Ireland account for more than 93% of applications with Australia and the U.S.A. accounting for a further 4%.



# **Gender of Applicants**

The figures below refer to the 14,380 applications registered on the Board's case management system on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006. Of these 14,380 applications, 7,914 are from men and 6,466 are from women.

The proportion of female applicants has increased from just over 31% at the end of 2003 to just under 45% at the end of 2006.



# Applications on behalf of injured persons

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 400 such applications up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006.

## Applications on behalf of persons who died after 11<sup>th</sup> May 1999

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.

419 such applications have been made to the Board.

# **Priority Applications**

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

(i) who were born before 1<sup>st</sup> January 1936, 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.

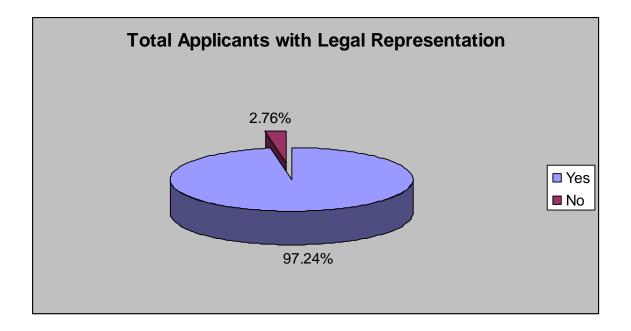
In 2006 823 applicants born before 1<sup>st</sup> January 1936 were granted priority by the Board. 77 applicants were granted priority on the grounds of medical or psychiatric condition. In all the Board has granted priority to a total of 2,521 applicants, 2,200 on the grounds of age and 321 on the grounds of a medical or psychiatric condition.

#### In 2007 the Board will give priority to applicants born before 1<sup>st</sup> January 1937.

# Legal Representation

The chart below refers to the 14,380 applications registered on the Board's case management system on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006.

The percentage of applications from applicants represented by a solicitor stands at 97.24%, a slight increase from 96.91% at the end of 2005.



Applicants are represented by a total of 958 firms of solicitors and costs have been paid to date in respect of 4,903 applications. The 2,193 costs payments made by the Board in 2006 are listed below. It should be noted that the Board has not yet received bills in respect of all the applications it has determined.

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 - 2006	Board Costs Paid in 2006	Related High Court Costs paid in 2006	2006 Total
Abney Garsden McDonald	23	€232,887.98	€ 0.00	€232,887.98
Ahern O'Shea	12	€103,355.03	€ 0.00	€103,355.03
Ahern Roberts O'Rourke Williams & Partners	1	€ 15,212.71	€ 0.00	€15,212.71
Alsters Kelley	1	€ 7,327.28	€ 0.00	€7,327.28
Amorys	1	€ 13,379.46	€ 0.00	€13,379.46
Anne M Fitzpatrick & Co.	1	€ 8,196.50	€ 0.00	€8,196.50
Arthur E. Mac Mahon	1	€ 5,825.25	€ 0.00	€5,825.25
Augustus Cullen & Son	1	€ 2,326.90	€ 0.00	€2,326.90
B P O'Reilly & Co	2	€ 23,850.81	€ 2,104.78	€25,955.59
B. Vincent Hoey & Co.	1	€ 8,687.00	€ 0.00	€8,687.00
Baynes & Co	3	€ 17,800.75	€ 0.00	€17,800.75
Becker Tansey & Co	2	€ 31,807.97	€ 29,408.67	€61,216.64
Benen Fahy Associates	1	€ 5,453.23	€ 0.00	€5,453.23
Bennetts Solicitors & Estate Agents	1	€ 7,954.85	€ 0.00	€7,954.85
Birnberg Peirce & Partners	6	€ 79,274.81	€ 0.00	€79,274.81
Bolger, White Egan & Flanagan	1	€ 1,444.35	€ 0.00	€1,444.35
Bolt Burdon Kemp	3	€ 35,756.41	€ 0.00	€35,756.41
Bourke & Co	1	€ 10,289.14	€ 0.00	€10,289.14
Bowler Geraghty & Co	3	€ 40,487.36	€ 0.00	€40,487.36
Branigan Berkery	2	€ 24,042.10	€ 0.00	€24,042.10

