



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 11 Feabhra, 2021
Thursday, 11th February, 2021

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREADRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Tánaiste agus Aire Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta: To the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

*1. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the actions he plans to take to ensure that the credit guarantee scheme can be amended to examine if there will be significant increases in the current rate of successful applications to ensure that post-Covid viable businesses have sufficient access to funds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [7491/21]

*2. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of plans to assist businesses such as take away food activities from restaurants and businesses that are already registered providers of the stay and spend scheme and their consumers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [7504/21]

*3. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department or the SBCI will make a gain and or profit on funds loaned to Irish businesses through the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme (details supplied); and the use that is made of profits made from lending by the scheme. — Catherine Murphy. [7529/21]

*4. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the demands by an association (details supplied) of front-line paramedics who want to be represented by another association; his plans in regard to their campaign; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [7653/21]

Chun an Aire Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide: To the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications.

*5. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when a new national implementation plan on the sustainable development goals will be produced; when the associated national stakeholder forum process will be restarted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [7560/21]

*6. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the details of lead and stakeholder Departments for each of the Sustainable Development Goals, as committed to in the National Implementation Plan on the Sustainable Development Goals 2018-2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [7561/21]

*7. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of times and the dates that the Interdepartmental Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals, has met in 2019, 2020 and 2021; the implementation plan actions and commitments

addressed in each of the meetings of the Interdepartmental Working Group in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [7562/21]

*8. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of the National Clean Air Strategy; if this strategy will contain a ban on the cutting, selling or burning of turf for domestic heating purposes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7605/21]

*9. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on the fact that many households, particularly in rural Ireland, still depend on burning turf as a heating source for their homes; if the cutting or burning of turf will not be prevented for domestic heating purposes in the absence of the State providing alternatives for these households; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7606/21]

*10. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if representatives of the national broadband scheme will engage with a community group (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7657/21]

*11. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the hiring process by which he made the recent appointments to the CCAC. — Eoin Ó Broin. [7683/21]

*12. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if local stakeholders and local authorities will be given an opportunity to apply for possible sites for the proposed €10 million peatlands knowledge centre of excellence and visitors centre for the midlands region (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [7692/21]

*13. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the work his Department is undertaking to cooperate with local authorities in the roll-out of segregated waste bins are provided by the local authorities in cities, towns and villages in each county; the work ongoing to reduce the waste going to landfill by local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [7710/21]

*14. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the work his Department is undertaking to prioritise homes for retrofitting and insulation upgrades that are in receipt of the fuel allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [7711/21]

*15. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of applicants awaiting the installation of SEAI warmer homes scheme upgrades by county; the national average waiting time in tabular form; the average waiting time for applicants in counties Limerick and Tipperary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [7712/21]

*16. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he plans to raise the borrowing limits of semi-State companies under his remit to permit higher borrowing for climate focused investments; the proposals being examined; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7767/21]

*17. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to support Wi-Fi access for students without access during school buildings being closed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [7796/21]

*18. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if a detailed map and timeline for the roll-out of the national broadband scheme will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [7836/21]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*19. To ask the Minister for Transport if new environmental criteria are to be applied to existing or new transport projects as part of the review of the National Development Plan; if so, if he will outline the new criteria; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7607/21]

*20. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 134 of 27 January 2021, the number of tenders submitted for both contracts (details supplied). — Louise O'Reilly. [7718/21]

*21. To ask the Minister for Transport the actions that have been taken to carry through on the commitment in the Programme for Government that each local authority will be mandated to carry out an assessment of its road network to examine the reallocation of space for pedestrians and cyclists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [7465/21]

*22. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has engaged with Bus Éireann following its decision to end discounted travel rates for passengers with epilepsy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7467/21]

*23. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason for the decision by Bus Éireann to end discounted travel rates for passengers with epilepsy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7468/21]

*24. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 81 of 2 February 2021, the details of the increase in frequency of services in County Tipperary; the additional services that will be provided; when those services will become available; the basis on which the decisions to provide these services was made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [7473/21]

*25. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to provide a further extension of temporary emergency support for the commercial bus sector via the commercial bus operator direct award contract, which includes Expressway services once the current three month extension expires; and his views on the importance of this funding for the continuation of the X8 Expressway service for County Tipperary. — Martin Browne. [7474/21]

*26. To ask the Minister for Transport if the funding provided to local authorities for roads maintenance will be kept at or increased from the 2020 allocation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [7492/21]

*27. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the signing of the regional and local roads maintenance grant for local authorities; if the signing and allocation of same will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [7508/21]

*28. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason a person (details supplied) has been waiting so long for a driver theory test. — Niamh Smyth. [7566/21]

*29. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason a person (details supplied) has been waiting over two months for their C licence application to be processed by the NDLS having submitted all necessary paperwork on 8 December 2020. — Sorca Clarke. [7570/21]

*30. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason a person (details supplied) has been waiting over two months for a vital statement from the NDLS regarding the non-existence of penalty points on their licence. — Sorca Clarke. [7571/21]

*31. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps he will take to address the ongoing issues with members of the public contacting the NDLS regarding documentation necessary to their continued employment which is being severely affected by unanswered emails and call holding times of up to 50 minutes. — Sorca Clarke. [7572/21]

*32. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the project to construct a northern bridge and road infrastructure in Kilkenny city linking the N 77 to the R693 given this is a long-standing priority for the local authority and the TII; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [7581/21]

*33. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the provision of an adequate bus stop pole (details supplied) at Fernslough, Killickaweeny, Kilcock, County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [7593/21]

*34. To ask the Minister for Transport if the review of the National Development Plan will not result in existing road infrastructure projects contained in the Plan being scrapped or delayed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7609/21]

*35. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason driver theory tests have not been added to the online options; and the reason cancelled tests have not been given dates over new bookings (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [7610/21]

*36. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason there is a delay in providing funding for local authority regional and local roads budgets. — Alan Kelly. [7677/21]

*37. To ask the Minister for Transport when the projects to be funded out of the fund of €50 million announced for cycling and walking projects on 4 December 2020 will be announced; the process by which this funding will be disbursed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7700/21]

*38. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider making funding available to local authorities in order that they can recruit active and sustainable travel officers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [7703/21]

*39. To ask the Minister for Transport the additional measures that will be introduced to reduce the number of passengers using Dublin Airport as a transit to other destinations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7726/21]

*40. To ask the Minister for Transport the carryover of unspent capital from 2020 to 2021 approved by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform for his Department; the Departmental subheads to which this applies and the amount in each case; the reason the capital was not spent in 2020; the steps being taken to ensure there will not be an underspend in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7731/21]

*41. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of driver theory tests during level 5 lockdown; if extra appointments are planned due to the backlog; the number waiting by county; the length of time they have been waiting in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [7762/21]

*42. To ask the Minister for Transport the freight rail projects he is currently examining with a view to reducing emissions from the heavy and light duty freight sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7766/21]

*43. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the MetroLink project; the latest cost estimate for the project; the construction timeline; if he is considering extending the line beyond Charlemont; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7768/21]

*44. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the DART+ project; the latest cost estimate for the project; the timeline for completion; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7769/21]

*45. To ask the Minister for Transport the way in which his Department plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector which made up 20.3% of total emissions in 2019; his target emissions in this area in each year up to 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7770/21]

*46. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding Irish Rail; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [7774/21]

*47. To ask the Minister for Transport if concerns raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied) will receive a response; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [7818/21]

*48. To ask the Minister for Transport if there is a delay in the processing of driver licence renewals for both full and provisional licence holders; the average delay; the steps being taken to address a backlog given the problems it is causing for persons waiting for their new licence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [7835/21]

