



## **DÁIL ÉIREANN**

*Déardaoin, 5 Deireadh Fómhair, 2017*

*Thursday, 5th October, 2017*

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**CEISTEANNA  
QUESTIONS**



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**CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL**  
**QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER**

**CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH**  
**QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY**

**Chun an Aire Iompair, Turasóireachta agus Spóirt: To the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport.**

1. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to deal with the financial shortfall in Iarnród Éireann with regard to the capital budget for the rail network; his views on whether closing certain rail lines is a potential solution; and his further views on establishing a multi stakeholder forum to deliberate and propose solutions to the financial difficulties. — Robert Troy. [42238/17]

2. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the actions he is considering to address the ongoing financial difficulties at Iarnród Éireann; the actions he plans to take to secure the future viability and success of the company; if line closures, fare increases, increases in funding for the free travel pass, increased subvention, compensation for previous under funding and increased capital investment have been considered, which of these actions are likely to be pursued; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [42240/17]

3. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will increase the tourism marketing budget to mitigate the decline in visitor numbers from the UK in view of the decline in visitor numbers experienced in 2017; and his views on whether the capital budget for tourism development is adequate to deal with the emerging difficulties in the sector. — Robert Troy. [42239/17]

4. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding the industrial relations situation in Irish Rail; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [42237/17]

5. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport when the section of the Road Traffic Act 2016 will be commenced which makes vehicle owners liable if they allow an unaccompanied learner to drive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [42236/17]

**CEISTEANNA EILE**  
**OTHER QUESTIONS**

**Chun an Aire Iompair, Turasóireachta agus Spóirt: To the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport.**

6. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will liaise with the stakeholders involved with Claremount Stadium in Navan, County Meath regarding its proposed sale in order

for this national athletic facility to continue to serve Irish athletics and local communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Cassells. [42150/17]

7. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport when he expects to be in a position to identify his priorities in respect of the capital sports grant programme, major or minor; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42152/17]

8. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has issued an instruction to the Commission for Aviation Regulation to liaise with the civil aviation authority in the UK in respect of a Europe wide issue with a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [42163/17]

9. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on the decision of the NTA to award a company (details supplied) 10% of existing Dublin Bus routes; and the way in which this will improve the services for persons that use these routes. — Bríd Smith. [42136/17]

10. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if the IAA remains the first choice as competent authority under EU Regulation 598/14; if not, the reason therefor; and when the decision will be finalised in the context of the ongoing development of the new runway at Dublin Airport. — Clare Daly. [42143/17]

11. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the intervention he will take if Irish Rail workers decide to strike in October 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42147/17]

12. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the measures he plans to take to protect the rights of a company's (details supplied) passengers that have been impacted by flight cancellations; if he will consider a review of regulations in the sector which include a protection for workers' rights; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [42164/17]

13. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if his attention has been drawn to the various industrial disputes in the UK in recent years involving bus workers and a company (details supplied) that has recently been successful in its tender application for 10% of Dublin Bus routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [42028/17]

14. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the Bonagee link road project in County Donegal; when this project is likely to commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [41975/17]

15. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will seek funding to invest in the development of the Fingal coastal cycleway to link Balbriggan to the Dublin coastal cycleway in Sutton; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [42162/17]

16. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to deal with the significant financial shortfall in Iarnród Éireann especially with regard to the capital budget for the rail network; and his views on whether closing certain rail lines is a potential solution. — Robert Troy. [41967/17]

17. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the level of funding he requested in budget 2018 to move the metro north project forward; his views on the project; the progress to date in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [42161/17]

18. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of his consideration of the removal of the slip road tolls in Drogheda in view of his recent visit to the site; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [42155/17]

19. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will increase the tourism marketing budget to mitigate the decline in visitor numbers from the UK; and his plans to implement a business support fund to aid small to medium tourism businesses affected by the decline in visitors from Britain. — Robert Troy. [41968/17]

20. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to increase the number of audible announcements on public transport. — Margaret Murphy O'Mahony. [41976/17]

21. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding the recent closure of a number of Bus Éireann routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [42146/17]

22. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will report on the planned transfer of ownership of Dún Laoghaire harbour to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown county council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42168/17]

23. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on the potential pending strike by railway workers in Iarnród Éireann. — Joan Collins. [42064/17]

24. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport further to his commitment earlier in 2017 to conduct an internal review in his department of the international legal implications of the Air Navigation (Carriage of Munitions of War, Weapons, and Dangerous Goods) Order SI 224 1973, the details of discussions he has had on the timeframe and scope of the review; the progress made to date on the review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [41965/17]

25. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the progress on the southern distributor route, the new ring road for Athy; the work ongoing in his department on the project; the timeframe for the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [42156/17]

26. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the A5; the details of his engagement with his counterparts in Northern Ireland on this project; the funding which will be made available for this project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [41974/17]

27. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will assure workers in Irish Rail and the travelling public that the government does not support the closure of any of the existing rail network or lines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [42135/17]

28. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if there is a cap on the amount of funding that can be provided in financial support in respect of the Rugby World Cup 2023 tournament budget; if an advance of funds including loans to a tournament company for the purposes of staging the tournament have a ceiling limit; the way in which support to a person in respect of a proposal by that person to purchase commercial rights will be handled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [42158/17]

29. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on the ongoing crisis at a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [42141/17]

30. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans, proposals and timeframe to provide transport infrastructure to facilitate the development of an SDZ at Clonburris, County Dublin with 8,500 homes supporting an estimated population of approximately 21,000 persons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [41985/17]

31. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the NTA's plans to consider rail prices in County Kildare for 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42148/17]

32. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will provide an overview of his submission to the mid term review of the capital plan; and his views on whether the capital budget for transport infrastructure is adequate. — Robert Troy. [41970/17]

33. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the allocation provided for the 2017 sports capital programme grants; the number of applications that have been received for 2017; the number of these applications that have been successful; and the average grant award. — Imelda Munster. [42154/17]

34. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the funding available for the completion of the Portlaoise orbital route; and if this project will be included in capital funding going forward. — Brian Stanley. [41978/17]

35. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on whether the NTA's decision to tender out 10% of Dublin Bus routes to a company (details supplied) will improve bus services in view of the fact that in a written reply to a question the agency cited studies that are over ten and 16 years old to support their case for competitive tendering; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [42138/17]

36. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on the unforeseen recent announcement by Bus Éireann to discontinue four routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [42030/17]

37. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if the upgrading of the N2 road will feature on the forthcoming mid term capital review in view of statements he made on 23 February 2017 in Dáil Éireann regarding same. — Thomas Byrne. [41972/17]

38. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will report on the regulation of rickshaws; when the results of the National Transport Authority's public consultation will be reported to his department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [41981/17]

39. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his preferred strategy and approach in facilitating the construction of a third terminal at Dublin Airport in view of ongoing concerns regarding capacity and congestion at the airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [42153/17]

40. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the health and safety requirements in place for the private operator of 10% of the Dublin Bus routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [42145/17]

41. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on whether the future of Bus Éireann following the recent crisis and closure of several routes is best served by a policy of competitive tendering for 10% of its existing network; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [42139/17]

42. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding the progress of general safety works and the appointment of design consultant for the proposed overbridge on the Piltown bypass on the N24; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [41988/17]

43. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to increase the funding allocation to Meath county council for the community involvement scheme for the restoration and upgrading of local roads and lanes in view of its positive take up. — Thomas Byrne. [41973/17]

44. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the detail of the ten permits issued by his department for transport of munitions of war through Ireland en route to or from Kuwait and Qatar in August 2017 and the six permits for same between 4 and 12 September 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [42144/17]

45. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the engagements he has had with the Irish Aviation Authority and the Commission for Aviation Regulation regarding the ongoing situation with a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [42157/17]

46. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if his attention has been drawn to the fact that ongoing industrial unrest within the transport unions is having both operational impact upon bus services on many Kildare to Dublin routes, due to cancellations and no shows and is also hampering planned service extensions such as the ten minute DART and planned additional off peak service on the Sallins to Hazelhatch to Grand Canal dock routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [42066/17]

47. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if in co-operation with the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment he will elaborate a policy for the expansion of public transport and the radical reduction of public transport fares in order to avert the possibility of fines being imposed on Ireland for not reaching its CO2 emission targets by 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [42029/17]

48. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on whether the decision to allow the DART underground railway order to lapse was a mistake that could ultimately waste millions of euro; and the progress being made on redesigning a lower cost solution to the tunnel portion. — Robert Troy. [41969/17]

49. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will consider investing in an express train service between Wexford town and Dublin to facilitate commuting and help mitigate climate change; if his department has carried out a cost benefit analysis of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [41966/17]

50. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the way in which he plans to address the shortfall of chefs within the hospitality sector. — Maureen O’Sullivan. [42149/17]

51. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding the possible route the M20 Cork to Limerick may take; if his attention has been drawn to the importance of the construction of the motorway via Mallow, Charleville and Buttevant for social, economic and environmental reasons; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that the construction of this motorway on another route would have a detrimental effect on the entire economic development of the western corridor; and if he will liaise with Transport Infrastructure Ireland to this effect. — Kevin O’Keeffe. [42167/17]

52. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he met a campaign group over summer 2017, in relation to the N59 in Galway; the result of the meeting; the actions he has taken to address the issues raised by the group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [41987/17]

53. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the measures his department has taken to ensure the protection of the rights of passengers that booked flights with a company (details supplied) that have subsequently been cancelled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [42027/17]

54. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to address the substantial price difference for persons travelling from Newbridge rail station compared to Sallins station just seven kilometres away; his further plans to reduce the fares for adults families or students in view of the need to encourage as many persons as possible to use public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [42133/17]

55. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the expenditure by his department in new or improved Irish Rail rolling stock and on station extensions including car parking facilities in the past five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [42067/17]

56. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to re-establish CERT to ensure adequate training resources in the catering sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [30220/17]

57. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will approach the dispute between Irish Rail and its workers in a different and more engaged manner than he did previous disputes with Dublin Bus and Bus Éireann with a view to resolving the dispute before industrial action is taken; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [42159/17]

58. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will progress the east west link road for the local economy of east County Cavan and the surrounding areas. — Niamh Smyth. [42170/17]

59. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has had discussions with the Commission on Aviation Regulation and the IAA in regard to the potential safety implications of atypical working conditions for pilots at some Irish airlines. — Clare Daly. [42140/17]

60. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding implementation of the Industrial Relations Commission recommendations for Bus Éireann; and the commitments he made to management and unions during the recent industrial dispute. — Robert Troy. [41971/17]



61. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the way in which the routes tendered to a company (details supplied) will be affected by this transfer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42137/17]

62. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will release funding that is being withheld by the government to the Olympic Council of Ireland (OCI); his views on whether the OCI is taking all measures possible to improve its corporate governance; and if his attention has been drawn to the fact that continuing to withhold this funding will have a detrimental effect on athletes' preparations for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic games. — Kevin O'Keeffe. [42166/17]

63. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which he has identified the most strategic and urgently required arterial road replacement and improvements projects; the extent to which these projects are or can be included in the capital programme; the extent to which it is expected that these projects will assist the free flow of traffic and improve the travel time locally or nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42151/17]

64. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will report on the meetings he held on the Rugby World Cup bid. — Michael Moynihan. [41383/17]

65. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has requested increased funding to be included in budget 2018 in order to increase the subvention for public transport companies such as Dublin Bus, Irish Rail and Bus Éireann in order to improve services and reduce costs for commuters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [42160/17]

66. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on the rights of Dublin Bus workers transferring into a company (details supplied) in view of the company's track record of industrial relations issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [42165/17]

67. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the reason that neither a statutory instrument nor primary legislation has been introduced to give effect to EU Regulation 598/14 in relation to the establishment of a competent authority to deal with aircraft noise. — Clare Daly. [42142/17]

68. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if a directional sign for Athy can be provided at the M7/M9 intersection to ensure that traffic travelling to Athy can exit at this junction in view of the fact that Athy is not signposted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [42169/17]

69. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the steps he has taken to secure financing of the electrification of the two commuter railway lines from Dublin to north Kildare; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that it would significantly enhance the capacity of this area to provide housing on residentially zoned land that can access Dublin city centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [40355/17]

70. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if the new card style drivers' licences will be used to electronically record penalty point convictions and disqualifications; the necessary measures to be taken to allow this information be accessed by relevant State bodies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [41986/17]

71. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will prioritise funding to relieve the major traffic bottleneck on the N80 in County Laois to improve connectivity from the west and the midlands to the south east. — Brian Stanley. [42065/17]

72. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if his attention has been drawn to a complaint made to the Health and Safety Authority regarding alleged unsafe practice by a company (details supplied) with regard to the training of drivers in the operation of the new routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [42031/17]

73. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the reintroduction of the local improvement scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [41979/17]

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### CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

*Chun an Tánaiste agus an Aire Gnó, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta : To the Tánaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation.*

\*74. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the position regarding the acquisition of a building (details supplied) as a business hub for the area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [42227/17]

\*75. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the number of occasions on which she has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons she has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; her views on the issues raised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42284/17]

\*76. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the regulations in place for pricing algorithms in the tourism and hospitality sector. — Sean Sherlock. [42370/17]

*Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.*

\*77. To ask the Minister for Finance if a company (details supplied) can avail of the rent a room relief; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [42213/17]

\*78. To ask the Minister for Finance if, in relation to the complaints process of the Financial Services Ombudsman and in general when a person is making a complaint to a financial service provider, he will ensure that a legal personal representative of an estate is in no way treated differently to a person that is alive including in the right to access all files and documents relevant to such a complaint; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [42214/17]

\*79. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to retain the 9% VAT rate for businesses involved in tourism; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [42231/17]

\*80. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason a person (details supplied) living in Portugal cannot avail of the NHR status enabling those that become tax resident in Portugal the opportunity to receive qualifying income tax free both in Portugal and in the country of the source of income; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [42270/17]

\*81. To ask the Minister for Finance the action he is taking at EU level to promote the need for persons living in one EU member state to be allowed to purchase financial services products such as home loans and business loans from financial institutions based in other EU member states; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42280/17]

\*82. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to introduce a VAT reduction on animal vaccines in order to help support better animal welfare on farms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McLoughlin. [42281/17]

\*83. To ask the Minister for Finance the percentage of transactions in retail outlets across the country in which persons pay with a debit or credit card; the arrangements in relation to the transaction fees that apply to the retailers facilitating such electronic transactions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42282/17]

\*84. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42291/17]

\*85. To ask the Minister for Finance the legacy losses outstanding from a tax perspective in banks (details supplied); the length of time into the future these losses can be carried forward to reduce tax; if an analysis has been carried out on the effect on the banks of restricting the losses that can be brought forward; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42308/17]

\*86. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to increase the earned income tax credit to the same level as the PAYE credit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42360/17]

\*87. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to reduce the rate of VAT on animal vaccines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42362/17]

\*88. To ask the Minister for Finance if the office of the Director of Corporate Enforcement or the Financial Regulator has carried out investigations into a company (details supplied) regarding the way in which it has operated and dealt with persons that gave it funds for investment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [42376/17]

\*89. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps his department and the Revenue Commissioners have taken in order to be prepared for the introduction of a sugar tax in 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42433/17]

\*90. To ask the Minister for Finance the level of uptake to date on the improved CGT entrepreneur relief introduced in budget 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42434/17]

\*91. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has received the approval of the European Commission for the introduction of a share based incentive scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42435/17]

\*92. To ask the Minister for Finance the work that has been done since the announcement in budget 2017 on the possible introduction of a VAT compensation scheme for registered charities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42436/17]

\*93. To ask the Minister for Finance the excise duty on tobacco products collected in each of the years 2014 to 2016; the estimated amount to be collected in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42437/17]

\*94. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of approved applications under the help to buy scheme to date in 2017; the estimated cost of the scheme in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42438/17]

\*95. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated amount to be collected in 2017 from the compliance measures specified in the summary of budget measures 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42439/17]

\*96. To ask the Minister for Finance the cost of regulation in the Central Bank per year in the past five years; the portion of these costs obtained from levies on financial institutions; his plans for the funding model for regulation at the Central Bank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42440/17]

\*97. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has received approval from the European Commission to reform NAMA in order to allow it to develop social and affordable housing on State owned land; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42444/17]

\*98. To ask the Minister for Finance the State's final structural deficit in percentage terms in 2016; and if he expects changes at this point. — Michael McGrath. [42445/17]

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

\*99. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform when pharmacists and other self employed persons will have their pay restored in view of the fact that FEMPI has been unwound in many sectors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [42233/17]

\*100. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the discussions and meetings he has had with the local authority in Cork city regarding extra funding for the event centre; and if other ministers have discussed it with him. — Sean Sherlock. [42371/17]

\*101. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the OPW's discussions on the refurbishment of a garda station (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [42200/17]

\*102. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42296/17]

\*103. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the location of the site for the new garda headquarters (details supplied) in County Sligo; if it has been procured; the status of the

project; the timeframe for planning, construction and completion; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [42318/17]

*Chun an Aire Oideachais agus Scileanna: To the Minister for Education and Skills.*

\*104. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason for requiring secondary teachers to complete a two year masters degree to qualify rather than a higher diploma; and his views on whether this is leading to cost pressures on young graduates. — Thomas Byrne. [42202/17]

\*105. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the predicted requirement in each of the next three years for new primary school teachers due only to demographic pressures. — Thomas Byrne. [42203/17]

\*106. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the predicted requirement for new secondary school teachers in each of the next three years due only to demographic pressures. — Thomas Byrne. [42204/17]

\*107. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the predicted requirement in each of the next three years for new SNAs due only to demographic pressures. — Thomas Byrne. [42205/17]

\*108. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his department collects data on the number of children turned down annually for speech and language classes in primary schools despite meeting the qualifying criteria; and if so, the data for each of the years 2010 to 2016 and to date in 2017. — Clare Daly. [42207/17]

