



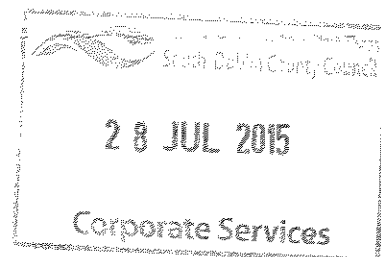
Oifig an Aire Oideachais agus Scileanna
Office of the Minister for Education and Skills

Mr. Tom O'Neill
Meeting Administrator
Corporate Services Department
South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
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PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Ref: 1503405AK

Your Ref: M1/0715



24 July 2015

I refer to your recent correspondence to the Minister for Education and Skills, Ms. Jan O'Sullivan T.D. in respect of the implementation of the Education for Persons with Special Needs Act.

A significant number of sections of the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs (EPSEN) Act have been commenced, principally those establishing the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) and those promoting an inclusive approach to the education of children with special educational needs.

In light of the very difficult economic situation and the significant costs involved in fully implementing the EPSSEN Act, the previous Government deferred the full implementation of EPSSEN.

While awaiting the full implementation of the EPSSEN Act, the NCSE has made a number of recommendations aimed at developing a better or more effective alternative to the current resource allocation model, which aims to move the system towards ultimate implementation of the EPSSEN Act.

It is intended to bring into effect many of the good ideas contained in the EPSSEN Act, on a non-statutory basis initially, through policy developments across a range of areas, in conjunction with NCSE policy advice.

I trust this clarifies the issue.

Yours sincerely,

Sean Tansey
Private Secretary