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2006	Board Costs Paid in 2006	Related High Court Costs paid in 2006	2006 Total
Breen Geary McCarthy & Shee	1	€ 6,264.50	€ 0.00	€6,264.50
Brendan Comiskey	1	€ 21,202.00	€ 4,069.18	€25,271.18
Brendan Maloney & Co	1	€ 11,765.05	€ 0.00	€11,765.05
Brendan Walsh & Partners	1	€ 16,595.50	€ 0.00	€16,595.50
Brian J. Chesser & Co	1	€ 14,701.92	€ 0.00	€14,701.92
Brian McLoughlin & Company	3	€ 20,787.74	€ 0.00	€20,787.74
Brooks & Company	1	€ 13,993.36	€ 1,633.50	€15,626.86
Brophy	3	€ 42,556.20	€ 6,472.58	€49,028.78
Brown McComish	5	€ 34,194.36	€ 0.00	€34,194.36
Browne & Co	0	€ 2,847.59	€ 0.00	€2,847.59
Burns Kelly Corrigan	1	€ 6,520.02	€ 0.00	€6,520.02
Burns Nowlan	1	€ 6,511.98	€ 0.00	€6,511.98
Bury & Walkers	2	€ 6,555.85	€ 0.00	€6,555.85
Byrne Carolan Cunningham	23	€290,445.88	€ 75,479.45	€365,925.33
C J Louth & Son	1	€ 8,462.10	€ 0.00	€8,462.10
Caldwell & Robinson	1	€ 13,420.14	€ 0.00	€13,420.14
Carmody & Company	2	€ 18,620.43	€ 0.00	€18,620.43
Carter Green Lawyers	1	€ 2,071.85	€ 0.00	€2,071.85
Clarke Jeffers & Co	1	€ 7,910.60	€ 0.00	€7,910.60
Clarksons	4	€30,429.10	€ 0.00	€30,429.10

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2006	Board Costs Paid in 2006	Related High Court Costs paid in 2006	2006 Total
Cleary & Cleary	7	€ 57,557.40	€ 0.00	€57,557.40
Cleary & Co	1	€ 6,080.00	€ 0.00	€6,080.00
Clifford Sullivan & Co	1	€ 7,589.00	€ 0.00	€7,589.00
Coghlan & McNally	1	€ 8,894.00	€ 10,708.45	€19,602.45
Colbert & Associates	1	€ 5,492.50	€ 0.00	€5,492.50
Collins Crowley	19	€ 186,407.43	€ 25,003.84	€211,411.27
Collins, Brooks & Associates	1	€ 13,633.50	€ 0.00	€13,633.50
Colm O 'Cochlain and Co.	1	€ 7,038.00	€ 0.00	€7,038.00
Colm S O Riain & Co	3	€ 43,076.00	€ 5,705.94	€48,781.94
Coughlan Kelly	0	€ 1,210.00	€ 0.00	€1,210.00
Cullen & Co	1	€ 7,915.00	€ 0.00	€7,915.00
Cullen, Tyrrell & O' Beirne	1	€ 13,794.70	€ 0.00	€13,794.70
D C Shaw & Co	1	€ 5,929.00	€ 0.00	€5,929.00
D J O'Malley & Co	1	€ 10,126.10	€ 0.00	€10,126.10
D J Synnott	1	€ 4,657.64	€ 0.00	€4,657.64
Daly Galvin	1	€ 5,045.00	€ 0.00	€5,045.00
Damien Tansey & Associates	4	€54,073.87	€ 0.00	€54,073.87
Daniel Spring & Co	4	€ 46,400.82	€ 13,958.74	€60,359.56
Daragh M. Keane	1	€ 6,092.00	€ 0.00	€6,092.00
David Burke & Co	13	€157,560.36	€ 18,067.82	€175,628.18

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2006	Board Costs Paid in 2006	Related High Court Costs paid in 2006	2006 Total
David Walley & Co	7	€ 85,848.85	€ 28,675.92	€114,524.77
Denis A. Linehan & Co	2	€ 25,942.00	€ 0.00	€25,942.00
Denis O'Sullivan & Co	1	€ 10,951.75	€ 0.00	€10,951.75
Dermot Lavery & Co	2	€27,625.82	€ 13,066.41	€40,692.23
Dermot McNamara & Company	2	€ 9,082.90	€ 0.00	€9,082.90
Diarmaid Falvey	1	€ 11,438.34	€ 2,471.20	€13,909.54
Dobbyn & McCoy	2	€ 19,109.40	€ 0.00	€19,109.40
Dockrell Farrell	1	€10,646.39	€ 0.00	€10,646.39
Don Ryan & Company	1	€ 10,454.00	€ 0.00	€10,454.00
Donal Farrelly	1	€12,153.00	€ 0.00	€12,153.00
Donal Reilly & Collins	2	€ 24,437.68	€ 8,418.26	€32,855.94
Donnelly Neary & Donnelly	1	€ 14,289.25	€ 0.00	€14,289.25
Doyle & Company	3	€ 23,097.50	€ 0.00	€23,097.50
Doyle Hanlon	2	€ 15,382.00	€ 0.00	€15,382.00
Duncan Grehan & Partners	2	€ 14,470.00	€ 0.00	€14,470.00
Dundon Callanan	1	€ 8,053.50	€ 0.00	€8,053.50
Durcans	1	€ 6,560.00	€ 0.00	€6,560.00
E C Gearty & Co	1	€ 10,046.00	€ 0.00	€10,046.00
E Rex Makin & Co	1	€ 8,807.70	€ 0.00	€8,807.70
Eamon Murray & Co	29	€ 279,884.66	€ 0.00	€279,884.66