\*109. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his views on the fact that in certain cases school boards of management are taking judicial review proceedings to challenge the findings of section 29 appeals against refusals to enrol children in speech and language classes; and his further views on whether this is an appropriate use of public funds. — Clare Daly. [42208/17]

\*110. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if additional persons have been added to the list since Caranua was established over and above those identified in the Quirke report; if so, the number; the criteria used; the years in which this occurred; if new persons were included; if resources were provided to cover this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [42230/17]

\*111. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will allocate funding for parking facilities at a school (details supplied) in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [42232/17]

\*112. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to reintroduce financial support for student primary teachers in respect of attendance at a mandatory course (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42246/17]

\*113. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will reintroduce financial support for students of primary teaching for the mandatory Gaeltacht course (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [42255/17]

\*114. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to reinstate support for student primary teachers towards the cost of mandatory Gaeltacht courses (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [42256/17]

\*115. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of support hours for pupils at a school (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42260/17]

\*116. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to reinstate the support subsidies for primary school teachers that undertake residential Gaeltacht courses as part of their teacher training that were cut in 2012; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42272/17]

\*117. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to restore subsidies for student teachers attendance at mandatory Gaeltacht courses which would help to alleviate the burden of these expenses on students. — Mick Wallace. [42274/17]

\*118. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42289/17]

\*119. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of early years playschools in County Kildare for children with developmental difficulties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42322/17]

\*120. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of the allocation for the provision of a multi purpose room which is needed for the pupils and staff of a school (details supplied); if approval will be given; the timeframe involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [42324/17]

\*121. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills when a school (details supplied) will receive approval for funding for new facilities. — Jonathan O'Brien. [42326/17]

\*122. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of pupils that have applied for concessionary school transport for the current school year, by county; the number that were granted and refused respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42341/17]

\*123. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason the threshold for the appointment of an administrative principal for rural DEIS schools is higher than other DEIS schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42343/17]

\*124. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the differences in the funding or other supports available under each of the different categories of DEIS school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42345/17]

\*125. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of schools that currently have rural DEIS status, by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42346/17]

\*126. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason inconsistent overtime payments are taken into consideration by SUSI when determining applications in view of the fact that these overtime payments are usually achieved by parents of students preparing to send children to third level. — Sean Sherlock. [42369/17]



\*127. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the steps he has taken in relation to investigating bogus self employment contracts in the English language teaching sector here (details supplied). — Clare Daly. [42375/17]

*Chun an Aire Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála: To the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade.*

\*128. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if he will raise with the Spanish government the recent and concerning actions of that government in Catalonia (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [42209/17]

\*129. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42292/17]

\*130. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the status of the case of a person (details supplied); and if he has discussed the case with his Filipino counterpart recently. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [42325/17]

*Chun an Aire Dlí agus Cirt agus Comhionannais: To the Minister for Justice and Equality.*

\*131. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of community gardaí in each garda division, in tabular form. — Jim O'Callaghan. [42218/17]

\*132. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his plans to increase garda numbers in the Cavan and Monaghan division in view of the reduction in garda personnel since 2010; if the particular policing needs of this division due to a long land border with a neighbouring jurisdiction will be taken into account in the allocation of garda resources; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42257/17]

\*133. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42295/17]

\*134. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the position in relation to a stamp 4 application in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42305/17]

\*135. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of cases of probate sales in the system; the expected waiting time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42310/17]

\*136. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the reason for the delay in publishing the interim report on the re opening of garda stations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42363/17]

\*137. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the percentage of garda reserves completing a minimum of 208 annual hours per annum duty obligations; the number of times on average reserves are requested to assist policing in district; the annual cost of garda reserves; the percentage

of reserves formally allocated a duty in the formal duty register; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42364/17]

\*138. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of community gardaí in each district in each of the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42365/17]

\*139. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the amount of funding allocated to each division in each of the past ten years for the purposes of establishing or supporting text alert, community alert or neighbourhood watch schemes, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42366/17]

\*140. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of gardaí over each of the past ten years, by rank and division, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42367/17]

\*141. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his views on the fact that the GSOC investigation into the death of a person (details supplied) has been ongoing for five years with no outcome for the bereaved family; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [42377/17]

\*142. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his plans to introduce legislation to remove the ban on the right to work of asylum seekers in view of the recent Supreme Court ruling; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [42382/17]

\*143. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the work or strategic planning that is underway to develop a non custodial approach for women offenders in view of the proven success of such models in reducing recidivism. — Clare Daly. [42383/17]

\*144. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his strategy to develop an open prison for women as an alternative to overcrowding in the Dóchas centre and Limerick women's prison. — Clare Daly. [42384/17]

\*145. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality further to parliamentary question number 107 of 21 January 2016, if long term residency status can be granted to a person (details supplied) as a dependent of their child, who has residency status. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42399/17]

\*146. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if a deportation order in the case of persons (details supplied) can be set aside; if their case can be urgently and considered with a view to stamp 4 status. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42400/17]

\*147. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if the application for naturalisation in the case of a person (details supplied) who is here awaiting a decision for eighteen years can be facilitated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42401/17]

\*148. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if temporary residency status can be awarded in the case of a person (details supplied); if their case can be examined on humanitarian grounds, in view of the fact they are receiving specialised medical treatment here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42404/17]



\*149. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if a new application for residency status has been received from a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42405/17]

\*150. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he will review the decision to grant stamp 0 status in the case of a person (details supplied); if stamp 0 status can be replaced by stamp 4 in the circumstances in view of the fact the person's family are Irish citizens; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42408/17]

\*151. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he will grant naturalisation in the case of persons (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42409/17]

\*152. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he will grant naturalisation in the case of persons (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42410/17]

\*153. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if the deportation order made seven years ago in the case of a person (details supplied) can be reviewed in view of the time elapsed since the making of the order; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42412/17]

\*154. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he will review the application for a visa in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42413/17]

\*155. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the status of the determination of residency in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42414/17]

\*156. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if urgent consideration can be given to the granting of a visa in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42416/17]

\*157. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the steps being taken to develop a distinct criminal justice strategy for young adults aged 18 to 24 years of age; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [42452/17]

