



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 21 Samhain, 2018

Wednesday, 21st November, 2018

**CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS**

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

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

1. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the October 2018 European Council. — Brendan Howlin. [43431/18]

2. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on bilaterals that he held while at the EU Council meeting on 17 and 18 October 2018; and the issues that were discussed. — Micheál Martin. [43487/18]

3. To ask the Taoiseach if immigration was discussed at the October 2018 EU Council meeting; and if he contributed to same. — Micheál Martin. [43489/18]

4. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the European Council Brexit meeting on 17 October 2018. — Joan Burton. [43844/18]

5. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the President of the European Parliament on 18 October 2018. — Joan Burton. [43845/18]

6. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on meetings or discussions he had with his counterparts at the EU Council on 17 October 2018. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43913/18]

7. To ask the Taoiseach if he met Chancellor Angela Merkel at the October 2018 EU Council meeting; and if they discussed Brexit. — Micheál Martin. [43888/18]

8. To ask the Taoiseach if he has spoken to Chancellor Merkel since her announcement of not seeking re-election in 2021. — Michael Moynihan. [45637/18]

9. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the discussions on cyber security at the last EU Council meeting. — Michael Moynihan. [45638/18]

10. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the discussions at the EU Council in relation to the Canada plus arrangement in the context of the Brexit negotiations. — Michael Moynihan. [46803/18]

11. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent engagement with the President of the European Parliament, Mr. Antonio Tajani. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46874/18]

12. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with Ms Arlene Foster. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43455/18]

13. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with Ms Arlene Foster; and the issues that were discussed. — Micheál Martin. [43486/18]

14. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the DUP leader, Ms Arlene Foster on 15 October 2018. — Joan Burton. [43843/18]

15. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with the leader of the DUP, Ms Arlene Foster. — Brendan Howlin. [44888/18]

16. To ask the Taoiseach if he has met or spoken with Ms Arlene Foster and Ms Michelle O'Neill since the October EU Council meeting. — Micheál Martin. [45622/18]

17. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with the leader of the SDLP. — Brendan Howlin. [48204/18]

18. To ask the Taoiseach if he has spoken or met Ms Arlene Foster since the draft withdrawal treaty was published. — Micheál Martin. [48378/18]

19. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to County Cavan on 12 October 2018; if he met businesses; and if they discussed the impact in addition to the uncertainty of Brexit. — Micheál Martin. [43891/18]

20. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to County Cavan on 12 October 2018; and the meetings he held on Brexit. — Brendan Howlin. [45716/18]

21. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the consultation process on the digital strategy announced by his Department recently. — Micheál Martin. [45623/18]

22. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his Department's digital strategy. — Michael Moynihan. [45639/18]

23. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the digital strategy of his Department. — Brendan Howlin. [46990/18]

24. To ask the Taoiseach if the war in Yemen was discussed at the October 2018 ASEM summit. — Micheál Martin. [45882/18]

25. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the ASEM summit; and the leaders he met and meetings he attended. — Brendan Howlin. [45714/18]

26. To ask the Taoiseach if the war in Yemen was discussed at the October 2018 ASEM summit. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46873/18]

27. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the proposed budget for social media advertising in his Department for 2019. — Brendan Howlin. [45715/18]

28. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the proposed budget for social media advertising in his Department for 2019. — Joan Burton. [48231/18]

29. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent visit to County Derry. — Brendan Howlin. [46989/18]

30. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent visit to County Derry. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [47965/18]

31. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his last visit to Derry. — Micheál Martin. [48110/18]

32. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent visit to County Derry. — Mary Lou McDonald. [48233/18]

33. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his telephone conversation with Prime Minister May on 5 November 2018. — Brendan Howlin. [46729/18]

34. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his conversation with Prime Minister May on 5 November 2018. — Micheál Martin. [46797/18]

35. To ask the Taoiseach if he discussed the Good Friday Agreement with Prime Minister May when they spoke on 5 November 2018. — Micheál Martin. [47122/18]

36. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his telephone conversation with Prime Minister May on 5 November 2018. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [47966/18]

37. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent conversation with the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Theresa May. — Mary Lou McDonald. [48020/18]

38. To ask the Taoiseach if he has spoken with Prime Minister May since the draft withdrawal treaty for the UK from the EU was published. — Micheál Martin. [48107/18]

39. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his most recent conversation with Prime Minister May. — Joan Burton. [48229/18]

40. To ask the Taoiseach if he has spoken to Prime Minister May since 15 November 2018 when the Brexit Secretary resigned. — Micheál Martin. [48375/18]

41. To ask the Taoiseach the status of work of the Seanad Reform Implementation Group. — Brendan Howlin. [46731/18]

42. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Seanad Reform Implementation Group. — Mary Lou McDonald. [48019/18]

43. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his bilateral meetings with the President of Finland, Mr. Sauli Niinistö and the Prime Minister of Finland, Mr. Juri Sipilä in Helsinki and other meetings he held during his visit. — Brendan Howlin. [46991/18]

44. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the Armistice centenary commemoration at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. — Brendan Howlin. [47846/18]

45. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance of the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War in Paris. — Micheál Martin. [48113/18]

46. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the French President, Mr. Emmanuel Macron during Armistice commemorations. — Joan Burton. [48230/18]

47. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent engagements with the President of Finland, Mr. Sauli Niinistö and the Prime Minister of Finland, Mr. Juri Sipilä. — Mary Lou McDonald. [48235/18]

48. To ask the Taoiseach if he spoke with President Trump while in Paris on Armistice Day. — Michael Moynihan. [48373/18]

49. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to Helsinki. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [48406/18]

50. To ask the Taoiseach the role of his Department in Brexit preparedness. — Micheál Martin. [47123/18]

51. To ask the Taoiseach the role of his Department in Brexit preparedness. — Brendan Howlin. [47847/18]

52. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the role of his Department in preparing for Brexit. — Mary Lou McDonald. [48234/18]

53. To ask the Taoiseach if he and his officials are planning for the worst case scenario in the event of the draft withdrawal treaty being rejected by the UK Parliament. — Micheál Martin. [48377/18]

54. To ask the Taoiseach the number of staff in his Department that provide supports for Independent Ministers in Government. — Micheál Martin. [47126/18]

55. To ask the Taoiseach the number of staff in his Department that provide supports for Independent Ministers in Government. — Brendan Howlin. [48205/18]

56. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the British-Irish Council on the Isle of Man on 8 November 2018. — Brendan Howlin. [47845/18]

57. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the recent meeting of the British-Irish Council. — Mary Lou McDonald. [48021/18]

58. To ask the Taoiseach the number of officials in his Department that speak Irish. — Michael Moynihan. [48374/18]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

59. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the percentage increase for current Defence expenditure in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [48530/18]

60. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the Naval Service cannot fulfil its commitments on fisheries protection; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [48474/18]

61. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the target date for the Permanent Defence Forces to reach its approved strength of 9,500; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [48531/18]

62. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the measures he is taking to deal with the crisis in the Defence Forces in relation to the retention and recruitment of staff, for example, the basic operations of the Naval Service in its fishery protection role; and if he will review the policy in respect of recognition of representative associations in the Defence Forces as a mechanism to deal with some aspects of this crisis. — Bríd Smith. [48587/18]

63. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his views on the concerns that Ireland must make commitments to military spending under PESCO; and his further views on whether extra resources should be prioritised in areas other than military hardware in view of the discontent among some members of the Defence Forces in relation to pay and conditions. — Maureen O’Sullivan. [48344/18]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

64. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans for the reinstatement of troops in the Border counties in view of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [48210/18]

65. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to reintroduce a new Army barracks or Defence Forces base in counties Cavan and Monaghan or the greater Border region in view of Brexit and the possible reintroduction of a hard Border; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [48211/18]

66. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if an investigation into the physical and psychological effects that prolonged working hours are having on soldiers, sailors and aircrews will be carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [48207/18]

67. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the reason the LÉ James Joyce returned from the Mediterranean without saving a single life; and the terms of the mission to the Mediterranean. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [48345/18]

68. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to deal with issues of recruitment and retention across the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [48409/18]

69. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the status of efforts to recruit a psychiatrist to the Defence Forces medical corps; if he is satisfied that Defence Forces members receive adequate mental health supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [48213/18]

70. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the amount of the budget in 2018 which will be taken by additional costs associated with PESCO related activities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [48393/18]

71. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the steps being taken to address the retention crisis in the Defence Forces; when the target staffing level of the Defence Forces will be met; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [47797/18]

72. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number of occasions each month in 2018 that Defence Forces personnel were involved in aid to civil power duties at Shannon Airport; the number involved; and the cost of same. — Clare Daly. [47822/18]

73. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if there have been discussions in relation to the involvement of the Naval Service in Operation Sophia following the return of the LÉ James Joyce; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [47820/18]

74. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number of persons rescued and brought to the EU by Naval Service vessels to date in 2018 as part of Operation Sophia; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [48214/18]

75. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the cost to date in 2018 to the Defence Forces of all foreign military aircraft landings here by location and number; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [48212/18]

76. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if his Department in conjunction with the command structure within the Defence Forces has reached a decision on improving the special allowances paid to soldiers. — Brian Stanley. [48209/18]

77. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which pay and conditions for the Defence Forces continues to receive appropriate attention with particular reference to ongoing concerns in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48350/18]

78. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the progress made in addressing the low pay rates for lower ranked members of the Defence Forces. — Brian Stanley. [48208/18]

79. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his views on the recent statement by Chancellor Merkel in relation to the establishment of an EU army; and the steps he will take to ensure Irish neutrality is protected. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [48346/18]

80. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the engagement he has had with a group (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [48381/18]

81. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the status of the application of the EU Working Time Directive (2003/88/EC) to the Defence Forces in compliance with the European Court of Justice ruling; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [48383/18]

82. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the measures he has brought forward in 2018 to encourage the retention of Defence Forces personnel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [48385/18]

83. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number of medical staff in the Defence Forces by occupation in each of the years 2015 to 2017 and to date in 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [47798/18]

84. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he is satisfied that there are adequate measures to protect female members of the Defence Forces from discrimination particularly when they have children. — Clare Daly. [47821/18]

85. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the status of engagement between his Department and Kildare County Council regarding the challenges and potential of the Curragh Plains in the context of conservation and management of the plains and their future usage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [48398/18]

86. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the steps being taken to ensure better pay and working conditions for members of the Defence Forces; the steps being taken to ensure appropriate supports are available to both current and former members of the Defence Forces that may be experiencing financial difficulties; if he has satisfied himself that recruitment methods are sufficient; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [48216/18]

87. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he is satisfied that there are sufficient trained personnel at each rank and skillset in order to ensure that the Naval Service core objective of coastal protection is sufficiently carried out. — Clare Daly. [47823/18]

88. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the actions he has taken following the publication of a vision document prepared for Kildare County Council on the future potential of the Curragh Plains; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [48397/18]

89. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he or his officials have met with representatives of a group (details supplied); the progress he has made in addressing the issues it has raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [48390/18]

90. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the date the joint submission to the Public Service Pay Commission was completed; the timeframe for the publication of the submission; and if all of the matters raised by military management were included in the submission. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [48348/18]

91. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the way in which the increase in the budget for his Department will be allocated; if this increase will deal with the working conditions and poor pay of members of the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [48392/18]

92. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the initiatives he has suggested to improve Defence Forces pay and conditions. — Clare Daly. [47824/18]

93. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which participation in international peacekeeping and enforcement is anticipated in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48351/18]

94. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to recommend that the Defence Forces representative associations have access to the industrial relations machinery of the State, including the WRC and Labour Court; his views on whether such access will assist with the crisis in staff retention and numbers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [48394/18]

95. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans for budget increases across his Department in view of the PESCO agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [48408/18]

96. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if Ireland's participation in PESCO is a breach of Ireland's neutrality in view of recent comments by EU leaders; if the view of other EU leaders that it is a step toward an EU army is shared by him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [48391/18]

97. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the target date for the Permanent Defence Forces to reach its approved strength of 9,500; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [48384/18]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*98. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if allowances and payments will be restored to Defence Forces personnel in line with the restoration of allowances to other public sector workers; if so, if the allowances will be restored prior to Christmas to alleviate financial distress; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48437/18]

*99. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which issues relating to pay and conditions with the Defence Forces have been resolved or are under review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48627/18]

*100. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which optimum strength in the Defence Forces is being maintained with equal reference to the Army, Naval Service and Air Corps; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48628/18]

*101. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which updating of training procedures continues within the Defence Forces at all levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48629/18]

*102. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which part-time members of the Defence Forces are given opportunities to upgrade their skills on an annual basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48630/18]

*103. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the degree to which he remains satisfied regarding the strength of the Army, Naval Service and Air Corps with particular reference to ensuring the maintenance of recommended levels of strength throughout all branches; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48631/18]

*104. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which equipment in the Army, Naval Service and Air Corps continue to be upgraded through the standards equal to the best; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48632/18]

*105. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which the number of women applying for and enlisting in the Defence Forces with equal respect to the Army, Naval Service and Air Corps; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48633/18]

*106. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which he remains satisfied that the Army, Naval Service and Air Corps remain sufficiently equipped to deal with an emergency or natural disaster that might arise; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48634/18]

*107. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number of vacant posts remaining to be filled at all levels in the Army, Naval Service and Air Corps; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48635/18]

*108. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number of military personnel serving at various locations overseas; the level of future deployments if known; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48636/18]

*109. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which the budget available to his Department remains sufficient to meet requirements in the course of 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48637/18]

*110. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which the Air Corps and the Naval Service continue to cooperate in air and sea rescue missions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48638/18]

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

*111. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade his plans to restore the free passport to persons over 70 years of age; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dessie Ellis. [48443/18]

*112. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if he will report on alleged persecution and intimidation of Christians in parts of Pakistan and India; if he has asked Ireland's ambassadors to raise these reports with the governments concerned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48476/18]

*113. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the steps he is taking with Ireland's EU partners to achieve a long-term settlement between Israel and Palestine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48477/18]

*114. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if Ireland has taken action at an intergovernmental or bilateral level in regard to the human rights violations perpetrated by the Nicaraguan Government against its people which are documented in reports (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maureen O'Sullivan. [48499/18]

*115. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if his attention has been drawn to an increase in repression of peaceful protests in Nicaragua; if he will raise the matter with his Nicaraguan counterpart; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [48510/18]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*116. To ask the Minister for Finance when a person (details supplied) can expect to receive a tax clearance certificate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [48441/18]

*117. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason a company (details supplied) was denied a TAN number; the way in which it can apply again; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [48435/18]

*118. To ask the Minister for Finance if the proposed 100% increase in turnover tax for the bookmaker and or betting industry will be considered; if detailed research has been conducted into the impact of such a tax on the viability of the bookmaking industry and the employees that would lose their jobs; if he will consider setting the turnover tax at a lower more equitable rate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [48524/18]

*119. To ask the Minister for Finance if the case of persons (details supplied) will be examined by the Revenue Commissioners; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tom Neville. [48569/18]

*120. To ask the Minister for Finance the discretionary revenue raising measures in each of the years up to 2023, in tabular form corresponding to row h. of table 3 in the 2018 Summer Economic Statement. — Michael McGrath. [48575/18]

*121. To ask the Minister for Finance if the capital allocations outlined in the National Development Plan are included both in the general Government expenditure figure and the gross fixed capital formation figure in table A8 of the Budget 2019 Economic and Fiscal Outlook; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48576/18]

*122. To ask the Minister for Finance the precommitted expenditure in each of the years up to 2023, in tabular form corresponding to row j of table 3 in the 2018 Summer Economic Statement; if he will divide this between demographics and capital expenditure, that is, divided into nominal and rolled over four years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48577/18]

*123. To ask the Minister for Finance the projected structural deficit for the scenario outlined in table A8 of the Budget 2019 Economic and Fiscal Outlook; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48578/18]

*124. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding VAT charges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [48622/18]

*125. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to apply VAT on health supplements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [48623/18]

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

*126. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if reinforcement works on Fenit Island (details supplied) will be considered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [48535/18]

*127. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform when a car park will be constructed at a Garda station (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [48571/18]

*128. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 141 of 26 June 2018, if the OPW and the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht have completed their review; if the phase 2 restoration works to Maynooth Castle is included for funding; if not, if it is being considered under other funding mechanisms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48494/18]