*49. To ask the Minister for Transport the details of the largest population centres in County Meath currently without a Bus Éireann service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7837/21]

*50. To ask the Minister for Transport the public transport services available in Kentstown, County Meath; the frequency of these services; his plans to improve these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7838/21]

*51. To ask the Minister for Transport the public transport services available in Stamullen, County Meath; the frequency of these services; his plans to improve these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7839/21]

*52. To ask the Minister for Transport the public transport services available in Carlanstown, County Meath; the frequency of these services; his plans to improve these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7840/21]

*53. To ask the Minister for Transport the public transport services available in Skryne, County Meath; the frequency of these services; his plans to improve these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7841/21]

*54. To ask the Minister for Transport the public transport services available in Kilcloon, County Meath; the frequency of these services; his plans to improve these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [7842/21]

*55. To ask the Minister for Transport when he plans to make the allocations to local authorities in respect of the 2021 non-national roads programme; if he will ensure a substantial increase in the allocations to Cavan and Monaghan county councils in view of the particular importance of the road network in both counties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7843/21]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*56. To ask the Minister for Finance if the CRSS scheme will be extended beyond 31 March 2021 if Covid restrictions remain in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [7490/21]

*57. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to extend the stay and spend scheme into 2021 to support the hospitality sector once Covid restrictions are lifted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [7507/21]

*58. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the fact that businesses such as marketing agencies that operate in settings such as colleges and universities are currently not eligible for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that although these companies' premises are not technically closed to the public and the locations in which they operate are significantly affected by Covid-19 restrictions which has resulted in a substantial decline in revenue turnover; if the impact on these businesses will be examined with a view to extending the scheme to them to sustain them until students return to campus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [7578/21]

*59. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to including travel counsellors as those who qualify for access to the Covid restrictions support scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [7641/21]

*60. To ask the Minister for Finance if a grant is available to the family of special needs children (details supplied) in County Kerry who cannot afford to purchase a vehicle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7666/21]

*61. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 94 of 21 January 2021, if urgent consideration will be given to concerns expressed by companies trading through Dublin Port (details supplied); if the necessary measures will be implemented to eliminate such delays; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7472/21]

*62. To ask the Minister for Finance if clarity will be provided regarding a bank (details supplied) and its plan to continue operations in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [7475/21]

*63. To ask the Minister for Finance the safeguards in place in the event of a bank (details supplied) ceasing operations in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [7476/21]

*64. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to supports for businesses that began trading in 2020 but as a result of level 5 restriction are not able to show turnover for the required months to qualify for the current supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [7479/21]

*65. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to extend the largely unused stay and spend scheme to include take away food activities from restaurants and businesses that are already registered providers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [7504/21]

*66. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on matters raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [7526/21]

*67. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration is being given to the impact of housing affordability when the Irish Strategic Investment Fund decides to invest in residential property; if analysis on the impact on residential property prices is being carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [7574/21]

*68. To ask the Minister for Finance if the Irish Strategic Investment Fund retains ownership when it invests in residential properties through third-party investment companies that sign long-term leases with State agencies, local authorities or approved housing bodies for properties at the end of the long-term lease; if a value for money analysis is being undertaken of these financing arrangements for providing social or affordable housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [7575/21]

*69. To ask the Minister for Finance if plans to revert VAT rates for businesses to 23% will be postponed given ongoing difficulties being experienced by businesses at this time due to Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [7647/21]

*70. To ask the Minister for Finance the changes that have been made to the medical criteria to allow the reopening of the primary medical certificate application scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7656/21]

*71. To ask the Minister for Finance if financial supports will be provided to travel agents (details supplied) that are not eligible for the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7658/21]

*72. To ask the Minister for Finance if further financial supports will be provided to businesses that were supplying businesses in the hospitality sector that are closed and are unable to qualify for the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7663/21]

*73. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of applications received for the Covid restrictions support scheme; the number of applications awarded; the amount issued to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7664/21]

*74. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will examine supports for the coach and transport sector (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [7690/21]

*75. To ask the Minister for Finance if a person (details supplied) qualifies for exemption from residential property tax having regard to the various illness from which they suffer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7785/21]

*76. To ask the Minister for Finance if there are circumstances under which the 70% loan-to-value ratio of the Rebuilding Ireland home loan will be reviewed for applicants whose incomes have been effected by Covid-19 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [7807/21]

*77. To ask the Minister for Finance if the Consumer Protection (Regulation of Credit Servicing Firms) Act 2018 is achieving the objective intended by the legislation to provide greater protection to consumers whose loans were transferred on to credit servicing firms. — Jim O'Callaghan. [7845/21]

*78. To ask the Minister for Finance if the definition of owner of credit in the Consumer Protection (Regulation of Credit Servicing Firms) Act 2018 needs to be amended in order to ensure that it covers entities that retain the beneficial ownership of the credit but who have transferred legal ownership to another entity. — Jim O'Callaghan. [7846/21]

*79. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on whether the Consumer Protection (Regulation of Credit Servicing Firms) Act 2018 requires further amendment to ensure that the beneficial owners of credit are regulated. — Jim O'Callaghan. [7847/21]

Chun an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe: To the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform.

*80. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the reason civil and public servants cannot avail of the working from home allowance of €3.20 per week. — Brian Stanley. [7545/21]

*81. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his plans to address the anomaly of increases under the National Wage Agreement which have arisen in relation to civil servants who retired pre-2012 compared to those who retired post-2012; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [7569/21]

*82. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the capital expenditure provided for in the 2021 revised estimates volume; the carryover of capital from 2020 into 2021 approved for Departments; the steps that are being taken to ensure full spend of this money in order to provide necessary infrastructure and capital services taking into account the weeks already lost to construction in 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7730/21]

Chun an Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán: To the Minister for Tourism, Culture; Arts; Gaeltacht; Sport and Media.

*83. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán an bhfuil sé i gceist aici cur i gníomh an Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge, mar a bhaineann sé le Pleananna Teanga Contae, a phlé leis na Príomh-Oifigigh Feidhmiúcháin sna hÚdaráis Áitiúla ina bhfuil Plean Teanga i bhfeidhm ina gceantar feidhme; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [7537/21]

*84. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if her attention has been drawn to the situation faced by coach operators (details supplied) who are concerned that the funding available through the Fáilte Ireland coach tourism business continuity scheme will not be sufficient to keep them in business until tourism restarts; if she will allocate additional funding to the scheme given that these companies are unable to apply for other pandemic financial supports; if she had discussions with the Minister for Finance with a view to developing a specific payment for coach tourism operators along the lines of the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7573/21]

*85. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the amount that has been awarded to date to associations (details supplied) from the Covid-19 response funds; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [7585/21]

*86. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if grant-aid is available to renovate old farm buildings into holiday homes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7659/21]

*87. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán na hionaid Gaeilge, ceannáras eagraíochta ina measc, timpeall na tíre, laistigh agus lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht, a liostú i dteannta na suime airgead atá tugtha dóibh go díreach, nó go hindíreach trí chomhairlí cathrach nó contae, Údarás na Gaeltachta nó Foras na Gaeilge maidir le hárachas, tógáil, atógáil, deisiúchán, maisiúchán, cóiriú nó ath-choiriú do gach bliain le 20 bliain anuas. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [7665/21]

*88. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she plans to introduce another scheme to support those with a turnover of less than €50,000, many of who operate in small rural areas, the Gaeltacht and on the islands given the recently announced Covid support scheme announced by Fáilte Ireland for the tourism industry only assists businesses with a turnover of more than €50,000 per annum; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7697/21]

