



Ms Sarah Cremin  
Committee Secretariat  
Committee of Public Accounts  
Leinster House  
Kildare St.  
Dublin 2

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

Ref: S0525 PAC33

Dear Ms Cremin,

I refer to your letter of 8 October last, arising from the meeting of the Committee on 21 September, regarding previous enquiries made by the Committee on behalf of certain survivors who had engaged with the Residential Institutions Statutory Fund Board (Caranua).

I want to clarify the nature of the role of Caranua and the Department. During this interim period, the Department is providing executive support to the Board of Caranua and is seeking to put in place a temporary executive function to support the Board.

Further to my previous letters to the Committee of 19 April and 16 June, the Department has received the permission of each of the individuals concerned to engage with the Committee in relation to the queries raised, and has now also received the permission of the Board of Caranua to respond to the Committee. However, in doing so, and as I have previously advised the Committee, the Department is precluded from identifying the individuals explicitly by name, given the provisions of the Residential Institutions Statutory Fund Act 2012.

Notwithstanding this, I can confirm, on behalf of the Board of Caranua, that the Department has continued to engage with, and review the case files of, each of the individuals concerned. This involves very intensive engagement with individual circumstances. The issues involved for one individual are particularly complex. This is in the context of

considering how best to progress the issues raised by the Committee on behalf of the individuals concerned. The Department will be engaging further with the Board of Caranua in this regard, and as appropriate.

As the Committee is aware, the formal dissolution of Caranua will be progressed by way of legislation, and an interim board has been appointed to provide appropriate governance and oversight until such time as the legislation is passed. The performance of Caranua's functions remain a matter for the Board of Caranua and the Department is not in a position to undertake those functions on its behalf.

Yours sincerely,



Seán Ó Foghlú  
Secretary General