\*158. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the position regarding requiring the judiciary to take account of a young person's age and maturity as a mitigating factor in determining a penalty. — Clare Daly. [42453/17]

*Chun an Aire Cultúir, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta: To the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.*

\*159. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht if a NPWS ranger was present at the hare coursing meeting at Kilflynn, County Kerry on the weekend of 30 September 2017; and the timeframe for a report to be available regarding the welfare and release of the hares that were used as live targets at this event. — Clare Daly. [42251/17]

\*160. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht the number of occasions on which she has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons she has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; her views on the issues raised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42287/17]

\*161. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht the representations she has received from business organisations in regard to the funding of an event centre in Cork city; and when they were received. — Sean Sherlock. [42372/17]

\*162. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht the positions requested and sanctioned by her department over the past three years in relation to a library (details supplied). — Peadar Tóibín. [42380/17]

*Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.*

\*163. To ask the Minister for Health when a case (details supplied) will be fully assessed in view of the fact it has been awaiting assessment since 8 September 2017. — Anne Rabbitte. [42220/17]

\*164. To ask the Minister for Health if the mobility allowance will be reintroduced for new applicants in 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42323/17]

\*165. To ask the Minister for Health if in assessing home care packages for persons being discharged from hospitals, there is an assessment carried out of the home situation; if there is a visit to the person's home to assess the help available, the physical conditions of the person's home and the suitability of the person's home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42198/17]

\*166. To ask the Minister for Health when the freestyle libre will be made available on the GMS and long term illness card; if that availability will not be restricted only to persons with type 1 diabetes but will be made available to all persons on multi daily insulin injections based on clinical need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [42206/17]

\*167. To ask the Minister for Health further to the refusal by the HSE to provide a person diagnosed with narcolepsy after receiving the pandemrix vaccine (details supplied) with a medical card, his views on whether it is appropriate that the HSE is refusing to accept a diagnosis of narcolepsy from an English hospital and is requesting that the person be diagnosed at enormous cost by one of two private Irish medical practitioners that do not hold public clinics; and the steps he will take to remedy this situation. — Clare Daly. [42210/17]

\*168. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) has not received medical equipment that has been requested by a consultant in St James' hospital. — Joan Collins. [42211/17]

\*169. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that have received treatment to date in 2017 under the funding provided to the national treatment purchase fund separately from HSE waiting list initiatives. — Billy Kelleher. [42217/17]

\*170. To ask the Minister for Health further to parliamentary question number 535 of 20 September 2017, if his attention has been drawn to the impact that the changes of the prescribing of lidocaine has had on persons with chronic neuropathic pain; if the HSE medicines management

programme has investigated the impact that changes to the prescription of pain medication has on persons with chronic neuropathic pain; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42219/17]

\*171. To ask the Minister for Health if persons with haemochromatosis are to be charged €80 for outpatient attendance to have their blood drawn off; if so, if this applies just to private patients; if this charge will be imposed on medical card patients also; the justification for imposing fees on this treatment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Billy Kelleher. [42221/17]

\*172. To ask the Minister for Health if financial assistance will be given to a person (details supplied) to assist with respite care bills; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [42228/17]

\*173. To ask the Minister for Health if a hospital appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42243/17]

\*174. To ask the Minister for Health the number of staff that have been recruited by the National Ambulance Service in regions (details supplied) in each of the years 2015 and 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form. — Martin Kenny. [42245/17]

\*175. To ask the Minister for Health further to the roll out of the national integrated medical imaging system (NIMIS) the number, name and location of HSE hospitals in which this system has been installed; the number, name and location of HSE hospitals in which this system is in operation; the number, name and location of the HSE hospitals operating under a different system; the provisions within NIMIS to allow for cooperation within non NIMIS, for example, the sharing of images and reports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42247/17]

\*176. To ask the Minister for Health if urgent and emergency funding for existing respite service proposals that are in the possession of the HSE will be provided in view of the respite crisis in County Louth; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [42248/17]

\*177. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a plastic surgery appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42249/17]

\*178. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the medical cannabis compassionate programme; the timeframe for this programme to become more widely used by medical professionals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [42250/17]

\*179. To ask the Minister for Health the number of hip and knee replacements that have taken place in Castlebar hospital, County Mayo in the past year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eugene Murphy. [42258/17]

\*180. To ask the Minister for Health the number of post operation wash out procedures post knee and hip replacements in the past year in Castlebar hospital, County Mayo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eugene Murphy. [42259/17]

\*181. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that contracted the MRSA virus in Castlebar hospital post operation procedures in the hospital in the past three years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eugene Murphy. [42261/17]

\*182. To ask the Minister for Health the timeframe to publish an antimicrobial resistance plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Billy Kelleher. [42262/17]

\*183. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the HSE has cut an information and advice programme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [42263/17]

\*184. To ask the Minister for Health if home help hours will be provided for a person (details supplied); if funding will be provided in order that extra staff and support for home help services in Crumlin will be provided for persons leaving hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Collins. [42264/17]

\*185. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the development of a national women's health action plan as committed to in the national strategy for women and girls; the number of persons in his department working on this action plan; the dates of their meetings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42271/17]

\*186. To ask the Minister for Health the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42293/17]

\*187. To ask the Minister for Health the number of maternal deaths in hospitals; the age of the women; if they were born here or outside the State, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42299/17]

\*188. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the availability of interpretative services within the maternity services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42300/17]

\*189. To ask the Minister for Health the timeframe to which he is working to establish an implementation office for Sláintecare; when the post of senior executive to lead that office will be advertised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42301/17]

\*190. To ask the Minister for Health the progress being made to secure the allocation of two additional advanced nurse practitioners to diabetes services at Letterkenny university hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [42303/17]

\*191. To ask the Minister for Health if a step down bed at a community hospital will be made available for a person (details supplied) in County Donegal subsequent to discharge from Letterkenny university hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [42304/17]

\*192. To ask the Minister for Health if dental treatment for a person (details supplied) will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [42306/17]