*89. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the supports available for the most iconic cultural venues in Dublin city to ensure they survive; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [7795/21]

Chun an Aire Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta: To the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

*90. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the actions that can be taken to allow Waterways Ireland to carry out standard maintenance works on canal and river tracks to ensure public access to these amenities is protected despite recent prohibitions by the National Parks and Wildlife Service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [7506/21]

*91. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to encourage local authorities to provide communities with temporary access to publicly owned land that is laying idle for the benefit of local community purposes such as allotments, community gardens and other outdoor uses given the continuation of Covid-19 regulations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [7525/21]

*92. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the new funding model for local authorities will be introduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [7489/21]

*93. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on matters raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [7527/21]

*94. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the percentage of affordable, social and private houses, respectively to be built on the St. Kevin's site in Cork city. — Thomas Gould. [7543/21]

*95. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the analytical mechanism used to ensure that there is a fair distribution of resources and funding to each county; if he will provide this Deputy with the evidence and or briefing supplied to him to support same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7546/21]

*96. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he plans to design a manual of funding streams and to streamline funding opportunities for local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7547/21]

*97. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes available from his Department in respect of local authority housing; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7549/21]

*98. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes available from his Department in respect of natural and built heritage; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7550/21]

*99. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes that are available from his Department in respect of fire services in local authority housing; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7551/21]

*100. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes that are available from his Department in respect of urban renewal and regeneration; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7552/21]

*101. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes that are available from his Department in respect of rural water schemes; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7553/21]

*102. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes that are available from his Department in respect of housing grants for private homes and local authority housing; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7554/21]

*103. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes that are available from his Department in respect of energy efficiency retrofitting local authority housing; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7555/21]

*104. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes that are available from his Department in respect of estate regeneration for local authority housing; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7556/21]

*105. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes that are available from his Department in respect of homeless services for local authority housing; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7557/21]

*106. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding schemes that are available from his Department in respect of voluntary housing local authority housing; the payments that were made to each local authority under these schemes and initiatives by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7558/21]

*107. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he plans to carry out a review of the HAP rent thresholds nationally in view of the fact that the present thresholds do not reflect the price of rented properties in many parts of the country and force tenants to top-up rents from their own limited resources in order to put a roof over their head; if so, when the review will be carried out and completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7579/21]

*108. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the requirements placed on local councils to ensure that the stone and sand and other similar materials that the council or subcontractor on council projects purchase is sourced from properly licensed quarries. — Mairéad Farrell. [7640/21]

*109. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average cost to councils for social housing; the range by the lowest to the highest amount spent by each council on social housing in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [7642/21]

*110. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the housing construction permitted during Covid-19 in particular one-off rural housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [7649/21]

*111. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if any persons in receipt of monies from the cessation of turf cutting compensation scheme have been offered a lump sum payment of remaining moneys owed to them under the scheme instead of the annual payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [7650/21]

*112. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide details of his Department's review of siting and size conditions for rooftop solar panels on homes and review of exemptions for educational and community buildings as part of the current development of interim planning regulations; the details on the stated need to consider environmental assessment reporting before finalisation; when the interim planning regulations will be submitted to the Houses of the Oireachtas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [7684/21]

*113. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he plans to legislate to encourage the uptake of life cycle assessment and or to promote such assessments through green public procurement in future public housing developments. — Eoin Ó Broin. [7689/21]

*114. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the new rural housing guidelines will issue particularly in view of the EU Court of Justice ruling in the case of the Flemish Decree and the National Planning Framework and in view of the fact that many counties have commenced reviewing their county plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7696/21]

*115. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the next tranche of projects to be announced under call two of the Urban Regeneration Development Fund 2020 will be announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7701/21]

*116. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount collected by each local authority in vacant site levies in 2019 and 2020, respectively; and the number of sites that each council collected levies from in each year. — Brian Stanley. [7707/21]

*117. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the marine planning and development management Bill will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [7721/21]

*118. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will ensure substantial funding for a voids programme in 2021 in view of the success of the voids programme in 2020; if the allocations will be made to the local authorities at an early date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7765/21]

*119. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding access officers in local authorities as provided for under the Disability Act 2005; if each role is filled in tabular form; if each role is full-time and dedicated solely to access issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [7788/21]

Chun an Aire Gnóthaí Eachtracha: To the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

*120. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the end goal of the commitment in Ireland's civilian CSDP National Implementation Plan to develop relationship and support training provided by European Security and Defence College and to develop a more structured relationship with the college bearing in mind the national policy of neutrality of Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7480/21]

*121. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the reason the Department of Defence, as per Ireland's National Implementation Plan for Civilian CSDP, will be consulted on national or multinational structures and facilities that will help support the strengthening of civilian CSDP; if the plan to involve the Department of Defence in civilian CSDP is part of the broader EU strategy to alter the scope of civilian CSDP to include a strong military dimension; if there are risks for Irish neutrality in this approach; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7481/21]

*122. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the reason Ireland is engaging in supporting the Civilian CSDP compact goal of fostering synergies and complementarity between the civilian and military dimensions of CSDP through a commitment to liaise with the Department of Defence and Defence Forces to explore options in this regard as per the National Implementation Plan for Civilian CSDP in view of Ireland's longstanding policy of neutrality; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7482/21]

*123. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of deployed civilian CSDP experts that are retired members of the Defence Forces; the number that are retired members of An Garda Síochána; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7483/21]

*124. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the estimated full year cost of recruiting eight additional full-time principal development specialists for his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [7639/21]

*125. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if it is necessary for his Department to agree to foreign embassies operating polling stations in Dublin for electoral events in their countries of origin; if so, the names of embassies that in the past 12 months have applied for permission to operate polling stations; the date they applied; if permission was granted; the date on which each was granted permission; if special conditions were attached to the permission given potential Covid-19 risks involved to the wider community; if citizens of these countries are permitted to travel to Dublin in order to vote; if An Garda Síochána are placed on notice of such permission being granted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Collins. [7667/21]

*126. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of times consular assistance was provided in circumstances in which an issue has arisen due to the fact a parent or guardian has a different surname than their child at airports or other points of international travel. — Gary Gannon. [7787/21]

*127. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps he is taking to prevent travellers from Dubai, Portugal and other locations, using Dublin Airport as a backdoor to the UK; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [7822/21]

Chun an Aire Cosanta: To the Minister for Defence.

*128. To ask the Minister for Defence if online training has been carried out for members of the Civil Defence during 2020; his plans for such online training in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [7577/21]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*129. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 402 of 17 December 2020, the progress to date in increasing school bus capacity in view of the need to accommodate more students attending both primary and post-primary schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7485/21]

*130. To ask the Minister for Education the number of SNAs employed in September 2019 in special classes in secondary schools. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [7497/21]

*131. To ask the Minister for Education the number of SNAs employed in September 2019 in mainstream classes in secondary schools. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [7498/21]

*132. To ask the Minister for Education the number of SNAs employed in September 2019 in special classes in primary schools. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [7499/21]

*133. To ask the Minister for Education the number of SNAs employed in September 2019 in mainstream classes in primary schools. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [7500/21]

*134. To ask the Minister for Education the number of children in mainstream primary school classes receiving the assistance of a SNA in September 2019. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [7501/21]

*135. To ask the Minister for Education the number of children in mainstream secondary school classes receiving the assistance of a SNA in September 2019. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [7502/21]

*136. To ask the Minister for Education the secondary school catchment areas that housing estates (details supplied) in County Dublin fall into; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [7509/21]

