



# **DÁIL ÉIREANN**

*Dé Céadaoin, 2 Deireadh Fómhair, 2019*

*Wednesday, 2nd October, 2019*

---

**CEISTEANNA  
QUESTIONS**



*Dé Céadaoin, 2 Deireadh Fómhair, 2019*  
*Wednesday, 2nd October, 2019*

---

**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 meeting with Vice President Pence; and if the ramifications of a hard Brexit on the island of Ireland were discussed. — Micheál Martin. [37405/19]
2. To ask the Taoiseach if the matter of the undocumented Irish was discussed with Vice President Pence when they met recently. — Michael Moynihan. [37412/19]
3. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with Vice President Pence of the United States of America. — Brendan Howlin. [37445/19]
4. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his contact and engagements with the Vice President of the United States of America, Mr. Mike Pence during his recent visit here. — Mary Lou McDonald. [37286/19]
5. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with the Vice President of the United States of America, Mr. Mike Pence. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [37384/19]
6. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with the Vice President of the United States of America, Mr. Mike Pence. — Eamon Ryan. [38501/19]
7. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the Vice President of the United States of America. — Joan Burton. [39682/19]
8. To ask the Taoiseach if he has attended Cabinet committee meetings recently. — Michael Moynihan. [37416/19]
9. To ask the Taoiseach the number and type of Cabinet committee meetings held since June 2019. — Mary Lou McDonald. [37285/19]
10. To ask the Taoiseach if he has attended Cabinet committee meetings recently. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [38537/19]
11. To ask the Taoiseach if he has met or spoken to the leader of the UK Labour Party recently. — Michael Moynihan. [37417/19]
12. To ask the Taoiseach if he has met or spoken to the leader of the UK Labour Party. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [38538/19]

13. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with church leaders on 4 July 2019. — Brendan Howlin. [37446/19]

14. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the plenary organised with religious leaders in July 2019; and the issues that were discussed. — Michael Moynihan. [37641/19]

15. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with church leaders on 4 July 2019. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [38539/19]

16. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with religious leaders on 4 July 2019 and the matters that were discussed. — Ruth Coppinger. [38542/19]

17. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the economic division of his Department. — Mary Lou McDonald. [37284/19]

18. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the economic division of his Department. — Brendan Howlin. [38481/19]

19. To ask the Taoiseach when the next meeting of the Cabinet committee on the Environment is due to meet. — Ruth Coppinger. [37534/19]

20. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee on Environment last met. — Eamon Ryan. [38503/19]

21. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee on Environment will next meet. — Ruth Coppinger. [38543/19]

22. To ask the Taoiseach when the next meeting of the Cabinet committee on the Environment is due to meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39636/19]

23. To ask the Taoiseach when the next meeting of the Cabinet committee on the Environment is due to meet. — Joan Burton. [39683/19]

24. To ask the Taoiseach when Cabinet committee C (European Union including Brexit) last met; and when the Cabinet committee on Brexit, Foreign and European Affairs is scheduled to meet. — Joan Burton. [37565/19]

25. To ask the Taoiseach when Cabinet committee G (Justice and Equality) last met; and when the Cabinet committee on Security is scheduled to meet. — Mary Lou McDonald. [38482/19]

26. To ask the Taoiseach when the next meeting of the Cabinet committee on Security is due to meet. — Joan Burton. [39684/19]

27. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee on National Security last met. — Michael Moynihan. [39947/19]

28. To ask the Taoiseach the status of bills under preparation in his Department. — Mary Lou McDonald. [38484/19]

29. To ask the Taoiseach if he has met with the UUP or Alliance leaders recently. — Michael Moynihan. [39949/19]

30. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on progress towards a citizens' assembly on a directly elected mayor for Dublin. — Brendan Howlin. [38490/19]

31. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with Mr. Donald Tusk when in New York; the issues that were discussed; and his plans to meet again before 17 October 2019. — Michael Moynihan. [39627/19]

32. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to the UN; if he held bilaterals and the issues discussed. — Micheál Martin. [39631/19]

33. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meetings with EU leaders and others when he attended the UN meeting in New York; and if the backstop was discussed. — Micheál Martin. [39633/19]

34. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the UN General Assembly and UN Climate Action Summit. — Brendan Howlin. [39284/19]

35. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent engagements regarding the candidature of Ireland for the UN Security Council. — Mary Lou McDonald. [39603/19]

36. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the recent United Nations climate action summit. — Mary Lou McDonald. [39604/19]

37. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to the United States of America for the recent UN meeting. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39637/19]

38. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the meetings he held with business leaders while in the United States of America; and the issues that were discussed. — Micheál Martin. [39894/19]

39. To ask the Taoiseach the EU leaders he met or spoke with at the UN meeting and since Brexit. — Michael Moynihan. [39948/19]

40. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his most recent contacts with the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission. — Joan Burton. [39454/19]

41. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with the President of the European Council, Mr. Donald Tusk. — Mary Lou McDonald. [39605/19]

42. To ask the Taoiseach if he has spoken to EU leaders since 18 September 2019 regarding Brexit or other issues. — Micheál Martin. [39632/19]

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

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

43. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has engaged with his Cabinet colleagues and UK counterparts to ensure that returning emigrants that hold UK licences will continue to be able to swap their licences for an Irish driver licence even in the event of a no-deal Brexit. — Marc MacSharry. [40154/19]

44. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if free public transport will be provided for children up to 18 years of age as soon as possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jonathan O'Brien. [39941/19]

45. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has allocated specific funding or resources to attracting tourists from the Chinese market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [40155/19]

46. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the measures he is planning to take to ensure equal access to public transport for disabled persons and those with mobility issues in view of the fact that the UNCRPD has been in effect since April 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39942/19]

47. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the outstanding issues relating to licences for the operation of horse-drawn carriages in Dublin. — Maureen O'Sullivan. [39765/19]

### CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

48. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on whether the transport system particularly at major entry and exit points is adequately prepared for the ramifications of a no-deal Brexit. — Marc MacSharry. [39769/19]

49. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on whether the Road Safety Authority should upscale its road safety campaigns especially in the case of speeding and aggressive driving practices in view of the tragic and disappointing road traffic casualty figures to date in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [39754/19]

50. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to implement the Cork metropolitan area transport strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jonathan O'Brien. [39905/19]

51. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the details of the findings from the low emission bus trials; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [39773/19]

52. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will reopen with additional funding the large-scale sports infrastructure fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jonathan O'Brien. [39906/19]

53. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if Leap cards will be introduced for commuters in south County Kildare stations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [39910/19]

54. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if increased funding will be expedited for public transport and cycling infrastructure in the mid-western areas of Dublin, particularly areas adjacent to and in proximity of the M50 in order to mitigate levels of nitrogen dioxide which exceeds the EU limit which has been recorded by Traffic Infrastructure Ireland at various locations in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [39690/19]

55. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to enhance road transportation in County Meath. — Thomas Byrne. [39692/19]

56. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to increase public transport provision in view of the declaration of a climate emergency; his further plans to make all public transport free of charge in Budget 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39901/19]

57. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on the removal of rail lines for the purposes of constructing greenways; if he has considered the negative ramifications of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39766/19]

58. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his policy on congestion charges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [39689/19]

59. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has considered introducing specific measures to incentivise and support the use of e-bikes on roads; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [39747/19]

60. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the progress to date with Metrolink; his views on whether the planning and construction of this vital infrastructure for Fingal and Dublin city will be expedited over the next three or four years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [39753/19]

61. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on the recent initiative of Irish Rail to persuade workers to avoid rush hour DART times on weekday mornings; his further views on whether this is a reaction to a lack of infrastructure investment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [39728/19]

62. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to enhance public transport in County Meath; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Byrne. [39691/19]

63. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if his attention has been drawn to the considerable capacity issues across the public transport system; and if he will take steps in the short to medium-term to address same. — Marc MacSharry. [39768/19]

64. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on the chronic overcrowding issues faced by commuters in the greater Dublin area, most notably on DART and bus services at peak rush hour times; the way in which he plans to address the matter without placing the emphasis on commuters to plan their journeys around busy periods. — Maureen O'Sullivan. [39763/19]

65. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the progress of the A5 project; the funding that will be made available for the project; when the funding will be made available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [39686/19]

66. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the reason Dublin Bus has opted for electric-hybrid low emission buses and not fully electric, zero emission buses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [39772/19]

67. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the reason the NTA is not fining a company (details supplied) despite the fact it confirmed that the company is not fulfilling its

contractual obligations in terms of the delivery of service on the 10% of routes it is running in Dublin; if it is open to the NTA to cancel the contract with the company in view of the failure to fulfil its contractual obligations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39900/19]

68. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the efforts he is making to ensure that drivers in Northern Ireland will be permitted to drive legally here without additional paperwork or stickers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jonathan O'Brien. [39904/19]

69. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the additional resources which will be provided to Fáilte Ireland and Tourism Ireland to support the tourism sector in the face of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jonathan O'Brien. [39907/19]

70. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the degree to which tourism continues to be developed nationwide with particular reference to the regions in which it appears considerable scope exists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39956/19]

71. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his primary budgetary priorities in advance of Budget 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [39946/19]

72. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to tender out parts of the public transport service that is currently the remit of Bus Éireann; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39902/19]

73. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to ensure that all public transport is fully accessible to disabled persons and those with mobility issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39903/19]

74. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has applied to the European Union to designate the Dublin to Rosslare railway line with Trans European Transport Network, TEN-T core status; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [39688/19]

75. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has allocated specific funding or resources to attracting tourists from the Chinese market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [39767/19]

76. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the ordering of new rail carriages; when Irish Rail will receive delivery of same; and when passengers will see increased capacity in services. — Robert Troy. [39940/19]

77. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if specific assistance will be provided for the tourism and hospitality sector in the Border region due to the difficulties that will arise from Brexit and the heavy dependence of the region on business from Northern Ireland and the UK; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [39877/19]

78. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if key road infrastructure projects will be prioritised for investment in 2020 such as the proposed east to west route namely the road from Cootehill, Shercock, Carrickmacross and Dundalk in view of the particular challenges facing the Border region due to Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [39876/19]



79. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the roll out of the local link bus service in counties Cavan and Monaghan; the supports his Department is providing to the initiative; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39714/19]

80. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he supports a continued policy of tendering out further routes operated by Bus Éireann and Dublin Bus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [39897/19]

81. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if funding will be allocated to allow widening of a railway bridge (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [39909/19]

82. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which alternative transport routes have been identified and provided in the aftermath of Brexit in order to ensure that Irish importers and exporters can circumnavigate the UK in order to provide reliable routes to mainland Europe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39955/19]

83. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the MetroLink project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [39944/19]

84. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has considered establishing a transport security unit to tackle widespread and dangerous antisocial behaviour on public transport and at public transport hubs. — Marc MacSharry. [39771/19]

85. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will report on the improvements of the Road Safety Authority for the processing of court information on drivers disqualified in court; the average length of time for the National Vehicle Drivers' File to be updated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [39751/19]

86. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if a progress report will be provided on the extension of the right of asylum seekers to obtain a driver licence. — Robert Troy. [39939/19]

87. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he has engaged with his Cabinet colleagues and UK counterparts to ensure that returning emigrants that hold UK licences will continue to be able to swap their licences for an Irish driver licence even in the event of a no-deal Brexit. — Marc MacSharry. [39770/19]

88. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on whether the target of 1,000,000 electric vehicles on the roads by 2030 is a realistic target; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39729/19]

89. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the Bonagee link road project in County Donegal; when the project will commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [39685/19]

90. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the BusConnects proposal for Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Ryan. [39943/19]

91. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on whether a cultural group (details supplied) that have used a centre is now being precluded from doing so in view of

the fact that his Department is the sponsoring Department for the centre. — Maureen O’Sullivan. [39764/19]

92. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to ensure that bus routes operated by private companies and licensed by the NTA but which are not in receipt of PSO funding will be accessible to passengers with mobility issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [39898/19]

93. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if additional resources will be given to Olympic sports and athletes in advance of Tokyo 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jonathan O’Brien. [39908/19]

94. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the introduction of variable speed limits and other demand management measures on the M50; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [39748/19]

95. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his views on steadily increasing the State subsidy to public transport with the aim of providing free public transport to promote the decarbonisation of transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [39752/19]

96. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the number and scale of services cancelled by a company (details supplied) on the routes it operates in Dublin; the reason these services failed to operate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39899/19]

97. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the details of each State infrastructure project that is in development or is due for completion in 2019 in which it is in excess of the budget assigned to the project for its current stage to date. — Peadar Tóibín. [39522/19]

98. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport when decisions will be made on applications for capital projects in County Kildare under Project Ireland 2040; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [39640/19]

---

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

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

\*99. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if it is standard practice for the State Claims Agency to delay paying costs associated with the cases relating to discovery orders until personal injuries claims are settled (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [40116/19]

\*100. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the costs incurred to date arising from a case (details supplied) involving the State Claims Agency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [40118/19]

\*101. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the amendments made to a document (details supplied); the dates the amendments were made; the changes made; if these amendments

were initiated by the military or officials in his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [40021/19]

\*102. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if changes were requested by the military to a document (details supplied); if so, the dates the changes were made; the actions taken by his officials; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [40022/19]

\*103. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number of Reserve Defence Forces officers commissioned after 1 October 2005 that have been promoted; the ranks to which each has been promoted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [40023/19]

\*104. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number, appointments, functions and ranks held by Reserve Defence Forces personnel gazetted to specialist reserve staff; if the decision per 8.5.3 in the White Paper has been implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [40024/19]

\*105. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has formally met with the United States of America Secretary of the Navy. — Brian Stanley. [40063/19]

\*106. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if his attention has been drawn to delays in paying costs associated with a case (details supplied) in which the State Claims Agency and a person are party to; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [40114/19]

\*107. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he is still in the process of contesting aspects of a case against the State by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [40117/19]

\*108. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the progress made to date regarding the disclosure of a range of documents to a person (details supplied) in the Air Corps regarding exposure on dates during the 1990s to dangerous chemicals; the reason for the delay in providing the documentation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [40135/19]

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

\*109. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will restore the tourism VAT rate to 9% in view of economic uncertainty in the context of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40036/19]

\*110. To ask the Minister for Finance Minister if he will consider not increasing the carbon tax or provide for the offset of carbon tax on licensed hauliers in view of the fact that this sector is already under pressure with the uncertainty of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40037/19]

\*111. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will introduce measures to reduce fuel costs for licenced hauliers by doubling the rebate level allowed under the diesel rebate scheme from 7.5c to 15c and reducing the floor from which the rebate starts from €1 to 85c. — Carol Nolan. [40038/19]

\*112. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider not increasing motor tax VRT or other taxes on the licensed haulage sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40039/19]

\*113. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated first year and full-year cost of a proposal by an organisation (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [40101/19]

\*114. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated first year and full-year cost of a proposal by an organisation (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [40104/19]

\*115. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated first and full year cost of a proposal by an organisation (details supplied); and the estimated number of persons that are liable to the levy in question. — Robert Troy. [40105/19]

\*116. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on a proposal by an organisation (details supplied); and if costs would arise. — Robert Troy. [40106/19]

\*117. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on a proposal by an organisation (details supplied); and if costs would arise. — Robert Troy. [40107/19]

\*118. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on proposals by an organisation (details supplied) for the KEEP scheme to support job creation and talent retention; and if costs would arise. — Robert Troy. [40108/19]

