

Internet Advisory Board Report 2000-2002

29 July 2003

The Internet Advisory Board launches its first report

The Minister for Children at the Department of Health and Children, Brian Lenihan T.D., today accepted the Internet Advisory Board's first Report, covering the period 2000 to 2002, from its Chairman, Eamonn M. Barnes.

The Internet Advisory Board is a non-statutory body established by Government in February 2000. The Board was established following the recommendation of the Government appointed Working Group to examine the issues in relation to the illegal and harmful use of the Internet.

The Internet Advisory Board comprises representatives from the Internet Service Provider Association of Ireland, the Office of the Film Censor, An Garda Síochána, Child Protection interests, relevant Government departments, the Information Society Commission, the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner and a legal expert.

The Minister congratulated the Board on the production of its first Report, which provides an account of the Board's activities since its inception in February 2000. He commended the Board for ongoing initiatives such as assisting the service provider industry in the effective delivery of a self-regulatory environment, the promotion of awareness via its campaigns to date, and the continued enhancement of a partnership approach in tackling Internet downside issues of the Internet. The Minister said the future direction of the Board's work would pose many challenges as well as opportunities, due to the global nature of the Internet, and the pace of change of the technologies involved. However, he emphasized that the protection of children online is a primary consideration which must underpin all of the Board's work now and in the future.

The Report is available on the Board's website www.iab.ie, or in hard copy from the

Internet Advisory Board,
72-76 St. Stephen's Green,
Dublin 2.