*137. To ask the Minister for Education when revised guidelines will issue to school principals in respect of the reopening of special schools and special classes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [7522/21]

*138. To ask the Minister for Education when she will make an announcement on the plans for the leaving certificate examination in 2021. — Joe O'Brien. [7541/21]

*139. To ask the Minister for Education if Bus Éireann made a profit from school transport in 2014 and entered this profit in the annual audited profit and loss account and balance sheet for that year; and if her attention has been drawn to information that this figure was entered in the exact same way as Bus Éireann entered the profit and or loss of Expressway and its other commercial business lines. — Catherine Murphy. [7542/21]

*140. To ask the Minister for Education the non-grant payments made to local authorities for the variety of services provided by them by county; the amount awarded under each stream in each of the years 2018 to 2020 and to date in 2021, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7559/21]

*141. To ask the Minister for Education the work ongoing within her Department to support the amalgamation of two post-primary schools (details supplied); the timeline for the completion of the

process; if funding is available for same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [7580/21]

*142. To ask the Minister for Education the average attendance and login record for students in counties Meath and Westmeath during the period that primary and secondary schools have been online by class and school year in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [7582/21]

*143. To ask the Minister for Education the way in which many teachers have been unavailable to participate due to sick days or Covid-19-related issues during the periods that primary and secondary schools have been operating online since the start of the pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [7583/21]

*144. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider matters raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if it will be ensured that Irish sign language teachers will be deployed in locations in which they are required for the implementation of the Irish Sign Language Act 2017. — Cathal Crowe. [7599/21]

*145. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 136 and 290 of 20 January 2021, the analysis her Department has carried out into the efficacy of the current remote learning system for children in DEIS schools; her plans to make additional funding available to DEIS schools for the postage of learning packs to their students in view of ongoing uncertainty regarding the timeline for the reopening of schools and in view of the fact that schools will remain closed for longer than originally envisaged; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7602/21]

*146. To ask the Minister for Education the amount of funding allocated in each of the years 2017 to 2020 towards assistive technology; the percentage of the funding that was specifically for children with additional needs by county in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [7634/21]

*147. To ask the Minister for Education the amount allocated to schools in County Monaghan for the summer works scheme in 2018, 2019 and 2020, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [7636/21]

*148. To ask the Minister for Education the amount allocated to schools in County Cavan for the summer works scheme in 2018, 2019 and 2020, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [7637/21]

*149. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated amount it would cost annually to increase the schools services support fund by €5 per pupil; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [7638/21]

*150. To ask the Minister for Education her current and proposed plans for the provision of services for Irish sign language (details supplied); if the deployment of Irish sign language teachers under the Irish Sign Language Act 2017 will be prioritised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [7645/21]

*151. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an bhfuil aon soiléiriú ann faoi chinneadh an Aire sa Dáil deiridh cás eisceachtúil agus píolótach a dhéanamh maidir le Gaelscoileanna Uíbh Ráthaigh

agus lena líon daltaí mar chosaint don Ghaeilge agus don Ghaeltacht ar feadh achar ama áirithe. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [7660/21]

*152. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais cad iad na céimeanna a ghlacfaidh sí chun Gaelscolaíocht a chosaint ó dhúnadh scoileanna i gceantair iargúlta toisc líon na ndaltaí a bheith ag laghdú; agus an dtuigeann sí an cás ar leith a bhíonn sa Ghaeltacht má dhruidtear scoil Ghaeilge agus go mbeadh daltaí Gaeilge brúite isteach i scoileanna Béarla má tharlaíonn sin. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [7661/21]

*153. To ask the Minister for Education the progress being made relative to the funding required for a building project at a school (details supplied); if the additional costs caused by the conditions attached to the planning permission will be approved; the number of meetings held between her Department and the school relative to the overall costs of the project since planning permission was granted; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [7672/21]

*154. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will introduce education on the ancient Kingdom of Mide and east County Meath to the curriculum at junior certificate history level and also at primary school level; and her views on whether the importance of this period of Irish history should be recognised. — Robert Troy. [7681/21]

*155. To ask the Minister for Education if a copy of any recommendations made to her, her Department or to Ministers of State in her Department by the advisory group on the leaving certificate since December 2020 to 8 February 2021 will be provided. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [7714/21]

*156. To ask the Minister for Education if a copy of minutes or copies of minutes forwarded to her, her Department or Ministers of State in her Department arising from the meetings of the advisory group on the leaving certificate since December of 2020 to 8 February 2021 will be provided. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [7715/21]

*157. To ask the Minister for Education if a copy of briefing documents prepared for her arising from meetings of the advisory group on the leaving certificate since December 2020 to 8 February 2021 will be provided. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [7716/21]

*158. To ask the Minister for Education when the two new SEN classrooms at a school (details supplied) will be operational. — Cathal Crowe. [7719/21]

*159. To ask the Minister for Education the status of an application for a Teaching Council registration number by a person (details supplied). — Gary Gannon. [7790/21]

*160. To ask the Minister for Education if she will review the non-DEIS status of a school (details supplied) in view of the high number of other DEIS status schools in the area serving the same catchment and in view of the fact that the school serves a number of vulnerable children evident by their participation in the schools completion programme and school meals scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [7791/21]

*161. To ask the Minister for Education when the minutes from the first meeting of the advisory group on planning for State examinations 2021 which took place on 25 November 2020 will be published. — Gary Gannon. [7792/21]

*162. To ask the Minister for Education when the minutes from the second meeting of the advisory group on planning for State examinations 2021 which took place on 14 December 2020 will be published. — Gary Gannon. [7793/21]

*163. To ask the Minister for Education the amount spent on continuing professional development for guidance counsellors in each of the years 2018 to 2020; and the budget allocation for same in 2021. — Gary Gannon. [7794/21]

*164. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date in finalising the pay and conditions for school secretaries; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7808/21]

*165. To ask the Minister for Education the ongoing progress in meeting the requirement of schools (details supplied); the extent to which logistical issues in respect of traffic management and transport have been resolved with Kildare County Council; the degree to which the various stages of the proposed school development schedule are being addressed; when the visible progress can be achieved; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7844/21]

Chun an Aire Coimirce Sóisialaí: To the Minister for Social Protection.

*166. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps she and her Department are taking to ensure that older persons can access affordable broadband (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [7709/21]

*167. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if additional funding will be provided to continue the ability programme beyond June 2021 (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [7486/21]

*168. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a review in respect of eligibility for the fuel allowance will be undertaken in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7493/21]

*169. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on matters raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [7528/21]

*170. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when an assessment will be carried out to progress a disability allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [7568/21]

*171. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of UP38 forms that have been received relating to the temporary wage subsidy scheme and a company (details supplied); the number that have been processed; the number of cases that were awarded back-payment; the average level of back-dated payment awarded; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [7576/21]

*172. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons that received the fuel allowance in counties Meath and Westmeath in each of the years 2016 to 2020, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [7584/21]

*173. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the review of a carer's allowance claim in the name of a person (details supplied) will be expedited and approved; and if the correspondence

from her Department on 19 January 2021 will be withdrawn as the applicant is not separated from their spouse but lives apart as a precautionary measure to protect their elderly parents given that their spouse is a front-line worker. — John McGuinness. [7644/21]

*174. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) in County Kerry who recently turned 62 years of age will be removed from her Department's activation schemes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7662/21]

*175. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an appeal by a person (details supplied) for a carer's allowance will be expedited. — John McGuinness. [7671/21]

*176. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a worker on a banded hours contract whose contract is formally such that they would earn less than €151 per week is automatically excluded from the pandemic unemployment payment; if employees in a situation in which employees may routinely have exceeded the €151 per week payment prior to the pandemic will be included; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [7763/21]

*177. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an employee who is excluded from the pandemic unemployment payment by virtue of earning less than €151 per week but who is receiving less than their normal payment from their employer as a top up can access supports from her Department or has an entitlement to seek jobseekers or other payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [7764/21]

*178. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a PPS number is required by a parent to register the birth of a child; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [7786/21]

*179. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of applicants and total payments of the supplementary welfare allowance made in 2019, 2020 and to date in 2021. — Gary Gannon. [7801/21]

*180. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the amount spent on the communication and publicity of the supplementary welfare allowance in 2020. — Gary Gannon. [7802/21]

*181. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated amount an increase of €5 for the disability allowance would cost the State; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [7803/21]

Chun an Aire Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige: To the Minister for Children, Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth.