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

*129. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if assistive technology will be provided to a person (details supplied). — Kate O'Connell. [48444/18]

*130. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of the provision of ASD units at both primary and post primary level for Clonmel, County Tipperary (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [48438/18]

*131. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to provide schools in the Cherrywood area; the timeline for delivery of schools; when the public consultation processes will open for the patronage of each of the schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48454/18]

*132. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will identify appropriate avenues of funding which may be available to an organisation (details supplied) in order to assist it in its work promoting positive mental health in primary schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [48455/18]

*133. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to make public the information relating to building inspections that were carried out at a school (details supplied) in recent weeks; and his further plans to carry out necessary repairs. — Thomas Byrne. [48472/18]

*134. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if tenders were invited for the completion of a campus (details supplied) in County Kildare on 8 November 2018; the number of contractors invited to tender; the closing date for receipt of tenders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48485/18]

*135. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of a subject raised at a recent meeting (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [48504/18]

*136. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if Maynooth University has submitted a cost benefit analysis of its campus development plans under the National Development Plan 2018-2027; if the plans have been approved; the details of the projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48505/18]

*137. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if a site has been identified for a school (details supplied); if the project will be advanced through architectural planning; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48507/18]

*138. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason the net target for the national skills strategy has not increased for 2025 based on population in view of the fact that the population has increased since 2007; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [48527/18]

*139. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills when a person (details supplied) in County Donegal can expect a decision in relation to the school transport requirements for children with special needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [48533/18]

*140. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of an application by a school (details supplied) for an extension and or new build; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [48538/18]

*141. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the steps he is taking to support teachers that are working with children experiencing homelessness; and the additional supports being made available to schools in areas with cohorts of homeless families. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48551/18]

*142. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if the decision to withdraw home tuition can be reviewed in the case of a person (details supplied); if the restoration of support for home tuition in this case will be restored in circumstances in which specialist assistance is available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48552/18]

*143. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if circumstances (details supplied) will be reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [48593/18]

*144. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of an application by a school (details supplied) in respect of a request to purchase a site for the building of a new school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brassil. [48619/18]

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

*145. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the status of the investigations by An Garda Síochána and the Director of Public Prosecutions into the findings of the Flood and Mahon Tribunals; the stage at which these investigations are at; when a decision will be reached; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48478/18]

*146. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the actions and investigations being taken on foot of the Moriarty Tribunal; the stage at which these investigations are at; when a decision will be reached; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48479/18]

*147. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the status of the investigations by An Garda Síochána and the Director of Public Prosecutions into the findings of the Moriarty Tribunal; the stage at which these investigations are at; when a decision will be reached; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48480/18]

*148. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the progress that has been made in relation to the commitment in the National Development Plan 2018-2027 in relation to the provision of a standard county type court facility in north County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48483/18]

*149. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality further to Parliamentary Question No. 256 of 26 June 2018, when the promised review of the future delivery of court services in the district court area of Kilcock will commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48493/18]

*150. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the progress made to date in dividing his Department as per the Effectiveness and Renewal Group for the Department of Justice and Equality report; if the newly constituted units have been formed and operational; if the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service and the Irish Prison Service have been separated into separate entities; if an external consultancy group or company has been engaged to advise and or assist with this project; the costs to date of the engagement; the estimated costs for full delivery of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [48496/18]

*151. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the Garda stations in County Kildare that have received upgrading or refurbishment in 2018; the Garda stations in County Kildare that are planned for upgrading or refurbishment works in 2019; the details of the upgrading or refurbishment works carried out or planned in 2018 and 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48506/18]

*152. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of crimes carried out against persons with disabilities; if such information is compiled and held; if An Garda Síochána has evidence or is of the view that these crimes were committed against these vulnerable persons due to their having a disability; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [48508/18]

*153. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of home repossessions lending institutions applied for by number; and the number of those that were either refused, adjourned or granted, respectively in each of the past seven years, by court district, in tabular form. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [48509/18]

*154. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he will waive confidentiality in relation to the legal agreement reached between the State and a person (details supplied) in relation to the civil action being taken by a person in view of the strong public interest in the proceedings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [48590/18]

*155. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the progress he has made in implementing recommendations 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the Report on Cyber Security for Children and Young Adults published by the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Children and Youth Affairs in March 2018. — Eoin Ó Broin. [48617/18]

*156. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the options that are open to An Garda Síochána to suspend or otherwise remove from active duty a member of the force in which there is clear evidence of wrongdoing or a dereliction of duty; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [48626/18]

*157. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if asylum seekers are being housed in a hotel in the Magheraclone area of south County Monaghan; if so, if he will provide details (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [48646/18]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*158. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 445 of 13 November 2018, the details of the amended capital plan from 2016 to 2021 for a hospital (details supplied); when this amendment was made to the capital plan; the amount of additional funding added to the capital plan in order to cover the change in plans for these two community hospitals; the timeline for the funding to be allocated within the context of the current plan only; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [48447/18]

*159. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to exclude persons over 70 years of age from the medical card review process in view of the fact that their income is unlikely to change and in some cases they find it extremely difficult to gather the information required due to age related difficulties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [48462/18]

*160. To ask the Minister for Health when the recommendations in the report Make Work Pay, especially relating to medical card eligibility will be implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48544/18]

*161. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the drug minocycline as a treatment for schizophrenia (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [48433/18]

*162. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) is still waiting for a hip replacement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Micheál Martin. [48450/18]

*163. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) is only in receipt of 15 minutes home help per week; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Micheál Martin. [48451/18]