\*193. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that if a person does not have a medical card a doctor will not be assigned by the HSE; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that no private general practitioner practices in County Carlow are accepting new persons; and the way in which a person is expected to live and work if they do not have access to basic healthcare, such as a visit to a general practitioner. — Pat Deering. [42311/17]

\*194. To ask the Minister for Health if a High Court appeal as set out under section 27 of the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013 is the only mechanism for a pharmaceutical company to seek reimbursement of a medicine in circumstances in which the HSE has decided not to reimburse the medicine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [42313/17]

\*195. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to establish an independent review mechanism to review appeals by pharmaceutical companies in circumstances in which the HSE has decided not to reimburse their medicinal products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [42314/17]

\*196. To ask the Minister for Health the difference in approach taken by Irish and other European assessors of a medicine's clinical and cost effectiveness with regard to treatments for rare disease in circumstances in which certain medicines are readily available in over 22 other European countries but have been refused access here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [42315/17]

\*197. To ask the Minister for Health the role the US Food and Drug Administration has in assessing a medicine for reimbursement here under the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013; if a conflicting position between the FDA and the European Medicines Authority has a material role in assessing such medicines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [42316/17]

\*198. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons with diabetes requiring inpatient treatment for diabetic foot ulceration from County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42319/17]

\*199. To ask the Minister for Health if funding for a further podiatrist in Dublin will be made available in budget 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42320/17]

\*200. To ask the Minister for Health the reason there is a sudden increase in persons requiring inpatient treatment for diabetic foot ulceration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42321/17]

\*201. To ask the Minister for Health the reason some supports for women with breast cancer such as breast prosthesis and post mastectomy bras have been reduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42329/17]

\*202. To ask the Minister for Health when the new legislation to provide for transport supports for persons with disabilities will be brought before Dáil Éireann; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42330/17]

\*203. To ask the Minister for Health the number of general practitioners availing of a rural general practitioner allowance by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42331/17]

\*204. To ask the Minister for Health the ratio of general practitioners to population by HSE area, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42332/17]

\*205. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he plans to take to eliminate the discrimination against farmers under the fair deal scheme; the timeframe for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42333/17]

\*206. To ask the Minister for Health the number of occupational therapists that would be needed to clear the waiting lists of children awaiting assessment of needs and long term plans, by CHO and LHO, in tabular form; and the amount it would cost over the next five years. — Sean Sherlock. [42368/17]

\*207. To ask the Minister for Health if he will support, fund and direct the HSE to develop a rehabilitation ward in empty buildings on the site of Our Lady's hospital, Navan, County Meath in order to allow for the treatment of persons that are clinically discharged from hospital and still forced to occupy beds due to a blocked pathway for treatment. — Peadar Tóibín. [42386/17]

\*208. To ask the Minister for Health if he will start to fund the 10 bed escalation ward that has been operating within Our Lady's hospital, Navan, County Meath for the past number of years in view of the fact this ward is key in order to prevent overcrowding and for the safe delivery of healthcare in County Meath. — Peadar Tóibín. [42387/17]

\*209. To ask the Minister for Health if he or the HSE plans to close or part close the 24 hour emergency department service in Our Lady's hospital, Navan, County Meath in the next 12 months in view of the level of pressure experienced by the hospital network in the region. — Peadar Tóibín. [42388/17]

\*210. To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether Our Lady's hospital, Navan, County Meath can function safely into the future in view of the fact the conditions in the emergency department have not changed since it was opened in 2015. — Peadar Tóibín. [42389/17]

\*211. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost to facilitate 24 hour emergency department consultant cover in Our Lady's hospital, Navan, County Meath. — Peadar Tóibín. [42390/17]

\*212. To ask the Minister for Health if a hospital appointment for a person (details supplied) can be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brassil. [42391/17]

\*213. To ask the Minister for Health the level of home care available to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42415/17]

\*214. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding cancelled surgery for persons resulting from repairs being carried out at Merlin park hospital, Galway; the location to which staff are being deployed; the location to which the ten orthopaedic consultants are being deployed; and the timeframe, locations and waiting lists for priority surgery. — Anne Rabbitte. [42446/17]

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

\*215. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to make low cost loans available for farming enterprises over a five year period to fund both ongoing working capital requirements and on farm investment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42361/17]



\*216. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to provide for the introduction of low cost loans for farming enterprises to fund both ongoing working capital requirements and on farm investment in budget 2018. — Joe Carey. [41667/17]

\*217. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to introduce a regulation making it mandatory for a declaration to accompany Connemara ponies put up for sale stating whether the animal has been tested for HWSD or not (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42196/17]

\*218. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to increase the funding in 2018 for the ANC scheme; his further plans to change the rates of payments for different types of land in line with the constraints on each type of land; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42197/17]

\*219. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the position regarding 2017 ANC and BPS payments to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [42215/17]

\*220. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of persons out of the number of approved applicants to the GLAS schemes 1, 2 and 3 that received the 85% payment and that are awaiting the 15% payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [42222/17]

\*221. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of persons out of the number of approved applicants to the GLAS schemes 1, 2 and 3 that are still awaiting approval; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [42223/17]

\*222. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of a review in the case of a person (details supplied); and the timeframe for its completion. — Niamh Smyth. [42241/17]

\*223. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a €5 million top up to the sheep welfare scheme will be applied from 2018 onwards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McLoughlin. [42275/17]

\*224. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the payments made by his department for the beef data genomic scheme nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McLoughlin. [42276/17]

\*225. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he has given consideration to reinstating the ANC payment to 2008 levels to better support farmers that work in the most difficult conditions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McLoughlin. [42278/17]

\*226. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42283/17]

\*227. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to restore areas of natural constraint payments to 2008 levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42353/17]

\*228. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if an additional €5 million funding for the sheep welfare scheme will be provided in budget 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42355/17]

\*229. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to raise the suckler cow payment in budget 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42356/17]

\*230. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the action he plans to take in order to protect farmers from price volatility in the dairy sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42357/17]

\*231. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to increase funding for TAMS and increase investment aid for commercial horticulture in budget 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42358/17]

\*232. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to provide funding to the NPWS in order to compensate farmers that have their lands designated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42359/17]