*182. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the steps being taken by his Department to end the system of direct provision; and his views on whether health and safety risks at such facilities have increased during the course of the pandemic. — Robert Troy. [7478/21]

*183. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the action taken to date to resolve the issues at the Mosney direct provision centre; the status of plans to change the direct provision system; and the timeframe for the implementation of a new scheme. — John McGuinness. [7673/21]

*184. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the manner by which persons who gave testimony to the Confidential Committee of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes were notified that the recordings of their testimony would be destroyed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7513/21]

*185. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the enquiries he has made in relation to the possibility of the retrieval and or recovery of audio recordings of testimony given by persons to the Confidential Committee of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes destroyed by the Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7514/21]

*186. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to amend section 7 of the Commission of Investigation Records Act 2020 to extend the term of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes in order to resolve the issues arising from the destruction of the audio recordings of testimony given by persons to the Confidential Committee; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7515/21]

*187. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes has been delivered to persons in cardboard boxes, unbound, loose-leafed, being almost 3,000 loose pages; the instructions given to the external company engaged to deliver the reports in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7516/21]

*188. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if 30 copies of the Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes will be provided to this Deputy to distribute to persons personally affected by same many of whom do not wish to provide their name and or address to an external company; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7517/21]

*189. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of persons to whom a draft report or relevant part of the draft report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes was sent pursuant to section 34 of the Commissions of Investigation Act 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7518/21]

*190. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the payments to local authorities under programmes for Traveller support initiatives and migrant integration by county in each of the years 2018 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7548/21]

*191. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if childcare providers are permitted to continue to charge fees for parents who cannot avail of their services throughout level 5 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7611/21]

*192. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he has encouraged childcare providers to refund fees already charged to parents who cannot access their services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7612/21]

*193. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the supports in place to protect childcare workers such as enhanced PPE, mass Covid-19 testing and so on; his

views on whether these supports are sufficient; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7613/21]

*194. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on whether remuneration for childcare providers is satisfactory; the steps he has taken to engage with providers and representative bodies on this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7614/21]

*195. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when children with additional needs who avail of the ECCE scheme will be permitted to return to crèches; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7615/21]

*196. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the return of children with additional needs to crèches is a priority for his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7616/21]

*197. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he has engaged with childcare providers on extending their opening hours to ease the burden on front-line workers and parents working from home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7617/21]

*198. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if parents who can avail of the ECCE scheme but choose to use the national childcare scheme will be allocated the same number of hours under the NCS scheme as they would under the ECCE scheme in order to support parents through the Covid-19 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7618/21]

*199. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if parents applying for the national childcare scheme should be permitted to apply with their 2019 tax return as in the case of farmers who file their returns a year behind and are being penalised when applying to the scheme as they do not have their 2020 returns as of yet; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7619/21]

*200. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if an attempt has been made to improve lines of communication between his Department and childcare providers in terms of giving as much notice as possible before announcements are made and making these within working hours; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7620/21]

*201. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if crèches who refuse the additional funding announced by him on 27 January 2021 still continue to charge fees to parents who are not permitted to use their service due to restrictions, or parents who are permitted to avail of childcare but opt not to; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7621/21]

*202. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the steps his Department has taken to ensure that there are sufficient childcare places for all children who require them in a timely manner; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7622/21]

*203. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the steps he has taken to ensure childcare is affordable to parents; if he will ensure that one parent does not

have to sacrifice their career to mind their child unless this is their preference; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7623/21]

*204. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he has engaged with childcare providers to encourage them to take in young children aged 1-2 years to minimise the disruption to parents and their careers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7624/21]

*205. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the progress that has been made towards State childcare as committed to in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7626/21]

*206. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on whether it is appropriate that some parents classified as essential workers are sending their children to childcare against their better wishes as they will be charged fees regardless due to the parent's essential worker status; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7628/21]

*207. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he has engaged with the Minister for Finance to suggest that childcare providers should be able to claim back VAT on expenses such as rent and maintenance fees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7629/21]

*208. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to review the sponsorship scheme in place for children to receive childcare sponsored through Tusla given for many providers the contribution per child does not cover the provider's running costs and they are at a loss by taking these children; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7630/21]

*209. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on whether there will be a staffing crisis in the childcare sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7631/21]

*210. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on whether there are sufficient childcare places throughout Dublin 6, 14, 16 and 18 to cater for demand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7632/21]

*211. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will urgently review and amend the children first national guidelines for the protection and welfare of children in Ireland to be inclusive of all children that are at risk including children that are deemed to be a risk to themselves in relation to acknowledged behavioural conditions; if he will add to the child protection register a fifth such category of risk to the four categories already specified in the guidelines and thereby guide all of the relevant bodies in their provision of appropriate protective and support measures to children who are deemed to be a risk to themselves; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [7651/21]

*212. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to invite service providers to provide their feedback and observations as part of the current review and evaluation of the AIM model. — Joe Flaherty. [7685/21]

*213. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the review and evaluation of the AIM model will reconsider the qualification levels of AIM workers and SNAs for early years education (details supplied); and if the SNA course will qualify them for these positions making it easier for early years providers to recruit and retain staff. — Joe Flaherty. [7686/21]

*214. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the review and evaluation of the AIM model will explore an apprenticeship style model of recruitment in the early years sector (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [7687/21]

*215. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he plans to make terms of pay and conditions a condition of receipt of funding in the preschool crèche and early years services in view of the significant investment being made by his Department in the sector; his plans to ensure that increased funding will be available to the sector to make childcare affordable while ensuring workers have good working conditions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7702/21]

*216. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will review the conditions of the COSP which must show an income drop in excess of 55% in order for a provider to be eligible for support; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [7725/21]

*217. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the proposals to extend a programme (details supplied) to other areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7805/21]

*218. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if detailed consideration will be given to a report (details supplied) in relation to direct provision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7817/21]

*219. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if issues raised in correspondence (details supplied) will be given further consideration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7826/21]

Chun an Aire Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais, Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta: To the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research; Innovation and Science.