\*119. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 164 of 4 December 2018, the updated cost of adapting the employment and investment incentive scheme (details supplied) in tabular form. — Robert Troy. [40109/19]

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

\*120. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if the cost-benefit analysis criteria set down by the OPW will be permitted to take loss of income, workable land, payments to farmers and the environment into account when assessing the need for flood relief works in the Lough Funshinagh area of south County Roscommon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eugene Murphy. [40015/19]

\*121. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will instruct the OPW to find a permanent solution to the flooding issues in the Lough Funshinagh area of south County Roscommon in view of the fact that the stringent cost-benefit analysis criteria set down by the OPW has now prevented Roscommon County Council from taking further action; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eugene Murphy. [40016/19]

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

\*122. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his views on a matter regarding a school (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39983/19]

\*123. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding school transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [39984/19]

\*124. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will address a matter regarding school transport (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [40003/19]

\*125. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if an increase in the administration days for teaching principals to one release day per week will be allocated to deal with the administrative demands of the job in view of the fact that the role of the teaching principal has not been reviewed, qualified or quantified since a circular in 1973; if additional resources will be allocated to address this issue in Budget 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eugene Murphy. [40004/19]

\*126. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the progress to date in developing a purpose-built school for the pupils of a school (details supplied) further to the private members debate in Dáil Éireann of 25 September 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [40005/19]

\*127. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to ensure 20 extra NEPS psychologists are provided for in Budget 2020. — Carol Nolan. [40048/19]

\*128. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to introduce assistive technology passports for persons with disabilities engaged in the education system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40049/19]

\*129. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of a Bus Éireann appeal (details supplied); if the response from the transport provider will be reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [40062/19]

\*130. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of workers employed by his Department and in each office or agency under the aegis of his Department that earn less than the living wage of €12.30 per hour; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [40074/19]

\*131. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his views on a proposal by an organisation (details supplied); the share and amount of the national training fund budget that was allocated to the Skillnet programme in each of the years 2016 to 2019, in tabular form; the drawdown in funding in each year; and the forecasted share and amount that will go towards the programme in each year over the 2020 to 2022 period. — Robert Troy. [40102/19]

\*132. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of micro-sized and SME businesses that availed of enterprise training, workforce learning and upskilling services from Skillnet Ireland in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019, in tabular form; and the percentage share of micro-sized and SME businesses that availed of such training from Skillnet from the number of such sized businesses that operate. — Robert Troy. [40103/19]

\*133. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his attention has been drawn to the pressure for second-level school places in Gorey, County Wexford and the concerns of local schools and parents that there may not be a sufficient number of places available within two years; his plans to provide for the construction of a new second-level school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Byrne. [40113/19]

\*134. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the position regarding part-time school bus drivers that must compulsorily retire at 70 years of age; if this retirement age can be extended beyond 70 years of age subject to the passing of an annual medical exam; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [40140/19]

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

\*135. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his plans to ensure the installation of changing places at strategic locations in towns nationally for persons with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40044/19]

\*136. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his plans to implement the Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40045/19]

\*137. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he has discussed security in the Border region with Prime Minister Johnson recently. — Micheál Martin. [39896/19]

\*138. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if adequate resources will be provided to expedite the inquest process as much as possible in view of the length of time families have campaigned further to the recent announcement of a fresh coroner's inquest into a tragedy (details supplied). — Denise Mitchell. [40014/19]

\*139. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality when the tender for the handheld devices for the roads policing unit will be published; the timeframe for the procurement of the necessary handheld devices; the reason there has been a delay thus far; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [40025/19]

\*140. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he is satisfied with the level of communication offered by INIS to persons seeking visas and while acknowledging the average processing time of six months the way in which he can improve general communication and speed at which IDs are assigned under the Service Improvement Plan 2018-2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maureen O'Sullivan. [40059/19]

\*141. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the way in which he can progress changes to regulation and enforcement in the gaming sector and if he acknowledged the concerns raised by bingo club operators on the impact the Gambling and Lotteries Amendment Bill 2019 could have on their particular niche industry, including needing a distinction between lotteries and bingo within legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maureen O'Sullivan. [40060/19]

\*142. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if the paid parental benefit scheme will be enforced by November 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [40069/19]

\*143. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of UK citizens currently resident here that hold and do not hold an Irish Passport. — John Deasy. [40088/19]

\*144. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of convictions for possession and or supply of a controlled substance that were recorded in each court district in each of the years 2016 to 2018. — John Deasy. [40089/19]

\*145. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of Garda members allocated to the Waterford divisional drugs unit in each of the years 2017, 2018 and to date in 2019. — John Deasy. [40090/19]

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

\*146. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation if there are supports available to a person that is developing a prototype product; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40095/19]

\*147. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the years the management development council operated; the function and remit of the council when operating; the annual capital and current budget in each year it operated; and the number of staff employed, in tabular form. — Robert Troy. [40110/19]

\*148. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation if Enterprise Ireland, the IDA and InterTradeIreland, respectively applied for an increase in funding for 2020; if so, the amount requested by each; when the application will be decided upon; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [40111/19]

\*149. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation if she is considering prioritising SMEs and entrepreneurs in Budget 2020; if she will consider providing a Brexit SME fund to protect indigenous firms and small businesses from all Brexit scenarios and protect associated jobs and export sales. — Robert Troy. [40112/19]

