



**Oifig an Ard-Rúnaí**  
An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna

Mr Kieran Lenihan  
Clerk to the Committee of Public Accounts  
Houses of the Oireachtas  
Dublin 2



**Office of the Secretary General**  
Department of Education and Skills

Ref. No: S1713202

14 September 2017

Dear Mr Lenihan,

I refer to earlier correspondence where you sought information on behalf of the Committee of Public Accounts on issues pertaining to the accommodation requirements of Caranua.

Since its establishment in early 2013, Caranua has been provided with office accommodation at Frederick Court, North Frederick Street, Dublin 1 – in premises leased by OPW on behalf of this Department.

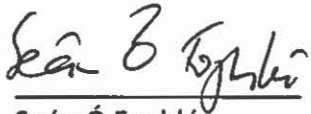
The lease on Frederick Court has now expired and Caranua must vacate the property by 30<sup>th</sup> September.

While the Office of Public Works (OPW) will be the Lessor of office premises at Metropolitan Building, James Joyce Street, Dublin 1, Caranua has, with Ministerial approval, entered into a State Occupant Agreement with OPW for office accommodation to be shared with NEPS. This Agreement sets out the terms under which Caranua will occupy the space. OPW is the Lessor in this case and Caranua has no relationship with the owner of the property and is not a party to that lease. While the lease itself is for a period of 20 years, the Agreement between OPW and Caranua provides flexibility in terms of its length of occupancy. This is particularly important as it will enable Caranua to terminate the Agreement at the time of its dissolution. Furthermore, the configuration of the accommodation will facilitate a greater level of face-to-face engagement with survivors/applicants – this had not been possible in Frederick Court.

Caranua will incur an annual rental and service charge of some €272,000 per annum (inclusive of VAT@ 23%), a charge of 3,000 per parking space per annum (maximum of 3 spaces) together with estimated fit-out costs of €67,500 (excluding VAT) and logistics associated with the move costing some €10,000.

The Minister has, under section 7(7) of the Residential Institutions Statutory Fund Act 2012 sanctioned Caranua's move to Metropolitan Building, James Joyce Street.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seán Ó Foghlú', written in a cursive style.

Seán Ó Foghlú  
Secretary General