



# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STANDING ORDERS AND DÁIL REFORM

*Rotas and arrangements for Leaders' Questions, Private Members'  
Time, and Parliamentary Questions*

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Adopted by the Committee  
29th July 2020

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## Leaders' Questions

The Committee on Standing Orders and Dáil Reform recommends that, until further notice in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Dáil—

- (1) the rota at **Appendix 1** in relation to Leaders' Questions under Standing Order 36 be adopted; and
- (2) notwithstanding anything in Standing Order 36, the total time allowed for Leaders' Questions on any given day shall not exceed 34 minutes, and, in respect of Sinn Féin only, the initial question and reply shall not exceed four minutes each.

## Private Members' Time

The Committee on Standing Orders and Dáil Reform recommends that, until further notice in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Dáil—

- (1) the rota at **Table 1** below be the rota for private members' time, pursuant to Standing Order 159, and
- (2) in September 2020, the rota will re-commence on Week 5.

**Table 1**

<b>Week 1</b>	Sinn Féin	Labour Party
<b>Week 2</b>	Sinn Féin	Social Democrats
<b>Week 3</b>	Sinn Féin	Solidarity-PBP
<b>Week 4</b>	Sinn Féin	Regional Group
<b>Week 5</b>	Sinn Féin	Rural Independent Group
<b>Week 6</b>	Sinn Féin	Independent Group

## Parliamentary Questions

The Committee on Standing Orders and Dáil Reform recommends that, until further notice in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Dáil—

- (1) the rota at **Appendix 2**—
  - a. be adopted as the daily rota for Questions for oral answer under Standing Order 47(2) (in anticipation of the coming into effect of the necessary Government Orders in relation to names of Departments and titles of Ministers, and transfer of Departmental administration and Ministerial functions), and
  - b. recommence in September 2020 with the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration (following which the rota shall continue in numerical order with Questions to the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, and so on); and

- (2) no Questions pursuant to Standing Order 52 be taken during the summer recess 2020.

## Priority Questions

The Committee on Standing Orders and Dáil Reform recommends that, until further notice in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Dáil, the rota at **Appendix 3**—

- (1) be adopted as the rotation for Questions nominated for priority, pursuant to Standing Order 49(1)(iv), and
- (2) recommence in September 2020 on Week 4.

## APPENDIX 1: LEADERS' QUESTIONS ROTA

	<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Week 4</b>	<b>Week 5</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sept 2020</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2020</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> Sept 2020</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020</b>
	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin
	Labour	Regional Grp	Labour	Soc Dems	Labour
	Soc Dems	Rural Ind Grp	Regional Grp	Rural Ind Grp	Soc Dems
	Sol-PBP	Ind Grp	Ind Grp	Ind Grp	Regional Grp
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sept 2020</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2020</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2020</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020</b>
	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin
	Soc Dems	Labour	Labour	Sol-PBP	Sol-PBP
	Regional Grp	Soc Dems	Regional Grp	Regional Grp	Regional Grp
	Rural Ind Grp	Sol-PBP	Rural Ind Grp	Ind Grp	Rural Ind Grp
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sept 2020</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> Sept 2020</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2020</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020</b>
	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin	Sinn Féin
	Sol-PBP	Labour	Soc Dems	Labour	Regional Grp
	Regional Grp	Soc Dems	Sol-PBP	Regional Grp	Rural Ind Grp
	Ind Grp	Regional Grp	Ind Grp	Rural Ind Grp	Ind Grp

### Leaders' Questions per day, per party or group

Labour – 3 Tues, 2 Wed, 2 Thurs = 7 in total

Soc Dems – 3 Tues, 2 Wed, 2 Thurs = 7 in total

Sol-PBP – 1 Tues, 3 Wed, 2 Thurs = 6 in total

Regional Group – 3 Tues, 4 Wed, 4 Thurs = 11 in total

Rural Ind Group – 2 Tues, 3 Wed, 2 Thurs = 7 in total

Ind Group – 3 Tues, 1 Wed, 3 Thurs = 7 in total

Sinn Féin = 15 in total

## APPENDIX 2: PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ROTA

1. Enterprise, Trade and Employment
2. Climate Action and Communications Networks
3. Transport
4. Finance
5. Public Expenditure and Reform
6. Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht
7. Housing, Local Government and Heritage
8. Foreign Affairs
9. Defence
10. Education
11. Social Protection
12. Children, Disability, Equality and Integration
13. Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science
14. Justice
15. Health
16. Agriculture and the Marine
17. Community and Rural Development and the Islands

### APPENDIX 3: PRIORITY QUESTIONS ROTA

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
1	SF	SF	SF
2	Lab	Reg	Sol-PBP
3	SF	SF	SF
4	Soc Dems	RIG	Reg
5	SF	SF	Ind
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
1	SF	SF	SF
2	Reg	Lab	Lab
3	SF	SF	SF
4	RIG	Sol-PBP	Soc Dems
5	Ind	Reg	SF
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
1	SF	SF	SF
2	Soc Dems	Lab	Reg
3	SF	SF	SF
4	Sol-PBP	Soc Dems	RIG
5	Ind	SF	SF
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
1	SF	SF	SF
2	Lab	Soc Dems	Sol-PBP
3	SF	SF	SF
4	Reg	RIG	Reg
5	SF	Ind	RIG
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
1	SF	SF	SF
2	Reg	Sol-PBP	Lab
3	SF	SF	SF
4	RIG	Reg	Soc Dems
5	SF	Ind	Ind

Sinn Féin – 13 Tuesday, 12 Wednesday, 12 Thursday = 37

Labour Party – 2 Tuesday, 2 Wednesday, 2 Thursday = 6

Social Democrats – 2 Tuesday, 2 Wednesday, 2 Thursday = 6

Solidarity-People Before Profit – 1 Tuesday, 2 Wednesday, 2 Thursday = 5

Regional Group – 3 Tuesday, 3 Wednesday, 3 Thursday = 9

Rural Independent Group – 2 Tuesday, 2 Wednesday, 2 Thursday = 6

Independent Group – 2 Tuesday, 2 Wednesday, 2 Thursday = 6