*164. To ask the Minister for Health if he will identify appropriate avenues of funding which may be available to an organisation (details supplied) in order to assist it in its work promoting positive mental health in primary schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [48456/18]

*165. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a request for further information by persons (details supplied). — Kathleen Funchion. [48457/18]

*166. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to extend homecare packages to include night-time cover; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [48463/18]

*167. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to increase the level of funding to an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [48466/18]

*168. To ask the Minister for Health his views on EUROSTAT figures and OECD figures on health spend here; his further views on the different price deflators used (details supplied); his further views on whether GDP is not a robust measure for health spend; and his further views on whether using the actual individual consumption price deflator is the best way to measure health spend. — Louise O'Reilly. [48473/18]

*169. To ask the Minister for Health the number of the recommendations of the expert review of the Mental Health Act 2015 that have been implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Buckley. [48500/18]

*170. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for the telecounselling pilot project in County Wicklow; when it will be launched; the way in which it will operate; the target group; the estimated cost per year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Buckley. [48501/18]

*171. To ask the Minister for Health the projects and programmes delivered to date in terms of addressing the mental health needs of homeless persons; if counselling has been provided to these persons; the location the counselling takes place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Buckley. [48502/18]

*172. To ask the Minister for Health the number of inpatient mental health beds for both adults and children provided separately that are operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Buckley. [48503/18]

*173. To ask the Minister for Health if an early appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [48519/18]

*174. To ask the Minister for Health the procedure for assisting Irish persons to return home when they fall ill in another European country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [48521/18]

*175. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the roll out of the HPV test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [48528/18]

*176. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the provision of funding to supply an MRI machine for St. Luke's Hospital (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [48536/18]

*177. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a matter regarding the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [48537/18]

*178. To ask the Minister for Health the status of funding (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick O'Donovan. [48572/18]

*179. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 577 of 18 September 2018, when a reply will issue. — Pearse Doherty. [48574/18]

*180. To ask the Minister for Health if an appointment for a MRI scan for a person (details supplied) will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [48607/18]

*181. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to make personalised budgets available for persons with a disability as an alternative to an adult day service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48609/18]

*182. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 382 and 412 of 13 November 2018, the position regarding the review of the second cath laboratory at University

Hospital Waterford as discussed at the HSE National Capital and Property Steering Committee on 13 November 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [48610/18]

*183. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons attending accident and emergency departments on an annual basis from 2013 to 2017 and to date in 2018, at hospitals (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [48611/18]

*184. To ask the Minister for Health the expenditure to date in 2018 on the improvement and the provision of additional accommodation at a health facility (details supplied); the work to be undertaken or proposed for the remainder of 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [48612/18]

*185. To ask the Minister for Health when a project will proceed to the next stage in view of the urgent need to improve accommodation at a health facility (details supplied); if funding will be provided for this project in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [48613/18]

*186. To ask the Minister for Health if an appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [48620/18]

*187. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1065 of 20 March 2018, the status of HSE funding for Dublin Fire Brigade to provide fire based EMS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [48625/18]

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

*188. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 496 of 23 October 2018, when payments will issue to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Breen. [48430/18]

*189. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of livestock nationally in each of the past ten years, by dairy herd, beef herd and calves, that is live, calves exported; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Deering. [48440/18]

*190. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if funding has been ring fenced for the Killybegs Harbour development consisting of a 120 metre extension and ancillary works in the Budget 2019 allocation; when he plans to allocate funding for this project; the timeline for the completion of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [48445/18]

*191. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a payment will issue to a person (details supplied); the reason for the delay in same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [48471/18]

*192. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the position regarding an application by a person (details supplied) for a TAMS 2 payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [48591/18]

*193. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will address a matter regarding the number of farmers whose BPS and ANC payments are held up by rigorous overzealous

mapping being carried out by a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [48614/18]

*194. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to ensure that the BPS payment which is due to persons (details supplied) is issued in circumstances in which it is being held; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [48615/18]

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

*195. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment further to Parliamentary Question No. 1060 of 7 September 2018, if the study referenced has been completed; if so, his views on same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [48434/18]

*196. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if a company (details supplied) working in association with another company has engaged and or met with him, his predecessor and or his officials regarding managing the MANs in the past two years to date; if so, the nature of those meetings and or engagements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [48459/18]

*197. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding producer obligations. — Timmy Dooley. [48460/18]

*198. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment further to Parliamentary Question No. 863 of 6 November 2018, the amount paid to a company (details supplied) for the advice it received; if his predecessor engaged the Office of Government Procurement on both concession agreements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [48468/18]

*199. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if he engaged with telecoms providers in the context of rolling out a total blanket coverage of 4G across the State; if he has had similar engagement in the context of 5G coverage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [48469/18]

*200. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on the significant reduction in spend from RTÉ to the independent production sector here (details supplied); the steps he is taking to ensure that this spend in the sector is increased back to 2007 levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [48488/18]

*201. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the aspects of the television licence fee reform the interdepartmental working group is reviewing; when this report will be published; if there will be engagement by the group with stakeholders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [48489/18]

*202. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment when he will make his views on public service broadcasting made known; his further views on licence fee reform; when the action plan in relation to these areas will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [48490/18]

*203. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on the significant reduction in spend from RTÉ to the Irish independent production sector (details

supplied); the steps being taken to ensure that this spend in the sector is increased back to 2007 levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [48511/18]

*204. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the aspects of the television licence fee reform the interdepartmental working group is reviewing; when he expects this report to be published; if there will be engagement by the group with stakeholders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [48512/18]