*220. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the workstreams activity agreed regarding the new Technological University for the South East development (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [7533/21]

*221. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the proposed new name for Technological University for the South East (details supplied); the location of the administration of same; the location of the new registration of the temporary entity for public service access and for the postal address of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [7534/21]

*222. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the proposed structure of a new governing board of the Technological University for the South East; the proposed number of members; the process for member selection; his plans to have

representatives from counties Kildare, Laois and Wicklow on the board; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [7535/21]

*223. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department can assist a student (details supplied) who is having difficulties in securing student finance in the UK due to confusion in respect of their time in college in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7669/21]

*224. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if pro rata refunds of registration fees for student services will be issued by third-level institutions to students who have not been on campus to avail of such services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [7723/21]

*225. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he or his Department have had discussions with Limerick University in relation to its policy of not offering refunds to students who cannot use their on-campus accommodation due to Covid-19; if his attention has been drawn to the hardship this is causing students many of whom have also lost the part-time work they engaged in and many of whose parents also have seen a decrease in income due to Covid 19; if he or his Department have had these discussions, the result of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7732/21]

*226. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when the action plan for apprenticeships will be published. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [7811/21]

*227. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the specific measures proposed within the action plan for apprenticeships to promote apprenticeships as a viable option for school leavers. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [7812/21]

*228. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the action plan for apprenticeships requires public sector employers to employ apprentices; and if the action plan will set targets for public sector employers including semi-State companies, agencies and local authorities. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [7813/21]

*229. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the action plan on apprenticeships has specific measurable targets and actions to encourage women to become apprentices. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [7814/21]

*230. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the action plan on apprenticeships has specific measurable targets and actions to encourage persons with disabilities to become apprentices. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [7815/21]

*231. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the action plan on apprenticeships has specific measurable targets and actions to encourage minority and disadvantaged groups to become apprentices. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [7816/21]

Chun an Aire Dlí agus Cirt: To the Minister for Justice.

*232. To ask the Minister for Justice when she will amend the civil liabilities (amendment) Bill to take account of the recommendations of the Chief Justice that arose out of a judgement (details supplied). — Alan Kelly. [7679/21]

*233. To ask the Minister for Justice the steps she has taken to ensure that that persons arriving at Irish ports and airports and who are seeking asylum are not arrested and or fined in circumstances in which they do not have a valid PCR test; the guidance issued to border agents in this regard; the procedures in place to ensure the safety of such persons; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7519/21]

*234. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 177 of 4 February 2021, if the situation with regard to persons who are placed on transfer panels will be clarified; the priority attached to such panels when filling internal vacancies; the way the HR function of agencies within the remit of her Department including An Garda Síochána, the Courts Service, the Legal Aid Board and so on, interact with the panels when vacancies at the grade for which the panel is in existence arise within their agencies; if there are internal mobility panels within these agencies which may supersede her Department's own panels; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [7523/21]

*235. To ask the Minister for Justice if, in a context in which many English language students have made a significant contribution to Irish society by working during the Covid crisis, including deliveries, cleaning, care-giving and childcare and in which restrictions on international travel are likely to remain in place for a significant period, she will act to retain this needed workforce and grant a 12 month visa extension for all stamp two workers from 30 April 2021 until 30 April 2022. — Paul Murphy. [7544/21]

*236. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons that were sentenced in the courts in 2020 for sexual offences; the particulars of the offence in each case; the sentence in each case; the age and gender of each person convicted in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [7565/21]

*237. To ask the Minister for Justice when the 2014 review of all investigations and complaints made against a person (details supplied) will be published; the dates of initiation and completion of the review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7592/21]

*238. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of a visa application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [7598/21]

*239. To ask the Minister for Justice if there are impediments to installing cameras in a local authority housing estate under the community based CCTV scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [7633/21]

*240. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons who sought international protection in 2020; the number of applications for international protection on hand on 1 January 2020; the number on hand on 1 January 2021; the number of applications brought to a finality in 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7694/21]

*241. To ask the Minister for Justice when legislation will be brought forward by her Department to deal with the difficulties being encountered by local authorities who need to erect CCTV cameras in locations in which illegal dumping is taking place. — Brian Stanley. [7708/21]

*242. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in the determination of a citizenship application in the case of a person (details supplied); when the application will be concluded; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7761/21]

*243. To ask the Minister for Justice if an appeal will be reinstated in the case of a person (details supplied) notwithstanding the most recent decision in their case; if their appeal will be reinstated and the deportation order reviewed in view of the fact that they have been in this jurisdiction for many years and were employed under stamp 4 until the Covid-19 lockdown; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7804/21]

*244. To ask the Minister for Justice the steps being taken to address the current slow processing times for probate applications in Dublin; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [7825/21]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*245. To ask the Minister for Health further to correspondence from the Minister for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy (details supplied), when community prison link workers will receive pay restoration due to workers of section 38 and 39 agencies which included workers in the drugs and alcohol task forces and JIs. — Joan Collins. [7495/21]

*246. To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether childcare workers should receive the vaccine alongside key workers according to the vaccine roll-out plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7625/21]

*247. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for mass testing in childcare settings; the frequency these tests are carried out; the way in which the facilities are chosen for testing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7627/21]

*248. To ask the Minister for Health the number of day services for persons with disabilities which have reopened; the capacity these services are operating at; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [7635/21]

*249. To ask the Minister for Health the inpatient perinatal facilities available for mothers and babies for mental health supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [7463/21]

*250. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration has been given to implementing an awareness campaign on epilepsy and the way to address seizures due to the prevalence of epilepsy in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [7466/21]

*251. To ask the Minister for Health when the HSE will commence specialist mental health services for the deaf community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [7469/21]

*252. To ask the Minister for Health if a consultant psychiatrist was appointed for specialist mental health services for the deaf community; if so, the date of the appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [7470/21]

*253. To ask the Minister for Health the date on which consultation will commence for patients of specialist mental health services for the deaf community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [7471/21]

*254. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider the request by a union (details supplied) to have access to a vaccine for community pharmacists to enable them to vaccinate front-line health

care workers in line with the vaccine programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7477/21]

*255. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time and number of persons waiting for a primary care clinical psychology appointment nationally and by CHO region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [7487/21]

*256. To ask the Minister for Health the number of clinical staff employed in primary care clinical psychology by CHO region in each of the years 2010 to date in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [7488/21]

*257. To ask the Minister for Health if dental hygienists are included in the proposed roll-out of vaccines to dentists, reported to be commencing on 8 February 2021 (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [7494/21]

*258. To ask the Minister for Health the reason cerebral palsy it is not included in group 7 of the vaccination plan given the condition is listed on the HSE website as a high risk condition with regard to Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [7496/21]

*259. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for mental health and disability services in south Dublin (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [7503/21]

*260. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to expand the provision of glasses for children under the medical card system (details supplied). — Cathal Crowe. [7524/21]

*261. To ask the Minister for Health his views on matters raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied) regarding advance notice of any new safety requirements reflected in the tourism sectoral guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [7531/21]

*262. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 749 of 3 February 2021, the basis or agreed service schedule on which this decision was made (details supplied); if the specification of the new laboratory is equal in all capital equipment as the recently refurbished main cath lab at UHW; the status of new and additional cardiologist appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [7532/21]

*263. To ask the Minister for Health if the minutes of meetings of the two independent monitoring groups for A Vision for Change which were held between 2006 and 2012 were published; if he will provide a copy of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [7538/21]

*264. To ask the Minister for Health the locations identified to vaccinate persons over 70 years of age in counties Tipperary and Limerick. — Martin Browne. [7539/21]

*265. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to expedite the roll-out of vaccines in nursing homes and hospital settings (details supplied); if the matter will be clarified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [7567/21]

*266. To ask the Minister for Health if the drug patisiran onpattro which was recently reviewed by the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics will be available under the drugs payment scheme

to those who have been identified as requiring the medication for their care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [7588/21]

*267. To ask the Minister for Health the reimbursement status of partisan; when the treatment will be made available for eligible patients in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [7589/21]

*268. To ask the Minister for Health if a list of the Rare Disease Technology Review Committee recommendations in 2020 will be made available in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [7590/21]

*269. To ask the Minister for Health if he will engage with the HSE to hold an additional meeting of the drugs group to address ongoing medicines access delays faced by patients with rare diseases here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [7591/21]