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

\*150. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to obtain funding for a transport support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40050/19]

\*151. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [39985/19]

\*152. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 374, 375, and 376 of 24 September 2019, if the HSE Capital Plan 2019 to 2021 has a financial commitment to upgrade the long-stay residential unit, residential care units and dementia care of St Joseph's Community Hospital and Ramelton Community Hospital, County Donegal; if the funding in the plan will bring these to community hospitals up to the full standards required for residential care units as opposed to the derogated standards thus ensuring the long-term future of these specific residential care units within the community hospitals beyond 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [39993/19]

\*153. To ask the Minister for Health when a homecare support package for a person (details supplied) will be put into place. — Thomas Byrne. [40002/19]

\*154. To ask the Minister for Health the status of plans for a multi-million Euro development proposed for the Sacred Heart Hospital, County Roscommon; the current stage of the proposed development; the status of the design process; to outline when construction will begin; the

timeframe for completion of works; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eugene Murphy. [40006/19]

\*155. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the provision of services in a facility (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [40013/19]

\*156. To ask the Minister for Health the availability of extras day service placements that may be available to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [40018/19]

\*157. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) in County Clare will have surgery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Timmy Dooley. [40019/19]

\*158. To ask the Minister for Health if he will reduce the threshold age for accessing CervicalCheck from 25 to 21 years of age; if his officials are examining the possible positive impacts of extending the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [40020/19]

\*159. To ask the Minister for Health if he will direct the HSE to investigate concerns raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [40027/19]

\*160. To ask the Minister for Health when the respite facility regularly used by persons (details supplied) will be available full-time and not only for emergency cases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Timmy Dooley. [40028/19]

\*161. To ask the Minister for Health if a reply will issue to correspondence from a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [40029/19]

\*162. To ask the Minister for Health if he will expand newborn screening tests to detect conditions such as MLD; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40031/19]

\*163. To ask the Minister for Health if he has engaged with stakeholders regarding the expansion of newborn screening tests since his appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40032/19]

\*164. To ask the Minister for Health if funding of €80,000 has been cut from the budget of an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40033/19]

\*165. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to ensure that adequate funding is allocated to a named organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40034/19]

\*166. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to ensure that funding of at least €40 million is allocated to the disability sector in order for it to maintain existing services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40042/19]

\*167. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to ensure 300 extra therapy staff are recruited in order to improve disability services for children; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40043/19]



\*168. To ask the Minister for Health if the reimbursement data set will specifically cover current HSE funded users of the FreeStyle Libre device; if the Health Technology Assessment Group review will compare total blood glucose strip usage spend year on year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Timmy Dooley. [40051/19]

\*169. To ask the Minister for Health the weighting percentages to be used as part of the upcoming HSE FreeStyle Libre group review decision making process that will be given to criteria (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Timmy Dooley. [40052/19]

\*170. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on mental health services waiting lists nationally to date waiting less than and more than 12 months, respectively by CHO area in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tom Neville. [40061/19]

\*171. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an application for funding for a respite centre (details supplied) in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [40068/19]

\*172. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons treated in the mental health services nationally in each of the years 2016 to 2018 and to date in 2019, by CHO area in tabular form. — Tom Neville. [40070/19]

\*173. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons treated in University Hospital Limerick emergency department in each of the years 2016 to 2018 and to date in 2019. — Tom Neville. [40071/19]

\*174. To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the job vacancies outstanding in the CAMHS and adult mental health services in CHO3. — Tom Neville. [40072/19]

\*175. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in CAMHS nationally in each of the years 2016 to 2018 and to date in 2019, by CHO in tabular form; the number of persons on the CAMHS waiting list nationally at this point in time under and over 12 months, by CHO in tabular form. — Tom Neville. [40073/19]

\*176. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the ongoing discussions and engagement with the manufacturer of Ocrevus with a view to having the cost of this medication reimbursed to a medical card holder (details supplied). — Kevin O’Keeffe. [40075/19]

\*177. To ask the Minister for Health the number of bed nights that were lost to Kerry University Hospital in the years 2017 to 2018 and 2018 to date in 2019 due to delayed discharges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brassil. [40076/19]

\*178. To ask the Minister for Health the job vacancies outstanding in the emergency department of University Hospital Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tom Neville. [40078/19]

\*179. To ask the Minister for Health the full-time necessary staffing requirement for all services in Kerry University Hospital in terms of nurses; the numbers in the hospital and the areas they are underserved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brassil. [40079/19]

\*180. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the provision of ECT at a location (details supplied); if an anaesthetist is employed there; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [40084/19]

\*181. To ask the Minister for Health if ECT is currently available in an area (details supplied); if patients can receive treatment elsewhere; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [40085/19]

\*182. To ask the Minister for Health the number of child psychologists working in the health service in the Dublin 11 area; the average waiting time for a child to access a child psychologist in Dublin 11; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [40087/19]

\*183. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) in County Donegal will receive an appointment at Letterkenny University Hospital outpatient clinic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40092/19]

\*184. To ask the Minister for Health if a letter of complaint sent to Letterkenny University Hospital by a person (details supplied) was received; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40093/19]

\*185. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nursing home residents availing of the saver transitional arrangements under the nursing home support scheme; if the saver provision also applied to persons in long-term residential psychiatric care on the day the nursing home support scheme came into force that subsequently transferred to long-term geriatric care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [40094/19]