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2006	Board Costs Paid in 2006	Related High Court Costs paid in 2006	2006 Total
Edward Farrell & Co	1	€ 11,326.75	€ 1,881.55	€13,208.30
Enda P. Moran	2	€ 24,102.29	€ 12,840.07	€36,942.36
English Leahy Donovan	1	€ 8,547.24	€ 0.00	€8,547.24
Eoin Lysaght & Co	1	€ 8,103.00	€ 0.00	€8,103.00
Eugene Carey & Co	1	€ 7,648.25	€ 0.00	€7,648.25
Fahy McGeever	2	€ 22,203.83	€ 0.00	€22,203.83
Fair & Murtagh	1	€ 11,739.71	€ 0.00	€11,739.71
Farrell & Partners	1	€ 12,636.00	€ 0.00	€12,636.00
Fergus A. Feeney BCL	1	€ 13,883.50	€ 0.00	€13,883.50
Ferrys	35	€311,466.26	€ 78,085.99	€389,552.25
Fitzgerald	1	€ 9,017.14	€ 0.00	€9,017.14
Fleming & Barrett	1	€ 9,262.00	€ 0.00	€9,262.00
Frances E Barron & Co	1	€ 11,424.50	€ 0.00	€11,424.50
Francis B. Taaffe & Co	1	€ 17,206.50	€ 0.00	€17,206.50
Francis C Kelleher & Co	2	€ 23,715.09	€ 4,419.11	€28,134.20
Frank Joyce & Co	2	€ 17,328.39	€ 0.00	€17,328.39
Frank Ward & Co	4	€ 29,951.00	€ 6,593.73	€36,544.73
Frizelle O'Leary & Co	12	€ 137,041.40	€ 53,308.87	€190,350.27
Gaffney Halligan & Co	5	€ 28,506.90	€ 0.00	€28,506.90
Gallagher Shatter	6	€ 58,403.60	€ 2,334.68	€60,738.28

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Gandon	1	€ 17,677.68	€ 0.00	€17,677.68
Garrett J Fortune and Co	1	€ 6,273.50	€ 0.00	€6,273.50
Gartlan Winters	1	€ 7,526.00	€ 0.00	€7,526.00
Gelbergs	1	€ 4,132.27	€ 0.00	€4,132.27
Geraldine Kelly & Co	1	€ 9,956.50	€ 0.00	€9,956.50
Gerard Dunne & Co	1	€ 8,304.89	€ 0.00	€8,304.89
Gibbons Associates	1	€ 4,844.50	€ 0.00	€4,844.50
Gleeson, Kean	1	€ 10,229.00	€ 0.00	€10,229.00
H D Keane & Co	2	€ 23,915.93	€ 10,004.63	€33,920.56
Hallinan, Blackburn Gittings & Nott	1	€ 2,859.68	€ 0.00	€2,859.68
Hanahoe & Hanahoe	1	€ 5,494.00	€ 0.00	€5,494.00
Haughton McCarroll	1	€ 8,408.00	€ 0.00	€8,408.00
Healy Crowley & Co	1	€ 12,050.00	€ 0.00	€12,050.00
Henry P. Kelly & Co	2	€ 19,562.50	€ 6,124.80	€25,687.30
Heslin, Ryan & Co	1	€ 10,950.50	€ 0.00	€10,950.50
Hodge Jones & Allen	118	€1,321,372.92	€ 0.00	€1,321,372.92
Hugh J. Campbell & Co	3	€ 40,886.37	€ 11,119.97	€52,006.34
Hughes & Liddy	1	€ 13,915.00	€ 0.00	€13,915.00
Hughes Murphy & Co	5	€ 69,385.28	€ 66,373.06	€135,758.34
Hussey & Bates	9	€ 111,475.28	€ 0.00	€111,475.28