*270. To ask the Minister for Health when the processes required to implement the managed access programme in relation to formalising the approval for reimbursement of dupilumab is expected to be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [7594/21]

*271. To ask the Minister for Health the mechanism for a person to travel who has recovered from Covid-19 but who would still test positive to a PCR test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [7596/21]

*272. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons with cystic fibrosis in County Mayo; the position of persons with cystic fibrosis with the condition in the vaccine roll-out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [7600/21]

*273. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to long-term dialysis patients in terms of their ranking in the groups for Covid-19 vaccination (details supplied); and if the group will be prioritised in the Covid-19 vaccine roll-out. — Joe Flaherty. [7603/21]

*274. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to address the three to four year waiting list for Down syndrome children to see a paediatric rheumatologist nationally; the details of the waiting list for County Limerick; the steps being taken there to address the backlog; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [7646/21]

*275. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the demands by an association (details supplied) front-line paramedics who want to be represented by another association; his plans in regard to their campaign; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [7654/21]

*276. To ask the Minister for Health if it will be ensured that nuns living in congregated settings are catered for appropriately in the Covid-19 vaccination roll-out plan. — Emer Higgins. [7655/21]

*277. To ask the Minister for Health if guidelines are in place in order that the Covid-19 mRNA vaccines will be offered to front-line healthcare workers who are pregnant (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [7670/21]

*278. To ask the Minister for Health when a decision will be made on whether funding for a new nursing home (details supplied) in County Tipperary will be included in the new national development plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [7676/21]

*279. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the BreastCheck screening programme; the number of women that have been screened in each month since May 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [7680/21]

*280. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the ongoing frustration of a group (details supplied) not to recommend in favour of reimbursement of patisiran for the treatment of hereditary transthyretin-mediated hATTR amyloidosis here; and the reason this drug is available to patients in Northern Ireland but not here. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [7688/21]

*281. To ask the Minister for Health the position of pharmacists and pharmacy staff under the Covid-19 vaccination roll-out plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [7691/21]

*282. To ask the Minister for Health the details of analysis carried out for his Department in relation to the introduction of the minimum price for alcohol products given his concerns that its introduction here without a similar introduction in Northern Ireland could impact on cross-Border trade (details supplied); if the result of this analysis has been published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7695/21]

*283. To ask the Minister for Health the reason medical card patients are currently not being seen for emergency medical dental treatment; when emergency dental treatment will be available for medical card holders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7704/21]

*284. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) is being asked to provide a notice of assessment of form 11 tax return in order to process their medical card application when the PCRS have been furnished with a statement of liability in respect of their form 12 submission showing a trading loss; the reason the application is not being processed given that official documentary evidence from the Revenue Commissioners in the form of a statement of liability has been furnished in order to process same; if he will acknowledge the documentary evidence that has been furnished to the client registration unit showing a trading loss and process the application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7705/21]

*285. To ask the Minister for Health if a matter (details supplied) will be reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [7713/21]

*286. To ask the Minister for Health the alternatives that are available to a general practice nurse who is 22 weeks pregnant and who under the new guidance issued on 5 January 2021 is scheduled to receive a vaccine (details supplied) and who will be part of the team rolling out a vaccine clinic at their practice; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that NIAC have advised that the vaccine should not be given during pregnancy; his views on the fact that even if this nurse receives the first dose they will be over 33 weeks pregnant by the time the second dose is scheduled to be given 12 weeks later; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [7717/21]

*287. To ask the Minister for Health when the nursing home support (amendment) Bill will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [7722/21]

*288. To ask the Minister for Health if all dentists will be eligible to participate in the roll-out of the Covid 19 vaccine or if it will be limited to dentists with a contract with the HSE or who are members of an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7728/21]

*289. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which he and his Department have coordinated the roll-out of Covid-19 vaccines; the extent to which the process is smooth and effective; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7733/21]

*290. To ask the Minister for Health the extent of the provision made for the various categories of patient awaiting Covid-19 vaccination; if the vaccination process will be rolled-out on time and in sufficient numbers to make a serious impact on the spread of the virus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7734/21]

*291. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which he expects the health services to be in a position to maintain normal services while at the same time meeting the challenge of vaccination throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7735/21]

*292. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which he remains satisfied regarding the availability of sufficient hospital beds to meet the ongoing challenges of Covid-19 and at the same time meet the normally expected requirements from non-Covid-19 patients and elective procedures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7736/21]

*293. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which he remains satisfied that non-Covid hospital procedures continue in sufficient scale to meet the demand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7737/21]

*294. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which more than average noticeable waiting lists have built up or are likely to build up arising from Covid-19-related demands and requirements; if backlogs remain manageable; the most apparent disciplines under stress at present; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7738/21]

*295. To ask the Minister for Health if he is satisfied that the provisions currently in place to deal with non-Covid-19 related health demands are sufficient in every respect; his plans for specific changes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7739/21]

*296. To ask the Minister for Health if a particular effort can be made to address pressures for endoscopy, oncology or other treatments given the extent to which the Covid-19 pandemic is impacting on the services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7740/21]

*297. To ask the Minister for Health the degree to which the issue of medical cards has been streamlined to minimise delays given the extent to which the Covid-19 pandemic continues to impact on the health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7741/21]

*298. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which dental and optical services have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic; if plans are in hand to address any issues arising; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7742/21]

*299. To ask the Minister for Health the degree to which child and adult mental health services can be improved in the short to medium term given the serious shortcomings that have existed for some time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7743/21]

*300. To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether a special taskforce might address the shortcomings in the mental health services with particular reference to the need to provide for those seeking institutional care or specific treatment not currently readily available in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7744/21]

*301. To ask the Minister for Health the degree to which diabetes remains an issue of concern to his Department with particular reference to the need to coordinate and enhance the availability of services throughout the country in addition to educational and informational campaigns to alert the public to the seriousness of the condition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7745/21]

*302. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which provision is being made to cater for mental health patients who may also have an addiction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7746/21]

*303. To ask the Minister for Health if additional personnel will be provided for child and adolescent mental health services in view of the increasing number of children presenting for assessment and treatment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [7772/21]

*304. To ask the Minister for Health the locations for the over 85s vaccination centres in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7773/21]

*305. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 834 and 835 of 27 January 2021, the process for getting on to the list for assessment; the first steps for those being approved for an assessment of needs; the staffing levels in the different HSE regions for this process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [7775/21]

*306. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 834 and 835 of 27 January 2021, the number of families seeking assessment; the number of families accepted for assessment in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [7776/21]

*307. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 834 and 835 of 27 January 2021, the reason the numbers for areas 1 and 2 are significantly lower than the other CHOs; the differences in those areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [7777/21]

*308. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 176 of 10 December 2020, the status of the upcoming review of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018; the terms of reference for the review; if submissions will be requested from advocacy and affected groups; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [7778/21]

*309. To ask the Minister for Health the amount allocated to the health service since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic for building additional hospital capacity in beds, ICU beds and staff recruitment; when the funds were allocated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [7780/21]

*310. To ask the Minister for Health the achievements in the ten months since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in terms of additional hospital beds and staff that are actually operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [7781/21]

*311. To ask the Minister for Health the number of ICU beds that existed in public hospitals in February 2020; the number that currently exist; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [7782/21]

*312. To ask the Minister for Health the length of time healthcare staff are off work waiting for a Covid-19 test result on average; the proportion of current staff shortages which are due to issues such as this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [7783/21]