\*186. To ask the Minister for Health if clarity will be provided on a clinical drug trial relating to Duchenne muscular dystrophy for which Dublin would be a trial site (details supplied); the reason the drug trial was not carried out in Dublin; if this was due to a decision by the company; if so, the reason provided for the decision not to use Dublin as a trial site; the efforts underway to have Dublin reinstated as a trial site; if his attention has been drawn to the distress caused to families of persons with the condition by the decision not to carry out this drug trial here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [40096/19]

\*187. To ask the Minister for Health if capital funding is being included in 2020 plans for the expansion of an intensive care unit at Tallaght University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Stephen Donnelly. [40099/19]

\*188. To ask the Minister for Health if the new funding model for persons with disabilities and multi-annual funding will be implemented (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [40119/19]

\*189. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the rehabilitative training allowance is to be abolished for persons with disabilities (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [40120/19]

\*190. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for a scanner in University Hospital Kerry (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [40121/19]

\*191. To ask the Minister for Health when the changes to the fair deal scheme will be fully implemented in order that families can properly plan for the nursing home care of their loved ones; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [40127/19]

\*192. To ask the Minister for Health the construction of the new national children's hospital; the estimated cost of its construction; when the hospital will be open and operational; and the cost projections for specific items (details supplied) in tabular form. — Stephen Donnelly. [40138/19]

\*193. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider expanding newborn screening; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [40142/19]

\*194. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he has taken to preserve the archive of blood spot screening cards retained without consent between 1984 and 2011 which could provide a lifesaving diagnosis for a large number of at risk family members of sudden cardiac death victims that died within this timeframe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [40143/19]

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

\*195. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when an application by a person (details supplied) for a single farm payment will be processed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Breen. [39982/19]

\*196. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when an application will be processed for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Breen. [39998/19]

\*197. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when an application for a person (details supplied) will be processed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Breen. [40000/19]

\*198. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will streamline certain elements of the beef environmental efficiency pilot scheme to assist farmers in rural Ireland that do not have access to high speed broadband and therefore may have difficulty completing all the details required in relation to the leasing or sourcing of weighing equipment within the specified 7 to 14 days; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eugene Murphy. [40057/19]

\*199. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when an application will be processed for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Breen. [40082/19]

\*200. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a payment will issue to a person (details supplied) under the disadvantaged areas scheme. — John Deasy. [40083/19]

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

\*201. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the funding spent and number of cars covered by the electric vehicle purchase grant in each year since its creation by month, by hybrid cars, plug hybrid cars and fully electric vehicles to date in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [39996/19]

\*202. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the annual expenditure on the electric and hybrid vehicle scheme since its inception; and the number of each class of vehicle that has been granted a subsidy in each year in tabular form. — Timmy Dooley. [40001/19]

\*203. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the reason for the delay in progressing the long-promised Aarhus Convention Bill; if the Bill will allow for financial assistance for community and environmental groups to seek expert advice in relation to planning and environmental issues in view of the fact that major planning applications contain detailed and technical documents which can be hard for lay persons to properly understand and critique; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [40012/19]

\*204. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment when the annual support payment of €75 will be introduced for persons with lifelong, long-term medical incontinence as promised some time ago to help meet the average annual cost of disposal of incontinence products; if this payment will be administered through the HSE at local level; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [40067/19]

\*205. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if his attention has been drawn to the fact that Inland Fisheries Ireland waited for over 15 years to implement the planning and development regulations contained in the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 pertaining to instream fishery work; the reason it took so long to implement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [40132/19]

\*206. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the reason Inland Fisheries Ireland is not availing of their potential exemptions as referred to in Parliamentary Question No. 499 of 21 May 2019; if exemptions have been availed of; the details of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [40133/19]

\*207. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the reason Inland Fisheries Ireland is referring instream fishery works that are within an Office of Public Works drainage scheme to local planning authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [40134/19]

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

\*208. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if he will consider bringing forward incentives for the haulage sector such as grants and capital allowances in order to increase the pace of transition of the national heavy goods vehicle fleet to Euro VI standards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40041/19]

\*209. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if the practice will continue to allow UK commercial vehicles to use the road network system here free of charge excluding toll roads; if a daily tax certificate system will be introduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [39981/19]

\*210. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of the sports capital grant application by a school (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [40008/19]

\*211. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the measures he is taking to improve rail travel for commuters in particular regarding busy rush hour peak times and sufficient carriages and timetabling; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [40017/19]

\*212. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of a grant application by a club (details supplied); if this application will be awarded; if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [40080/19]

\*213. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of a grant application by a club (details supplied); if the application will be awarded; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [40081/19]

\*214. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the estimated cost to buy out the operator of the M1 toll at Gormanstown; the number of years left to run in the contract; the estimated cost to buy out the Drogheda interchange ramp tolls; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [40137/19]

\*215. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport when works are expected to commence on a bypass (details supplied) in County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [40139/19]

\*216. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the degree to which he remains satisfied that the euro routes will continue to reach their destinations on the continent notwithstanding Brexit orderly or disorderly; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40144/19]

\*217. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which he expects to offer grant-aid to the various sporting and recreational groups nationally with particular emphasis on the development of supports to encourage a health conscious population; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40145/19]