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2006	Board Costs Paid in 2006	Related High Court Costs paid in 2006	2006 Total
Irwin Kilcullen & Co	0	€ 2,800.49	€ 0.00	€2,800.49
J F Goold & Co.	1	€ 16,288.00	€ 0.00	€16,288.00
J. D. Scanlon & Co	1	€ 7,285.14	€ 0.00	€7,285.14
Jackson & Canter	1	€ 694.76	€ 0.00	€694.76
James A. Connolly & Co	1	€ 17,225.35	€ 0.00	€17,225.35
James J. Kelly & Son	2	€ 11,768.27	€ 0.00	€11,768.27
James Reilly & Son	2	€ 15,802.00	€ 0.00	€15,802.00
John Conway	1	€ 15,507.00	€ 0.00	€15,507.00
John Devane	7	€ 51,650.21	€ 8,714.30	€60,364.51
John Duffy & Co	1	€ 9,853.80	€ 0.00	€9,853.80
John F. Walsh & Co	1	€ 28,545.80	€ 53,827.35	€82,373.15
John Hussey & Co	5	€ 54,404.58	€ 26,764.37	€81,168.95
John J. Quinn & Co	2	€ 17,018.38	€ 0.00	€17,018.38
John Lanigan & Nolan	1	€ 10,175.15	€ 0.00	€10,175.15
John M. Spencer	2	€ 22,235.04	€ 2,155.39	€24,390.43
John Moynihan	1	€ 11,321.00	€ 0.00	€11,321.00
John O'Leary & Co	3	€ 26,811.10	€ 0.00	€26,811.10
John Schutte Associates	1	€ 10,596.97	€ 8,028.30	€18,625.27
John Sherlock & Co	3	€ 18,859.27	€ 0.00	€18,859.27
Jordans	10	€ 107,799.51	€ 0.00	€107,799.51

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Joseph Brophy & Co	1	€ 8,561.50	€ 0.00	€8,561.50
Joseph M. Jordan	2	€ 16,144.81	€ 0.00	€16,144.81
Joseph S. Cuddigan & Co	2	€29,236.53	€ 0.00	€29,236.53
Joy, Brennan & Co	10	€ 106,609.77	€ 0.00	€106,609.77
Karen O'Neill & Associates	1	€ 14,176.97	€ 0.00	€14,176.97
Kennedy Frewen O'Sullivan	1	€ 15,299.50	€ 2,851.78	€18,151.28
Ken Smyth & Co	0	€ 2,420.00	€ 0.00	€2,420.00
Kent Carty	1	€ 4,648.96	€ 9,770.13	€14,419.09
Kevin Hegarty	5	€ 58,857.41	€ 0.00	€58,857.41
Kieran McCarthy & Co	7	€ 70,805.02	€ 0.00	€70,805.02
Kilfeather Keyes	1	€ 6,218.40	€ 0.00	€6,218.40
Kilrane O'Callaghan & Co	1	€ 7,239.00	€ 0.00	€7,239.00
Kinsella Heffernan Foskin	4	€ 42,452.93	€ 3,519.53	€45,972.46
Kirwan & Kirwan	2	€ 24,684.19	€ 0.00	€24,684.19
Lavelle Coleman	209	€2,291,299.90	€ 395,948.00	€2,687,247.90
Lawlor O'Reilly & Co	2	€ 30,492.58	€ 8,105.43	€38,598.01
Lees	3	€ 32,780.79	€ 7,524.46	€40,305.25
Lennon Toner O'Neill	1	€ 12,027.45	€ 0.00	€12,027.45
Linder Myers	36	€ 517,996.54	€ 0.00	€517,996.54
Louise Moloney & Co	1	€ 17,532.00	€ 0.00	€17,532.00

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Lynch and Partners	1	€ 7,184.59	€ 0.00	€7,184.59
Lyons	2	€ 23,971.50	€ 0.00	€23,971.50
M J Horgan & Sons	3	€ 30,542.46	€ 2,062.30	€32,604.76
M M Halley & Son	1	€ 5,042.50	€ 0.00	€5,042.50
M P Black & Co	2	€ 16,975.75	€ 20,113.32	€37,089.07
M. B. Morris	1	€ 9,780.00	€ 0.00	€9,780.00
MacGuill & Co	21	€ 284,682.46	€ 13,476.14	€298,158.60
Mackey O'Sullivan	2	€ 22,592.50	€ 4,900.50	€27,493.00
Macklin & Co	1	€ 14,124.69	€ 8,670.51	€22,795.20
Madden & Associates	160	€1,719,741.67	€ 170,025.34	€1,889,767.01
Maddens Lawyers	18	€ 178,219.91	€ 0.00	€178,219.91
Maguire McClafferty	2	€ 28,084.66	€ 0.00	€28,084.66
Maguire McNeice & Company	4	€ 53,668.85	€ 10,008.46	€63,677.31
Malcomson Law	5	€ 57,083.31	€ 0.00	€57,083.31
Mander Hadley & Co	1	€ 12,035.04	€ 0.00	€12,035.04
Manus Sweeney & Co	1	€ 21,250.91	€ 0.00	€21,250.91
Margaret Campbell	84	€903,422.18	€ 48,513.24	€951,935.42
Martin A Harvey & Co	1	€ 16,792.00	€ 9,530.92	€26,322.92
Martin	1	€ 13,588.80	€ 0.00	€13,588.80
Matthew Bermingham & Co	1	€ 10,711.50	€ 11,468.96	€22,180.46

