## **An Roinn Oideachais**Department of Education



Catherine Smyth
Committees Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Kildare St.
Dublin 2

January 2024

Your Ref: S1546 PAC33

Dear Ms Smyth,

I refer to your letter of 8 January last, arising from the meeting of the Committee on 14 December, regarding correspondence received by the Committee on behalf of an individual who received funding supports from the Residential Institutions Statutory Fund Board (Caranua).

As the Committee will be aware, this matter has been the subject of previous correspondence between the Committee and the Department. It is a particularly difficult and complex case, and the Department continues to engage with the individual concerned and with other relevant parties to gain an insight into the issues involved and to assist in identifying a path forward.

As the Department has previously indicated to the Committee, it is likely that a significant cost could be incurred in order to resolve the matter fully to the individual's satisfaction. However, I wish to assure the Committee that the Department is fully cognisant of the challenging circumstances of the individual concerned and the matter is receiving ongoing attention.

Yours sincerely,

Bernie McNally Secretary General