\*218. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the number of sporting and recreational bodies or groups nationally to which he awarded major or minor capital grants over the past three years; the extent to which this investment has generated an improved awareness to sporting and recreational activity with consequence benefit to the health of the population; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40146/19]

\*219. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the degree to which he remains satisfied that the main transport routes to mainland Europe are adequately provided for in order to ensure ready, unimpeded access to and from continue to facilitate imports and exports to and from this country post Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40152/19]

\*220. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the degree to which he has put in place plans or provisions to enhance or developed the tourism sector with a view to ensuring the development of the industry notwithstanding Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40153/19]

\*221. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which outstanding traffic bottlenecks will continue to receive remedial attention on local or regional routes in order to

ensure the minimisation of traffic delays after Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40147/19]

\*222. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport when upgrading the N4 Maynooth to Dublin can take place in view of the pivotal nature of this route as a commuter link; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40148/19]

\*223. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which it is anticipated upgrades to rail services serving the commuter towns of north County Kildare will be carried out; if by provision of increased frequency of services the provision of extra carriages or alternatives; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40149/19]

\*224. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the extent to which he anticipates the electrification of the bus fleet or rail services serving the commuter belt of north County Kildare to continue carbon reduction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40150/19]

\*225. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the degree to which he expects the completion of the motorway network nationally with a view to ensuring the availability of adequate transport services to all regions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40151/19]

*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 her plans to ensure all childcare workers in the early years sector are paid a living wage of €12.30 per hour; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40035/19]

\*227. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the expenditure on baby boxes; the number distributed to date; if baby boxes are available at maternity hospitals nationally; if not, the estimated full year cost of providing a baby box to mothers on the birth of a child; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [40077/19]

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

\*228. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if there has been an advance in the position for providing a mechanism to secure a pension for community employment supervisors or to provide an ex-gratia payment to those supervisors about to retire or recently retired; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [39999/19]

\*229. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the status of work in relation to addressing the pension situation of community employment scheme supervisors; if she has had discussions with the Minister for Finance or the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [39994/19]

\*230. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the status of ongoing meetings with community employment scheme supervisors; her views on pension entitlements for

supervisors of the schemes in view of the ongoing negotiations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [39995/19]

\*231. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection when a carer's allowance review will be completed for a person (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [39997/19]

\*232. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if the meals provided for in each school meals programme meets the requirements set out in Healthy Ireland guides and the Obesity Policy and Action Plan; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [40007/19]

\*233. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the position regarding pensions claims by community employment supervisors; if high-level meetings have taken place; and when she will issue her findings. — Mary Butler. [40010/19]

\*234. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection when a decision will be made on a carer's benefit application by a person (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [40026/19]

\*235. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the processing time for illness benefit, disability allowance, carer's allowance and benefit and invalidity pension applications, respectively; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [40030/19]

\*236. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection his plans to ensure the disability allowance is increased by €20 per week; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40046/19]

\*237. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection her plans to increase and index link the wage subsidy scheme for persons with a disability to 70% of the minimum wage level; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40047/19]

\*238. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection when illness benefit arrears will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Cork. — Sean Sherlock. [40058/19]

\*239. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection when a decision on a carer's allowance application by a person (details supplied) in County Cork will be expedited. — Sean Sherlock. [40066/19]

\*240. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if there is a €190,500 disregard on the means assessment for qualified adult payments on the State pension (contributory) for persons that wish to downsize their home; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brassil. [40086/19]

\*241. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if a person that finishes a community employment scheme in June 2020 could be referred back to JobPath despite the fact that new referrals will cease at the end of 2019; if being on the scheme guarantees a person a year exemption from being referred to JobPath; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40091/19]

\*242. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if the fuel allowance can be paid on a discretionary basis to people in participating in community employment schemes and of limited income despite not being on a qualifying payment prior to engaging with community employment. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [40097/19]

\*243. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if the fuel allowance will be paid to recipients of carer's allowance should they satisfy a means test and are of limited income. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [40098/19]

\*244. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the status of an application for a disability allowance by a person (details supplied); and if the matter will be expedited. — John McGuinness. [40141/19]

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

\*245. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if he will restore housing adaptation grants funding to 2010 levels; and if he will make provision of an additional €28.38 million for these grants. — Carol Nolan. [40040/19]

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

\*246. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht the progress made on the development of ERASMUS Gaeltachta under the Irish language learners scheme; the third-level institutions that will offer a semester in the Gaeltacht to their students; the number of student places per institution that will be available; the Gaeltacht areas in which they may attend courses; the dates on which these places will be available; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jonathan O'Brien. [40009/19]

\*247. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht the estimated amount it would cost in 2020 if the budget for Waterways Ireland increased by 9%. — Brian Stanley. [40065/19]

---

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I  
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 3 DEIREADH FÓMHAIR, 2019  
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL  
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 3 OCTOBER, 2019**

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

1. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if consideration has been given to the establishment of a statutory cross-Border multidisciplinary agency to tackle crime in the Border regions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39986/19]

2. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the steps his Department and An Garda Síochána have taken in relation to an upsurge in crime and anti-social behaviour in parts of the Dublin 3 and 5 areas (details supplied) in 2019; the preparations that have been made to ensure the