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Matthew Gold & Co	31	€332,727.91	€ 0.00	€332,727.91
Matthews	1	€ 7,927.40	€ 3,679.37	€11,606.77
Maurice Blackburn Cashman	2	€ 11,194.30	€ 0.00	€11,194.30
Maurice J. Bannon & Co.	1	€ 18,397.36	€ 0.00	€18,397.36
McAllister O Connor	1	€ 5,312.00	€ 0.00	€5,312.00
McArdle & Co	1	€ 10,655.32	€ 3,794.45	€14,449.77
McCartan & Burke	2	€ 31,105.50	€ 8,090.37	€39,195.87
McCarthy & Booty	0	€ 1,936.00	€ 0.00	€1,936.00
McDermot Creed & Martyn	1	€ 13,528.50	€ 0.00	€13,528.50
McGonagle	1	€ 7,585.80	€ 0.00	€7,585.80
McInnes & Associates	1	€ 19,366.00	€ 12,222.78	€31,588.78
McKeever Taylor	1	€ 15,376.00	€ 0.00	€15,376.00
McMahon & Co	43	€446,766.83	€ 0.00	€446,766.83
McMahon O'Brien Downes	29	€366,323.65	€ 10,218.38	€376 <i>,</i> 542.03
McNamara & Associates	1	€ 4,861.50	€ 0.00	€4,861.50
McNamara & Co	1	€ 8,297.75	€ 0.00	€8,297.75
McNulty Boylan & Partners	1	€ 15,574.90	€ 0.00	€15,574.90
Michael Buggy & Co	3	€ 53,202.38	€ 27,490.20	€80,692.58
Michael Collins & Co	1	€ 10,950.50	€ 0.00	€10,950.50
Michael E Hanahoe	268	€3,836,170.04	€ 541,265.55	€4,377,435.59

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Michael Houlihan & Partners	1	€ 14,630.50	€ 0.00	€14,630.50
Michael J Hanrahan	1	€ 1,476.20	€ 0.00	€1,476.20
Michael Lanigan & Co	32	€385,051.44	€ 16,951.48	€402,002.92
Michael McDarby & Co	1	€ 13,478.70	€ 0.00	€13,478.70
Michael Monahan	1	€ 24,667.13	€ 0.00	€24,667.13
Moriarty & Company	1	€ 18,215.11	€ 63,480.54	€81,695.65
Mulvey Kenny & Co	1	€ 14,218.92	€ 0.00	€14,218.92
Murphy & Condon	2	€ 20,780.81	€ 0.00	€20,780.81
Murphy English & Co	88	€1,243,767.79	€ 59,061.62	€1,302,829.41
Murphy Ramsay Walsh	1	€ 19,552.50	€ 0.00	€19,552.50
Murphys	13	€175,439.91	€ 25,121.72	€200,561.63
Murray Flynn Maguire	2	-€ 7,319.07	€ 36,013.53	€28,694.46
Murrough O'Rourke	1	€ 18,566.80	€ 7,626.58	€26,193.38
Neilan & Co	1	€ 7,806.47	€ 0.00	€7,806.47
Noonan Linehan Carroll Coffey	2	€ 33,906.50	€ 2,087.50	€35,994.00
Nooney & Dowdall	1	€ 6,216.20	€ 0.00	€6,216.20
O'Brien & Associates	1	€ 11,462.00	€ 0.00	€11,462.00
O'Brien Lynam	1	€ 14,144.00	€ 0.00	€14,144.00
O'Brien Ronayne	1	€ 10,113.50	€ 0.00	€10,113.50
O'Carroll & Company	7	€ 91,940.48	€ 42,137.84	€134,078.32

