

## Caranua – Review of Eligibility

### Draft Terms of Reference

The Residential Institutions Statutory Fund Act 2012 provided for the establishment of the Residential Institutions Statutory Fund (now known as “Caranua”) which would support the needs of survivors of residential institutional child abuse. Caranua’s role is to use contributions from religious congregations of up to €110m to fund approved services to support survivors’ needs. These services can include health and personal social services, educational services and housing services and should complement survivors’ statutory entitlements.

In response to calls made during the passage of the legislation through the Houses of the Oireachtas for the eligibility for access to the fund to be widened, the then Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn T.D., said that “the issue of who was eligible to apply for assistance could be reviewed following the establishment of the statutory fund in the event of the applications to the fund not resulting in a significant expenditure of it”. An undertaking was given at the time to review the question of eligibility for access to the Fund two years after its establishment having regard to the level of uptake of the funding available.

The draft terms of reference now proposed for this review are:

- (a) Review of Caranua’s overall expenditure to date;
- (b) Estimate likely further expenditure taking into account the applications on hand and ~~anticipated~~ further applications;
- (c) ~~Quantification of any~~ likely underspend;
- (d) If an underspend is indicated,
  - consult with stakeholders about an expansion of the eligibility criteria, including identification of the groups that could be considered for inclusion in any expansion,
  - identify possible arrangements for verifying eligibility, resource implications and related issues.

Survivors, survivor support groups and other interested parties are invited to make their views known on the draft terms of reference. They can do so by writing to Caranua Eligibility Review, Department of Education and Skills, Marlborough St., Dublin 1 or by e-mailing [caranuaeligibilityreview@education.gov.ie](mailto:caranuaeligibilityreview@education.gov.ie) no later than Wednesday 8 March 2017.