\*233. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the latest data with regard to progress on attaining baseline targets set down for the agrifood sector and in each sector in which data is available in the Food Harvest 2020 strategy, by new jobs to be created, primary output, export levels and value added, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [42442/17]

\*234. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of applications to the 2017 national reserve and young farmers scheme, by county, in tabular form. — Charlie McConalogue. [42443/17]

*Chun an Aire Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide agus Comhshaoil: To the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment.*

\*235. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on reports in the media (details supplied) which report 400 post office closures throughout the country; his plans regarding same; if an assurance can be given to postmasters on this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42234/17]

\*236. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42286/17]

\*237. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the timeframe for the rollout of at least 30 Mb broadband speeds to a location (details supplied) in County Donegal as part of the national broadband plan; if such areas with poor or no broadband coverage will be prioritised during the rollout phase as part of the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [42302/17]

\*238. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the outstanding recommendations of the post office network business development group; the estimated cost of



implementing all recommendations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42337/17]

\*239. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the anticipated timeframe for the completion of the tender process for broadband; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42338/17]

\*240. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if he or officials from his department have met with or had representations made to them regarding energy policy and renewable energy by representatives of a company (details supplied); and the details of all such meetings or representations. — Bríd Smith. [42385/17]

*Chun an Aire Iompair, Turasóireachta agus Spóirt: To the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport.*

\*241. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of a greenway (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42226/17]

\*242. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding the 2017 Ministerial Committee on Road Safety meetings; the priorities for his department for the autumn and winter term in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [41980/17]

\*243. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the Road Traffic (Drink Driving - Fixed Penalty Notice) Bill 2017; when he expects this legislation to be brought before Dáil Éireann; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [41982/17]

\*244. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding the regular multi agency Criminal Justice (FCPS) Working Group with the Department of Justice and Equality; the status of this group and the implementation of the recommendations in An Garda Síochána Inspectorate's report The Fixed Charge Processing System – A 21st Century Strategy of February 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [41983/17]

\*245. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if the east west link road investment project in County Cavan will be considered for additional capital funding to be announced by the government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [40146/17]

\*246. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport when the independent costing and review of the western rail corridor phase 2 between Athenry and Claremorris for passenger and freight use will be completed; the group appointed to carry out this independent costing; the terms of reference of the review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42194/17]

\*247. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the steps he has taken, including contact with local authorities, along the western rail corridor to ensure that no measures are taken to prevent the future reactivation of the western rail corridor for rail use as set out in the McCann report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42195/17]

\*248. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he

has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42298/17]

\*249. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if an application for sports capital funding by a club (details supplied) will be approved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [42307/17]

\*250. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the reason traffic calming measures on the N18 and N17 at Annagh Cross, Ballyglunnin such as signage along with footpath for ease of access for local national school and residents has not materialised in view of the fact comprehensive presentation was made as requested by the council liaison engineer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42327/17]

\*251. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if his attention has been drawn to the public support that exists in east County Galway for the development of a greenway on the closed railway from Athenry to Tuam and on to Milltown (details supplied). — Anne Rabbitte. [42328/17]

\*252. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if the report on rural transport as committed to on page 50 of the programme for government has been furnished to the relevant Houses of the Oireachtas committee; the date on which it was furnished; if the report was discussed at the committee; if the report is available to the public; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42336/17]

\*253. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if each road identified for upgrading or construction in the government's original capital plan 2016 to 2017 and in the amended version is based on the recommendation and prioritisation of TII only. — Imelda Munster. [42378/17]

\*254. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which he expects to be able to obtain inclusion in the capital programme of the most urgently required major road projects throughout the country with a view to facilitating free movement of traffic and adherence to highest possible safety standards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42417/17]

\*255. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the degree to which he has identified known accident black spots throughout the country on local or regional roads with a view to major or minor remedial works to alleviate the problem and improve the safety for all road users; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42419/17]

\*256. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the degree to which he has identified the most heavily trafficked arterial, regional or local routes with a view to provision of alternatives and in keeping with best safety standards and convenience for road users; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42420/17]

\*257. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the degree to which he has in mind provisions to avert the negative aspects of Brexit on the tourism industry here with particular reference to the need to ensure the maximisation under the circumstances of tourism from the UK; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42421/17]

\*258. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which potential exists for further development of the tourism sector, with particular reference to the need to encourage

growth in the area most likely to be affected by global developments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42422/17]

\*259. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans for the development of the tourism sector in all areas throughout the country with particular reference to the need to ensure steady growth of the sector throughout the country and the island of Ireland having regard to the need to encourage the marketing of the entire island as a tourist venue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42423/17]

\*260. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the degree to which various elements of the tourism sector have grown over the past five years; his plans for the future in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42424/17]

\*261. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has satisfied himself regarding the availability of an adequate number of hotel and guest house beds to facilitate the growing tourism sector; if he plans particular initiatives in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42425/17]

\*262. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which he expects to be in a position to promote and develop activity tourism such as the use of greenways throughout the country; if he expects further developments in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42426/17]

\*263. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which he expects to be in position to meet the requirements of community based sporting and recreational organisations in the context of major or minor allocations under the sporting capital grant scheme in 2017 and in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42427/17]

\*264. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has satisfied himself regarding the adequacy of sources of income for the funding of various capital sports projects throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42428/17]

\*265. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding Ireland's application to host the Rugby World Cup in view of the availability of numerous stadia throughout the island; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42429/17]

\*266. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which the tourism sector continues to attract business and conference tourism here, having particular regard to the use of the off season; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42430/17]

\*267. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the countries that feature most regularly in the marketing programme for tourism globally; the degree to which tourism growth is acknowledged from those countries or those showing lower visitor numbers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42431/17]

\*268. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which County Kildare, its historical houses, its racecourses and its heritage continue to be part of the marketing programme for tourism locally and nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42432/17]

\*269. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding compensation in relation to the N63 upgrade at Abbey Road, Abbeyknockmoy; the reason for delays regarding same; if his attention has been drawn to the lack of consultation between TII and land owners; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42448/17]