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O'Hanrahan & Co	1	€10,183.00	€ 0.00	€10,183.00
O'Hanrahan Lally	3	€ 48,606.00	€ 2,634.27	€51,240.27
O'Neill & Co	7	€ 70,156.84	€ 2,151.38	€72,308.22
O'Neill Quinn & Co	2	€ 18,047.10	€ 0.00	€18,047.10
O'Reilly Doherty & Co	2	€ 12,287.00	€ 0.00	€12,287.00
O'Reilly Thomas	0	€ 740.00	€ 0.00	€740.00
O'Riada	0	€ 800.00	€ 0.00	€800.00
Orla O Donnchadha & Co	1	€14,454.50	€ 0.00	€14,454.50
O'Shee Murphy and Co	1	€ 7,576.00	€ 0.00	€7,576.00
Owen O'Mahony & Co	1	€ 12,002.50	€ 0.00	€12,002.50
P C Moore & Co	1	€ 23,558.16	€ 0.00	€23,558.16
P J Lavan & Co	9	€ 72,192.66	€ 40,206.00	€112,398.66
Padraig Foley & Co	14	€ 128,487.94	€ 18,059.82	€146,547.76
Padraig J O'Connell	1	€ 6,844.50	€ 0.00	€6,844.50
Partners At Law	1	€ 11,915.00	€ 0.00	€11,915.00
Partridge & Wilson	1	€11,906.58	€ 0.00	€11,906.58
Passmores Lewis & Jacobs	1	€ 18,139.03	€ 0.00	€18,139.03
Pat Aherne	1	€ 7,746.30	€ 0.00	€7,746.30
Patrick Casey & Co	1	€ 10,026.97	€ 0.00	€10,026.97
Patrick Duffy	1	€ 13,781.92	€ 0.00	€13,781.92

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Patrick F. Treacy & Co	1	€ 30,319.25	€ 0.00	€30,319.25
Patrick Mann & Co	7	€ 77,058.64	€ 9,437.05	€86,495.69
Patrick Mc Carthy & Company	1	€ 9,969.00	€ 0.00	€9,969.00
Patrick O'Neill & Co	1	€ 21,414.22	€ 0.00	€21,414.22
Patrick V. Boland & Son	1	€ 8,367.60	€ 0.00	€8,367.60
Paul A Ferris & Co	9	€ 70,392.35	€ 21,851.25	€92,243.60
Paul A. Moore & Co	1	€ 7,664.00	€ 0.00	€7,664.00
Paul W Tracey	112	€976,605.92	€ 4,280.00	€980,885.92
Pauline O'Reilly & Co	2	€ 31,576.16	€ 19,959.67	€51,535.83
Pearse Mehigan & Co	27	€289,595.57	€ 11,787.05	€301,382.62
Peter McDonnell & Associates	220	€ 1,902,401.26	€ 0.00	€1,902,401.26
Peter Fleming & Co	0	€ 36.30	€ 0.00	€36.30
Peter G. Crean	0	€ 100.00	€ 0.00	€100.00
Power Stephens & Co	1	€ 11,337.00	€ 0.00	€11,337.00
Purcell Cullen Kennedy	1	€ 11,442.00	€ 0.00	€11,442.00
Quinn & Co	11	€ 78,046.66	€ 0.00	€78,046.66
Quinn & Scattini Lawyers	1	€ 8,731.60	€ 0.00	€8,731.60
R G Emerson & Co	3	€ 36,036.91	€ 6,105.66	€42,142.57
R T Ringrose & Co	4	€ 58,032.98	€ 0.00	€58,032.98
Reidy Stafford	1	€ 8,742.50	€ 0.00	€8,742.50

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Richard H McDonnell	1	€ 15,252.02	€ 4,534.53	€19,786.55
Ridley & Hall	1	€ 11,759.90	€ 0.00	€11,759.90
Robert Cussen & Son	1	€ 7,952.43	€ 0.00	€7,952.43
Rochford Gibbons	1	€ 17,962.50	€ 0.00	€17,962.50
Roisin M. Doherty	1	€ 8,661.00	€ 0.00	€8,661.00
Rory Quigley & Co	1	€ 12,237.00	€ 0.00	€12,237.00
Ryan Carlisle Thomas	2	€ 13,241.02	€ 0.00	€13,241.02
Sandra Hanrahan & Co.	1	€ 8,179.64	€ 2,703.67	€10,883.31
Sandys & Brophy	1	€ 11,100.50	€ 0.00	€11,100.50
Scott Ryan	4	€ 36,150.85	€ 2,606.97	€38,757.82
Seamus Roe & Co.	1	€ 9,534.49	€ 0.00	€9,534.49
Shannons	1	€ 15,023.96	€ 3,807.87	€18,831.83
Silke & Company	1	€ 19,010.80	€ 36,097.78	€55,108.58
Simon W Kennedy & Co	2	€ 34,668.75	€ 3,025.00	€37,693.75
Spelman Callaghan	1	€23,853.94	€ 4,372.59	€28,226.53
Steen O'Reilly	1	€ 12,340.00	€ 0.00	€12,340.00
Terence F Casey & Co	1	€ 6,284.00	€ 0.00	€6,284.00
Thomas Loomes & Company	2	€ 21,917.50	€ 0.00	€21,917.50
Thomas Quigley & Co	5	€ 25,168.00	€ 0.00	€25,168.00
Thomas W. Enright	1	€9,780.00	€ 0.00	€9,780.00