Halloween festival is not used as a pretext by miscreants to return to such behaviour; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [39750/19]

3. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the extent to which it is anticipated that the new Garda operational structures and divisions will improve policing in general with particular reference to bringing the operation of the force here in line with best practice in other countries making adequate provision for community policing, juvenile liaison personnel and the rapid response in both urban and rural areas and incorporating the maximum use of technology; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40165/19]

4. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his views on a report (details supplied); and the way in which he plans to implement it. — Joan Collins. [37708/19]

5. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if the interdepartmental taskforce that was in place during the drafting of the European Communities (Reception Conditions) Regulations 2018 is still functional; if not, if he will consider the recommendation of an organisation (details supplied) to re-establish this taskforce on a permanent basis to oversee the implementation of the regulations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39979/19]

6. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his plans to establish funding for artists, projects and institutions dedicated to highlighting the place of Traveller culture and history in Irish society; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [37909/19]

7. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his plans to address the issues raised in a report by an organisation (details supplied) particularly the call for an urgent audit of the criminal and family law systems to develop a better process to deliver justice, safety and a consistent experience for victims of domestic violence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [40128/19]

8. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he will report on the non-service of summons in relation to road traffic offences in view of the fact that Court Service figures in summer 2019 showed that 46% were not served between January 2017 and May 2019; the status of the working group which was set up in 2014 to monitor the serving of summons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [39749/19]

9. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the powers An Garda Síochána has to deal with antisocial behaviour, in particular on-street drinking in Dublin city centre; if his attention has been drawn to the impact such behaviour is having on retailers, in particular on-street traders such as market vendors; and the way in which the force can address such problems. — Maureen O'Sullivan. [40056/19]

10. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he has engaged with the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport with regard to the considerable loopholes that exist within the penalty point system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [40156/19]

11. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of vulnerability assessments carried out pursuant to the transposition of the EU Reception Conditions directive into Irish law in June 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40122/19]

12. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his views on the recent report titled A Review of the Criminalisation of Paying for Sexual Services in Northern Ireland; if there is an update on

the review of criminalisation of sex work under the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40123/19]

13. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the status of ongoing discussions with his UK counterpart on the Kingsmill massacre. — Michael Moynihan. [28213/19]

14. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the negotiations he has had with the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform regarding the much needed extension to Mullingar Garda station. — Robert Troy. [40054/19]

15. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his plans to increase cooperation in policing and security issues on a north south basis arising from the recent annual cross Border conference on organised crime; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [40159/19]

16. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the issues discussed at the recent north-south policing conference in Ballyconnell, County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [40158/19]

17. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality when the last review was undertaken to determine the optimum number of gardaí required; if he is satisfied that this is now the appropriate number of gardaí required; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [40172/19]

18. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the way in which he plans to respond to recently published figures from the Courts Service which revealed the large proportion of summonses that are not served; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39989/19]

19. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the reason for the delay in publishing the parental leave and benefit Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [40131/19]

20. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of Garda marked and unmarked cars and vehicles assigned to each Garda station in the Meath division. — Thomas Byrne. [40168/19]

21. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the impact the use of Eircodes will have in combatting crime in rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McLoughlin. [28565/19]

22. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his plans to address the number of persons living in direct provision centres nationally; his further plans to stop using hotels as emergency centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [40171/19]

23. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the funding secured for a new Garda headquarters in Macroom, County Cork; and the timelines agreed. — Sean Sherlock. [40163/19]

24. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if his attention has been drawn to concerns raised by an organisation (details supplied) regarding the safety of members it represents; the way in which he can ensure the safety of sex workers from abuse; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maureen O'Sullivan. [40055/19]

25. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality when his attention was drawn to the new divisional structures by the Garda Commissioner; and the date senior gardaí were informed of the new structures of Garda headquarters in the regions. — Sean Sherlock. [40164/19]

26. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the discussions his Department has had with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and other State agencies regarding a new Garda station for Macroom, County Cork; if he is satisfied the plan is advancing; when he expects a new station to advance to construction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [39638/19]

27. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the status of the new SAVI survey; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40125/19]

28. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his plans to ensure that the Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal is adequately resourced to ensure cases is dealt with in a timely fashion and that the backlog of cases are cleared; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [40173/19]

29. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the part of the budget of An Garda Síochána the estimated €15 to €18 million cost of the visits of President Trump and Vice President Pence came from; the breakdown of the expenditure in view of the cost and the fact that the visits were of short duration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [40130/19]

30. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the progress with regard to allowing asylum seekers apply for a driver licence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40126/19]

31. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if the findings of the recent CSO Prison Recidivism Study will be addressed namely, that almost half of prisoners here went on to commit another offence within three years of their release; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39987/19]

32. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality when the promised independent inspectorate will be established further to the recent release of the national standards for accommodation offered to persons in the protection process; the make-up of the inspectorate; if it will be empowered to make unannounced inspections of accommodation centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39978/19]

33. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of community service supervisor vacancies; the length of time the positions have been vacant; the location of the vacancies; the reason such positions are vacant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40124/19]

34. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the position regarding passport checks taking place on the Border at Garda checkpoints and on public transport; the rationale for this activity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [40129/19]

35. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his priorities for Budget 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39990/19]

36. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of asylum seekers being housed in emergency accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39988/19]