*313. To ask the Minister for Health the contingency plans in place to ensure that the over 70s receive vaccines in a prompt manner if Covid-19 vaccines are deemed not suitable for over 70s. — Mark Ward. [7784/21]

*314. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children nationwide and in the Dublin region that availed of early intervention from the HSE by category (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Chris Andrews. [7806/21]

*315. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the practice of general practitioner clinics that are accepting new patients but are refusing to take new patients with general practitioner visit cards or medical cards; if the practice is compliant with HSE rules and regulations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [7810/21]

*316. To ask the Minister for Health the status of talks with public health doctors; if agreement has been reached to upgrade all existing public health specialists to consultant in line with all other specialties; if agreement has been reached on the necessary additional investment in this service; and when he expects this matter to be finalised. — Róisín Shortall. [7819/21]

*317. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to address the issue of travellers from Dubai, Portugal and other locations using Dublin Airport as a backdoor into the UK; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [7821/21]

*318. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on preparations for the introduction of mandatory hotel quarantine; the estimated number being planned for; the body or agency which will oversee the procurement of accommodation, transport, security and so on; the timescale to which he is working for the necessary legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [7824/21]

*319. To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date in the determination of an application for a medical card in the case of a person (details supplied); if a medical card will be considered on discretionary grounds given the health circumstances in this instance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7828/21]

*320. To ask the Minister for Health when all front-line health staff in County Kildare have and will receive the Covid-19 vaccine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7829/21]

*321. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which he can offer support or draw attention to the needs of epilepsy sufferers as set out by an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7830/21]

*322. To ask the Minister for Health if the National Immunisation Advisory Committee has recommenced its deliberations regarding the BCG immunisation programme; and when his Department expects submission of the final paper. — Róisín Shortall. [7831/21]

*323. To ask the Minister for Health if the definition of a support bubble has changed (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [7832/21]

*324. To ask the Minister for Health the current advice of his Department in respect of vitamin D regarding its role in strengthening the immune system in the context of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [7833/21]

*325. To ask the Minister for Health the current advice of his Department in respect of the role of ventilation in reducing the spread of Covid-19 in domestic settings, school settings and workplace settings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [7834/21]

Chun an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara: To the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

*326. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of a farm payment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [7484/21]

*327. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the measures in place to ensure that all grants for struggling small to medium size farms are prioritised over larger and more profitable farms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [7505/21]

*328. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the loss of animals from TB by a farmer (details supplied) can be used as a stock rate reduction under force majeure with regard to BEAM; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [7530/21]

*329. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of meat processing factories at which serial testing has taken place since its introduction; the frequency with which serial testing is being carried out at individual facilities; if there are any facilities that have not had serial testing carried out; if so, the reason; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [7540/21]

*330. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will report on the closure due to Covid-19 and the resumption of point-to-point racing (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [7564/21]

*331. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to correspondence (details supplied); if he will contact the correspondents; and his plans to deal with the matters raised in the correspondence. — Catherine Murphy. [7595/21]

*332. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he is in possession of any assessment on the impact that the EU Farm to Fork Biodiversity Strategies will have on productions costs for farmers; the impact it will have on their output; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [7652/21]

*333. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will address a matter regarding folios (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [7706/21]

*334. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the discrepancies affecting the category known as the forgotten farmers, that is, those young farmers who have been denied top-up financial supports due to the fact they commenced farming before 2015 will be resolved in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [7720/21]

*335. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the steps he is taking to allow flexibility in the implementation of the BEAM 5% nitrogen reduction criteria in view of the response from the EU Commission; when the online calculator will go live; if he will ensure that farmers have access to this online calculator for at least 12 months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [7724/21]

*336. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which the fishing industry has been affected by Brexit; the actions taken or in hand to address these issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7747/21]

*337. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which families dependent on the fishing industry are being affected by Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7748/21]

*338. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the degree to which his Department can avail of opportunities to assist families dependent on the fishing industry who are being impacted by Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7749/21]

*339. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which bovine tuberculosis continues to be eradicated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7750/21]

*340. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of incidents of bovine tuberculosis recorded in each of the past ten years to date; the extent to which the causes of outbreaks have been identified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7751/21]

*341. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the degree to which breaches of animal health regulations continues to be brought to the attention of his Department; if specific issues for particular action arising from such incidents have been identified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7752/21]

*342. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department has examined the impact of the purchase of veterinary practices by vulture funds; his plans for specific provisions to ensure that adequate veterinary capacity remains available to the agri-food sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7753/21]

*343. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which he has identified the most salient issues affecting the agri-food sector arising from Brexit to date; his plans to address the issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7754/21]

*344. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the current strength of the national beef herd; the degree to which the numbers have fluctuated in the past ten years to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7755/21]

*345. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the current strength of the dairy herd; the extent to which numbers have fluctuated in the past ten years to date; if he remains satisfied that income from the sector will remain positive for the foreseeable future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7756/21]

*346. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which markets for Irish-produced beef, lamb, pig meat and poultry remain positive or are threatened in the future arising from Brexit or otherwise; the extent to which his Department studies these issues on an ongoing basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7757/21]

*347. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the degree to which sufficient laboratory facilities exist here or if not available can be provided here with particular reference to ongoing challenges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7758/21]

*348. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which strong markets remain available for all Irish dairy products notwithstanding the challenges arising from various sources including Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7759/21]

*349. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which Brexit has to date negatively or positively affected Irish food exports including beef, dairy, pig meat, poultry and lamb; if specific measures need to be taken arising therefrom; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7760/21]

*350. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if organic farmers will be permitted to join the new REPS scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [7771/21]

*351. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of goats reared in Ireland; the number of goat farms and average herd size; the way in which these farms are regulated and inspected; the way in which animal welfare standards are monitored and enforced; the number of male kids killed each year; the age they were killed at; the locations at which they are killed; the destination of carcasses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [7779/21]

*352. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the standards in place for dog shelters, pounds and facilities; the evidence on which these standards are based; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [7797/21]

*353. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of complaints his Department received regarding animal welfare in publicly-funded facilities between January 2017 and December 2020; the counties in which the facilities were located; and the nature of these complaints. — Gary Gannon. [7798/21]

*354. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount spent by his Department in 2020 on communication and education for rules on the sale or supply of pet animals which came into effect on 1 February 2020 under the Animal Health and Welfare (Sale or Supply of Pet Animals) Regulations 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [7799/21]

*355. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of sellers and suppliers under the Register of Sellers and Suppliers of Pet Animals; the number of premises

under the Register of Premises; and if there has been a noted increase since the Animal Health and Welfare (Sale or Supply of Pet Animals) Regulations 2019 have been brought in. — Gary Gannon. [7800/21]

*356. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the steps he plans to take in EU fishery discussions now and into the future to ensure that Ireland gets a proper and equitable share of Ireland's maritime natural fish resources particularly an equitable share of migratory and straddling fish stocks that breed, spawn feed and grow in Irish waters as defined by international law; if he will seek to have the principle of zonal attachment applied to the share-out of these stocks in Irish waters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7809/21]

Chun an Aire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail: To the Minister for Rural and Community Development.

*357. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding opportunities within her Department for an organisation (details supplied) in County Mayo; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [7601/21]

*358. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when the additional funding of €10 million announced before Christmas 2020 for the Covid 19 emergency fund for community and voluntary groups will be rolled-out; if there will be a new application process for this funding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7698/21]

*359. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the carryover of unspent capital from 2020 to 2021 approved by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform for her Department; the Departmental subheads to which this applies; the amount in each case; the reason the capital was not spent in 2020; the steps being taken to ensure there will not be a similar underspend in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7729/21]