Name of Solicitor	Number of Applications in which Costs have been paid - 2006	Board Costs Paid in 2006	Related High Court Costs paid in 2006	2006 Total
Tom O'Regan & Co	1	€ 19,646.23	€ 13,523.27	€33,169.50
Tony Taaffe & Co	1	€ 4,821.75	€ 0.00	€4,821.75
Twomey Scott & Co	1	€ 15,982.50	€ 2,121.17	€18,103.67
V P McMullin	1	€ 19,382.50	€ 0.00	€19,382.50
Vincent McCormack & Co	1	€ 19,855.50	€ 0.00	€19,855.50
Wilkie & Flanagan	1	€ 12,208.50	€ 0.00	€12,208.50
William Egan & Associates	3	€ 35,374.50	€ 0.00	€35,374.50
William F. Semple & Co	1	€ 12,621.50	€ 0.00	€12,621.50
Wolfe & Co	21	€ 279,591.94	€ 59,700.38	€339,292.32
Woods, Hogan & Company	1	€ 5,966.32	€ 0.00	€5,966.32
Total	2193	€ 24,424,650.61	€ 2,452,517.22	€ 26,877,167.83

## **Comparative Analysis of Costs**

On average, costs and expenses paid to applicants' solicitors amount to  $\leq 11,557^*$  per application, or 16.38% of the award. By contrast, the average costs and expenses incurred by the Board in respect of an application amount to  $\leq 2,557^{**}$  or 3.62% 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. The figure does not include costs paid in respect of associated Court proceedings; these costs average €4,827 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 2006.

# 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).
- Ensure adequate staff are available to answer all queries during office hours (9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday).
- 4. Issue statutory correspondence within 5 working days of the file's readiness to proceed to the next stage.
- 5. Schedule applications for settlement or hearing as soon as dates are available.
- 6. Greet applicants and their party cordially and give every reasonable assistance on the day of their attendance at the Redress Board offices.
- Issue notice of award to the applicant within 5 working days of the decision of the Board.

- 8. Ensure appropriate facilities are available for people with disabilities or special needs.
- 9. Update information on our website to ensure that the fullest information possible is available to the public.
- 10. Post regular newsletters on the website in the interests of openness and transparency.
- 11. Periodically review this plan in accordance with section 20.13 of the Sustaining Progress Social Partnership Agreement 2003-2005.

# **EXPENDITURE DATA FOR THE YEAR 2006**

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
	€
ADVERTISING	€1,507.66
STENOGRAPHY SERVICES	€140,298.24
PHONES (SERVICE)	€47,604.62
PHONES (EQUIPMENT)	€2,724.00
POSTAGE - COSTS	€86,173.00
POSTAGE – RENTAL & SERVICES	€2,821.97
COMPUTER HARDWARE/SOFTWARE	€15,422.17
COMPUTER SUPPORT SERVICES	€66,560.20
PHOTOCOPYING	€22,936.13
OFFICE MACHINERY	Nil
HEAT, POWER & LIGHT	€19,808.24
CONTRACT CLEANING	€25,288.56
OFFICE SUPPLIES	€45,057.62
PRINTING	€8,318.15
FURNITURE & FITTINGS	€8,696.90
TRAVEL & SUBSISTENCE	€124,304.55
TAXI/COURIER SERVICE	€35,118.29
VENDING MACHINE & WATER SUPPLIES	€11,875.48
MAINTENANCE	Nil
HOTEL ROOM HIRE/ACCOMODATION	€20,070.04
MEDICAL FEES*	€134,000.00
MEDICAL PAYMENTS**	€1,159,201.41
LEGAL FEES ***	€1,313,273.80
ADVICE AS TO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE	€115,489.00
AWARD	

ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES	€1,546,999.87
BOARD MEMBERS FEES	€1,486,432.33
TRAINING	€6,610.68
PUBLICATIONS	€583.50
SECURITY	€73,907.86
BOARD CATERING	€27,691.24
AGENCY STAFF	€49,086.96
MISCELLANEOUS	€71,078.61
TOTAL	€6,668,941.08