*205. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on public service broadcasting; his further views on licence fee reform; when he plans to publish his action plan points in these areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [48513/18]

*206. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment when he will meet with an organisation (details supplied) to discuss the Irish independent production sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [48514/18]

*207. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on appointing the Revenue Commissioners as the licence fee collection agent to help reduce evasion rates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [48515/18]

*208. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the actions taken to date to address the divergence of incentives in the uptake of retrofits in rental housing between landlords and tenants; the actions planned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Timmy Dooley. [48539/18]

*209. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on the significant reduction in spend from RTÉ to the independent production sector here (details supplied); the steps he is taking to ensure that this spend in the sector is increased back to 2007 levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [48557/18]

*210. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the aspects of the television licence fee reform the interdepartmental working group is reviewing; when this report will be published; if there will be engagement by the group with stakeholders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [48558/18]

*211. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on public service broadcasting; his further views on licence fee reform; when his action plan points in these areas will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [48559/18]

*212. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment when he will meet an organisation (details supplied) to discuss the independent production sector here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [48560/18]

*213. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on appointing the Revenue Commissioners as the licence fee collection agent to help reduce evasion rates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [48561/18]

*214. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment when he will meet an organisation (details supplied) to discuss the independent production sector here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [48624/18]

*215. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on the reduction in spend from RTÉ to the Irish independent production sector (details supplied); the steps he is taking to ensure that this spend in the sector is increased back to 2007 levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darragh O'Brien. [48639/18]

*216. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the aspects of the television licence fee reform the interdepartmental working group is reviewing; when he expects this report to be published; if there will be engagement by the group with stakeholders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darragh O'Brien. [48640/18]

*217. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on public service broadcasting; his further views on licence fee reform; when he will publish his action plan points in these areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darragh O'Brien. [48641/18]

*218. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment when he will meet an organisation (details supplied) to discuss the Irish independent production sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darragh O'Brien. [48642/18]

*219. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on appointing the Revenue Commissioners as the licence fee collection agent to help reduce evasion rates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darragh O'Brien. [48643/18]

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

*220. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of a sports capital grant application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [48453/18]

*221. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has requested the Departments of Public Expenditure and Reform and Finance to cost the prospect of consolidation of road traffic law; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48481/18]

*222. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the consolidation of road traffic legislation; the timeframe for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48482/18]

*223. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if the national strategy for swimming has been completed; if a review of the provision of swimming pools publicly and privately owned across the country has been completed; if so, if applications for grant aid for the provision of swimming pools will be announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48495/18]

*224. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the additional funding he plans to allocate to Monaghan County Council to address the need for upgrading and improving works to be carried out on the network of roads affected directly and indirectly by the recent mine collapse

in the Magheracloone area of County Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [48517/18]

*225. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the number of rail passengers using the train at locations (details supplied) in south County Kildare in each of the years 2012 to 2017 and to date in 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [48523/18]

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

*226. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will consider allowing all schools, not just DEIS schools, to apply for an education welfare officer service to assist children that may be experiencing homelessness and need additional supports; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48498/18]

*227. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the first and full year cost of restoring the school completion programme to peak levels of funding. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [48526/18]

*228. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her views on whether the school completion programme is sufficiently funded; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [48529/18]

*229. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the status of an application for a preschool extension by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [48553/18]

*230. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of joint specialist interviews of persons alleging child sexual abuse completed by social work specialist interviewers employed by Tusla in 2018. — Clare Daly. [48562/18]

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

*231. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the degree to which he expects to address the issues of concern in both urban and rural areas which fall under the remit of his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [48525/18]

*232. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding allocated to the social inclusion and community activation programme in each year since being established in tabular form; the allocation in 2018; the amount expended in each year and to date in 2018; the expenditure incurred under this scheme by county in each year and to date in 2018; and the share of funds provided by EU structural funding and the share financed by the Exchequer, respectively. — Dara Calleary. [48554/18]

*233. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding allocated to the social inclusion and community activation programme in each of the years 2018 to 2022, in tabular form. — Dara Calleary. [48555/18]

*234. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if he will request Pobal to accept a business plan for three full-time equivalent persons in respect of a club (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [48588/18]

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

*235. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection when an application for illness benefit by a person (details supplied) will be processed to completion; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [48432/18]

*236. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if the case of a person (details supplied) will be examined; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [48442/18]

*237. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection her views on the need for a social welfare office in south County Meath, that is, Ashbourne, Ratoath and Dunboyne; and her plans to open an office in the area. — Thomas Byrne. [48461/18]

*238. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the status of an application for a working family payment by a person (details supplied); and when they can expect a decision on their case. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [48470/18]

*239. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the status of a domiciliary care allowance appeal by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [48518/18]

*240. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection when a decision will issue in relation to an illness benefit application by a person (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [48570/18]

*241. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the class of PRSI paid by persons under 66 years of age in respect of income from an approved retirement fund; if such PRSI paid is reckonable for the purposes of the State pension (contributory); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48608/18]

*242. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 194 of 15 November 2018, if she will direct officials in her Department to answer the question as it was put, that is, to provide the financial savings made in each of the years from 2015 to 2017 as a direct result of the introduction of reduced rates of social welfare payments to persons under 25 years of age. — Clare Daly. [48616/18]

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

*243. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if the rules will be amended for the granting of CALF for approved housing bodies to include the provision of cost rental accommodation. — Eoin Ó Broin. [48534/18]

*244. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the costs arising from the State's obligation to enforce the decision of the European Court of Justice in 2008 in the case of the Commission of the European Communities versus Ireland C215/06 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [48545/18]