\*270. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if TII has communicated recent difficulties regarding flooding along the N63 at Abbey Road, Abbeyknockmoy; and his views on whether the design is robust against pluvial flooding and is future proofed. — Anne Rabbitte. [42449/17]

\*271. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if lighting will be put in place at the Finns Cross Ballyglunnin junction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42450/17]

\*272. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if adequate lighting will be put in place at the Monastery Brooklodge Church junction as part of new infrastructure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42451/17]

*Chun an Aire Leanaí agus Gnóthaí Óige: To the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs.*

\*273. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of occasions on which she has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons she has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; her views on the issues raised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42285/17]

\*274. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the allocation made to youth work services over each of the past ten years, by county, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42352/17]

\*275. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs further to parliamentary question number 251 of 28 September 2017, when the examination is likely to be published in view of the possibility that the use of private foster providers of emergency care placements may be unlawful. — Clare Daly. [42373/17]

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

\*276. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the charitable status of an organisation (details supplied); and the timeframe for the number to be issued. — Anne Rabbitte. [42199/17]

\*277. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the extent to which County Kildare can apply for and obtain funding under the local improvement scheme in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42418/17]

\*278. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42297/17]

\*279. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if the functions of his department extend to ensuring balanced regional development; his views on a recent Eurostat report that states that over 50% of development is in the Dublin region; his plans to ensure balanced regional development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42347/17]

\*280. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the measures he plans to put in place in order to ensure that local authorities are prepared for the rollout of broadband once the tender process is concluded; the cost of the measures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42348/17]

\*281. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development his plans to commission research on the impact of Brexit on rural communities as committed to in the action plan for rural development; when this research will be commissioned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42349/17]

\*282. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding allocation for the senior alert scheme over each of the past ten years; the number of beneficiaries of the scheme per year, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42350/17]

*Chun an Aire Gnóthaí Fostaíochta agus Coimirce Sóisialaí: To the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection.*

\*283. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the number of rural schools availing of the school meals programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42342/17]

\*284. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if all rural DEIS schools avail of the school meals programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42344/17]

\*285. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection her plans to restore farm assist payments to 2013 levels; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42354/17]

\*286. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the status of a disability allowance application by a person (details supplied); when it is expected the application will be concluded; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42224/17]

\*287. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if a person (details supplied) can make a late application for a fuel allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42225/17]

\*288. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the waiting times for farm assist payments; the number of applications pending by county, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42235/17]

\*289. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection when a decision will be made in relation to a domiciliary care allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [42253/17]

\*290. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if she has received a report (details supplied) on the impact of austerity measures on lone parent families; her views on the report; if she will publish the report in advance of budget 2018; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42273/17]

\*291. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the number of occasions on which she has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons she has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; her views on the issues raised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42290/17]

\*292. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if all sections of the Civil Registration (Amendment) Act 2014 are now in force; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42309/17]

\*293. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the reason a person (details supplied) who has permission to remain here until 7 July 2018 has been refused a social welfare payment. — Pat Deering. [42312/17]

\*294. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if she has considered the submission by MABS in relation to the proposals to replace local voluntary MABS companies with regional companies; the rationale for this proposal; if she will reconsider this proposal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42334/17]

\*295. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if steps can be taken to restore payment in the case of a person (details supplied); if their case can be urgently investigated with a view to restoration of this or alternative appropriate payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42402/17]

\*296. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the reason JSA has been terminated in the case of a person (details supplied); the reason a basic payment has not been made in lieu thereof; if the case can be urgently reviewed; if a full investigation surrounding the case can be made in view of suggestions (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42411/17]

*Chun an Aire Tithíochta, Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil: To the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government.*

\*297. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if the deadline for spreading slurry will be extended (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42229/17]

\*298. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the financial assistance by way of grants or schemes for persons (details supplied) to enhance and improve their home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42242/17]

\*299. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government when he plans to open the public consultation process for the draft wind energy guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42339/17]



\*300. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the legislation or regulations in place in relation to the protection of health and safety of children in privately owned recreational facilities such as theme parks, amusement centres and activity parks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42351/17]

\*301. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the population and demographic projections for the next twenty years underpinning the approach to the national planning framework - Ireland 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42279/17]

\*302. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42294/17]

\*303. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if the Corporate Policy Groups and Strategic Policy Committees - Guidelines for the Establishment and Operation issued by his department in June 2014 (details supplied) intended to expand the role, function and responsibilities of corporate policy groups beyond policy matters (details supplied); if the corporate policy group in the new role would be empowered to organise the business of the elected council; if so, the location in section 133 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014, in which such powers, functions or responsibilities are sourced for inclusion in the guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42392/17]

\*304. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the changes that have been made in 2017 to the mortgage to rent scheme; his plans to further modify the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42441/17]

*Chun an Taoisigh agus Aire Cosanta: To the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence.*

\*305. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the date on which the surviving veterans of the siege of Jadotville and the family members of deceased veterans will be presented with their medals; and the design and status of the medals. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [42212/17]

\*306. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has published the university of Limerick focus group report on the Defence Forces in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [42265/17]

\*307. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the steps he has taken in relation to addressing the negative findings of the focus group report on the Defence Forces in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [42266/17]

\*308. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has met with the representative associations in September 2017 in response to the focus group report findings on the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [42267/17]

\*309. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has responded to requests from RACO in 2016 and 2017 to review both the national level industrial relations structures of the Defence

Forces representation and internal Defence Forces conciliation and arbitration scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [42268/17]

\*310. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to align equivalent industrial relations structures of the Defence Forces with changes planned for the An Garda Síochána associations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [42269/17]

\*311. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number of occasions on which he has been lobbied in respect of the Public Health (Alcohol) Bill since March 2016; the persons he has met with; the dates of these meetings; the details of the basis of the lobbying; his views on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [42288/17]

\*312. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence further to parliamentary question number 289 of 27 September 2017, if the fuel costs quoted of €56,600 refer to full costs of the return journey from Cork to London, or only the fuel costs relating to the part of the journey that did not include travelling through the Irish exclusive economic zone en route to the UK; and if so, the fuel costs for the full return journey. — Clare Daly. [42374/17]