\*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 2006

AWARDS	AMOUNT
	€
TOTAL	€151,329,616.08

# **LEGAL COSTS DATA FOR THE YEAR 2006**

COSTS	AMOUNT
	€
COSTS PAID IN RESPECT OF APPLICATIONS TO BOARD	€24,424,650.61
COSTS PAID IN RESPECT OF RELATED HIGH COURT	€2,452,517.22
PROCEEDINGS	
TOTAL	€26,877,167.83

# Statements and Newsletters issued by the Board in 2006

## Statement of Redress Board – February 2006

The Board is pleased to announce that the Minister for Education and Science has appointed Dr. William Delaney as a member of the Board with effect from the 27th of February 2006. Dr Delaney was previously a medical adviser to the Board appointed in accordance with the provisions of section 11(1) of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002. Dr. Delaney will not be involved in the settlement or hearing of any application on which he has previously reported to the Board in his capacity as a medical adviser.

## **Newsletter December 2006**

This is the 13th 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 December of last year the Board issued the third edition of the guide. The Board's annual report for 2005 issued to the Minister for Education and Science in June of this year. This report can be viewed on the Board's website <u>www.rirb.ie</u> and is available free of charge from the Board's office.

#### Applications:

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. Of these 2,255 were received in November and 3,700 were received in December.

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. The Board is conscious that, given the disproportionately large number of applications lodged immediately before the statutory deadline of December 15<sup>th</sup> 2005 (3,700 applications were lodged in the first two weeks of December 2005 compared with 104 for the same period in 2004) there will be a considerable time lapse before these applications can be finalised.

#### Applications Received after 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005:

In accordance with section 8(1) of the Residential Institutions Redress Act 2002 the final date for receipt of applications was December 15<sup>th</sup> 2005. The Board has received a total of 166 applications since that date. These applications have been dealt with by the Board in accordance with the Act.

#### Awards:

To date the Board has completed the process in 7,168 cases. 5,256 offers have been made following settlement talks and 1,567 awards have been made following hearings. 5 applicants have rejected their awards. 345 applications were withdrawn, refused or resulted no award. By and large applications have been refused as, on the face of the documentation, the application was outside the Boards 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.

The average value of awards to date is €71,000, the largest award being €300,000.

#### **Redress Board Bands**

The breakdown of awards by Redress Band is as follows:

Redres s Bands	Total Weightings for Severity of Abuse and Injury/Effects of Abuse	Award Payable by way of Redress	Number	Percenta ge
V	70 or more	€200,000 - €300,000	20	0.29%
IV	55 – 69	€150,000 - €200,000	143	2.08%
III	40 – 54	€100,000 - €150,000	1151	16.74%
Ш	25 – 39	€ 50,000 - €100,000	3842	55.88%
Ι	Less than 25	Up to €50,000	1719	25.00%
Total			6875	100.00%

### Sittings

The Board sits every day in its premises in Clonskeagh and now completes approximately 213 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.

## Statement December 2006

## **Christmas Opening Hours**

The Board's offices in Clonskeagh will be open until 4.00 p.m. on Friday December 22nd and will re-open on Thursday December 28th. 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.

## **Announcement December 2006**

It is with profound regret that the Board announces the death, today, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2006 of its Chairman, the Honourable Mr. Justice Seán O'Leary. The Board wishes to extend its deepest sympathy to Judge O'Leary's wife, Mary, and to his family.

#### **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 2006 to 31 December 2006.

#### **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 Board<sup>1</sup>

Awards and Costs represent amounts actually disbursed in 2006 from the Special Account following instructions to pay issued by the Board. Awards and Costs paid in the year ended 31 December 2006 were

	€	€
Awards Awards paid (2006 instructions) Awards paid (2005 instructions)	153,295,702	153,295,702
<b>Costs</b> Costs paid (2006 instructions) Costs paid (2005 instructions)	27,556,611	27,556,611
Total Award Related Expenditure		<u>180,852,313</u>

In addition to the above, there are 2006 instalments outstanding at year-end to the value of €640,467. These have been transferred to the High Court in 2007 pursuant to an Order of the Court made under Section 34(e) of the 2006 Act.

There were also Awards to the value of  $\notin$ 1,128,582 and Costs to the value of  $\notin$ 470,445 which were instructed to be paid by the Board in 2006 but which were not actually disbursed from the Special Account until 2007.

#### 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

#### September 2007

<sup>1</sup> 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.