*245. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government further to Parliamentary Question No. 113 of 14 November 2018, if he will address specifically the substantial disadvantage placed on privately operated crèches which are competing against State supported crèches paying no commercial rates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [48431/18]

*246. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the status of the maritime area and foreshore (amendment) Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [48446/18]

*247. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if his attention has been drawn to the large number of applicants being refused the Rebuilding Ireland home loan even in cases in which they have shown an ability to repay; his plans to revise the lending criteria pertaining to the scheme in order that more persons will be successful in obtaining a loan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Declan Breathnach. [48448/18]

*248. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the number of successful Rebuilding Ireland home loans in County Louth since the scheme commenced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Declan Breathnach. [48449/18]

*249. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if a person at risk of becoming homeless and has been given a valid eviction notice is entitled to the homeless HAP rates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [48458/18]

*250. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if, in the context of recent plans to include Columb Barracks, Mullingar as part of the land development agency proposals, he will take steps to ensure that various community and voluntary groups and organisations which have been located within the barracks for the past two years are facilitated and accommodated within plans drawn up for the barracks and that they retain their facilities therein; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [48467/18]

*251. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if a second tranche of LIHAF funding is to be announced; if not, if funding for projects in this area will be considered under the urban regeneration and development fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [48484/18]

*252. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the guidelines or Ministerial directives outlining the access routes into emergency accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48497/18]

*253. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the percentage of a person's income and or social welfare payment towards a housing assistance payment contribution and rent top-up (details supplied) deemed acceptable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [48516/18]

*254. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if he will report on the guidelines or Ministerial directives outlining the access routes into family hubs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48549/18]

*255. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if he will report on the way in which decisions are made to place families in hubs; if there are waiting lists to access hubs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48550/18]

*256. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the person or body that makes a decision as to whether a clerk of works is required on public developments such as social housing, schools and hospitals; if it is a decision for local authorities; if not, if it is a decision for Departments; the reason it would be necessary to have clerks of works on some public developments and not on others; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [48556/18]

*257. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government further to Parliamentary Question No. 288 of 14 November 2018, his plans to extend voting rights in the upcoming European Parliament elections to United Kingdom nationals resident here. — Ruth Coppinger. [48568/18]

*258. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if changes will be made to the housing assistance payment model in order to speed up the process (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [48573/18]

*259. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 221 and 228 of 15 November 2018, if the incident as outlined in Parliamentary Question No. 221 will be discussed at the next quarterly meeting between his officials and the local authority in question; if his attention has been drawn to other boundary issues concerning dwellings and business premises that back onto the project from the main street area; the course of action he can take if his officials raise concerns with him following the quarterly meeting in respect of the project his Department is funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [48592/18]

*260. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if the technical specifications for the proposed new modular build hub clusters will not meet BCAR standards; the areas the technical specifications for these proposed modular build hubs will be allowed to deviate from building regulations and standards; and the rationale for these permissible deviations. — Eoin Ó Broin. [48644/18]

*261. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if his attention has been drawn to the fact that a person (details supplied) returned a valid and complete HAP application to Sligo County Council in August 2018 and that the landlord has failed to complete and submit the HAP documentation to the council thereby precluding the payment of housing assistance payment; his plans to introduce legislation which will allow a housing authority to take legal action against a landlord that refuses or fails to complete HAP documentation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [48647/18]

*262. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if it is within the power of local authorities to purchase or source housing outside their own council areas, if local authorities are not engaged in sourcing accommodation outside their areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [48648/18]

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

*263. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht if she will address a matter (details supplied) regarding a bog in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [48465/18]

*264. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht the progress that has been made on bringing the National Symphony Orchestra within the remit of the National Concert Hall as per the statement of 5 July 2018; the timeline for completion of this transition; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Martin. [48546/18]

*265. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht if she has met with the musicians of the National Symphony Orchestra to discuss it coming under the aegis of the National Concert Hall; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Martin. [48547/18]

*266. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht her plans to consult the musicians of the National Symphony Orchestra in relation to her announcement on 5 July 2018 that they would be brought under the aegis of the National Concert Hall; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Martin. [48548/18]

*267. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Cultúir, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta cad iad na céimeanna atá glactha aici le cinntiú go mbeidh seirbhís aeir go hÁrainn ann ó mhí na Nollag ar aghaidh; agus an ndéanfaidh sé ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [48649/18]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 22 SAMHAIN, 2018
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 22 NOVEMBER, 2018**

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

1. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has commissioned an impact assessment of the increase in VAT from 9% to 13.5% in respect of hotels, restaurants, hairdressing and other activities at 9% being increased to 13.5%; the expected increase in revenues in each of the categories in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [48580/18]

2. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the Revenue Commissioners' decision to end the unvouched disregard allowance for certain workers as of 1 January 2019; and if he will discuss this matter with the Revenue Commissioners and seek to have this decision reversed. — Pearse Doherty. [48597/18]

3. To ask the Minister for Finance the measures he is taking or considering taking to prevent possible abuses of the tax relief such as artificial inflation of costs or failure to adhere to the requirement in the legislation for the provision of quality employment and training in relation to section 481 tax relief in the film industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [48532/18]

4. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the victims of the tracker mortgage scandal have established that in the case of at least one bank (details supplied) the independent appeals board examining their appeal was not provided with all records pertaining to their case; if this is common practice across the banks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [48596/18]

5. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on the trends in general Government interest expenditure since 2017; the projections for the next five years; the way in which this

expenditure has been impacted by the NTMA's management of the national debt in 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [43866/18]

6. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the details surrounding a loan sale (details supplied) which was sold off market and for less than 10% of its original value; if he is satisfied that NAMA is not in breach of section 2(iv) of the NAMA Act 2009, which requires it to protect the interests of the taxpayer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [48606/18]

7. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on the November 2018 meeting of ECOFIN and the policy debate by EU finance ministers on the proposal to establish a digital services tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48540/18]

8. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount of carbon tax collected on solid fuels in each of the years 2015 to 2017 and to date in 2018, respectively; the steps he is taking to ensure compliance with the law in this regard and secure the revenue base; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [48421/18]

9. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to amend the recommendations in the Cost of Insurance Working Group plan that a publicly funded Garda anti-fraud unit to deal with insurance fraud be put in place. — Pearse Doherty. [48599/18]

10. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the tracker mortgage examination; the amount paid out to date for redress and compensation; when all affected customers will receive payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48565/18]

11. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans for legislative and regulatory changes in relation to the business culture of banks and the accountability of senior banking officials; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48542/18]

12. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the preparedness of the Revenue Commissioners for Brexit; the number of extra staff that have been hired by the Revenue Commissioners since September 2018; the number that will be in place by the end of March 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48563/18]

13. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of a review of the help- to-buy scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [48423/18]

14. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has estimated the likely additional contributions Ireland will make to the EU budget from 2020 onwards in the event of British withdrawal on 29 March 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48543/18]

15. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps he will take to ensure that residents affected by the liquidation of the structural warranty of an underwriter (details supplied) are not unfairly affected; and his plans to deal with this issue. — Louise O'Reilly. [48604/18]

16. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to develop a new strategy for the growth and development of the credit union sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48564/18]

17. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on recent revelations that certain high net worth individuals are paying significantly lower rates of income tax than persons of much more modest means as a consequence of various tax breaks including losses carried forward; the estimated tax lost as a consequence of such activity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [48586/18]

18. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he can intercede with the EU institutions in view of the need to clear the way for an emergency local authority and affordable housing programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48595/18]

19. To ask the Minister for Finance the measures he has taken to meet and engage with insurance companies here regarding excessive premiums being charged to consumers particularly in counties Carlow and Kilkenny; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [48428/18]

20. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to legislate to place a cap on the rates that can be charged by moneylenders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [48598/18]

21. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps he will take to ensure residents affected by the going into liquidation of an underwriter (details supplied) of their structural warranty are not unfairly affected. — Pearse Doherty. [48600/18]

22. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of additional officials of the Revenue Commissioners and customs and excise recruited to deal with Brexit; the number of additional officials that will be recruited from the end of March 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [48584/18]

23. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the measures that have been taken to meet and engage with insurance companies here regarding excessive premiums being charged to consumers, particularly in counties Cavan and Monaghan. — Niamh Smyth. [48424/18]

24. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on the progress of the implementation of the report on the Cost of Employer and Public Liability Insurance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [48602/18]

25. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps he has taken or plans to take to simplify compliance for small self-employed taxpayers in respect of income tax returns with a self-employed gross income of less than €50,000; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [48422/18]

26. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has examined the recent report by an organisation (details supplied) on the perceived extortionate level of interest and charges charged on loans by moneylenders particularly in the run up to Christmas; his plans to regulate and or cap interest and charges on moneylender type products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [48583/18]

27. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans in respect of digital taxation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [48585/18]

28. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the latest progress report by the Comptroller and Auditor General into the National Asset Management Agency; his views on the findings regarding section 172 declarations, particularly that NAMA case managers do not carry out verification processes regarding these; his further views on whether this may have had knock-on effects on loan and property sales; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [48605/18]

29. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on debt write-downs for customers that have engaged with their financial institutions in respect of household mortgages; his plans to offer more support to families at risk of eviction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [48582/18]

30. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the results of a report issued by a company (details supplied) illustrating the effects on employment in the retail bookmaking industry as a result of the blanket increase in betting duty; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maureen O’Sullivan. [48579/18]

31. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to make suicide clauses in life insurance policies illegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [48426/18]

32. To ask the Minister for Finance the way in which he defines quality employment and training in relation to section 481 tax relief for the film industry, access to which is conditional in the legislation and on the provision of quality employment and training; his views on whether such a definition should as a minimum require adherence to all relevant employment legislation (details supplied); his further views on whether a company proven to be in breach of this legislation should have this tax relief withheld; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [48475/18]

33. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on whether stricter controls are needed on interest rates charged by licensed moneylenders here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48566/18]

34. To ask the Minister for Finance if the report on the Cost of Employer and Public Liability Insurance is on target to be implemented on time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [48601/18]

35. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which the Central Bank monitors the activities of regulated and unregulated lending institutions with particular reference to their dealings with customers; if it is recognised that the lending institutions are not accurately representing the manner and methodology of their dealings in respect of repossessions in view of the fact that countless so-called voluntary surrenders have been achieved through intimidation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [48594/18]

36. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the ending of the asset purchasing programme quantitative easing by the European Central Bank; the estimated impact this may have on interest rates and economic activity here and the rest of the EU; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [48541/18]

37. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the liquidation of a company (details supplied); when the Insurance (Amendment) Act 2018 will be fully commenced; when the next payment will

take place; when all claimants involved in the company will receive compensation in full; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [48567/18]

38. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has commissioned an impact assessment of the increase in VAT from 9% to 13% in respect of hotels, restaurants, hairdressing and other activities at 9% being increased to 13%; the expected increase in revenues in each of the categories in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [48581/18]

