



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 16 Deireadh Fómhair, 2019

Wednesday, 16th October, 2019

**CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS**

Dé Céadaoin, 16 Deireadh Fómhair, 2019
Wednesday, 16th October, 2019

CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

1. 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 next scheduled to meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [41383/19]

2. To ask the Taoiseach when Cabinet committee C (European Union including Brexit) last met. — Brendan Howlin. [41979/19]

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

4. To ask the Taoiseach the status of bills under preparation in his Department. — Joan Burton. [42282/19]

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

6. To ask the Taoiseach if he has met or spoken with the Leader of the DUP or the Leader of Sinn Féin in Northern Ireland recently. — Michael Moynihan. [42305/19]

7. 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]

8. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on progress towards a citizens' assembly on a directly elected mayor for Dublin. — Joan Burton. [41985/19]

9. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on progress towards a citizens' assembly on gender equality. — Joan Burton. [42283/19]

10. 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]

11. 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]

12. 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]

13. 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]

14. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the recent United Nations climate action summit. — Joan Burton. [41986/19]

15. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent visit to Los Angeles and his efforts to boost the film industry here. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42162/19]

16. 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]

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

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

19. To ask the Taoiseach if he has spoken with Mr. Donald Tusk recently. — Michael Moynihan. [41939/19]

20. To ask the Taoiseach if he has spoken with President Macron recently. — Michael Moynihan. [41943/19]

21. To ask the Taoiseach if he has spoken directly with the German Chancellor recently. — Micheál Martin. [41957/19]

22. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the Swedish Prime Minister. — Brendan Howlin. [41981/19]

23. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the Danish Prime Minister. — Brendan Howlin. [41982/19]

24. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with President of the European Council. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42160/19]

25. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the President of the European Council. — Brendan Howlin. [41980/19]

26. To ask the Taoiseach the conversations he has had with the UK Prime Minister since 8 October 2019; and if he subsequently met him the issues that were discussed. — Micheál Martin. [41956/19]

27. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his telephone conversation with the UK Prime Minister. — Brendan Howlin. [41977/19]

28. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with UK Prime Minister in the week of 7 October 2019. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42161/19]

29. To ask the Taoiseach if the proposed veto was discussed when he met with the UK Prime Minister in Liverpool; and the rationale for same. — Micheál Martin. [42309/19]

30. To ask the Taoiseach if a timeline on the backstop was discussed when he met UK Prime Minister; and the response that he gave. — Micheál Martin. [42310/19]

31. To ask the Taoiseach the agenda for the EU Council on 17 October 2019 and if he plans to contribute on the discussion in relation to the multi annual framework and EU reform items. — Micheál Martin. [41958/19]

32. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee on Infrastructure last met. — Joan Burton. [42284/19]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

33. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if he will report on delays to the National Broadband Plan announced by the Taoiseach. — Timmy Dooley. [42315/19]

34. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the additional funding outside of funds from the TV licence that will be given to RTÉ in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [42322/19]

35. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if he will make the Just Transition Fund available to those affected by redundancies at Moneypoint; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Timmy Dooley. [42316/19]

36. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the amount of funding being allocated to the climate action fund. — Sean Sherlock. [42523/19]

37. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on the funding crisis in RTÉ in view of the failure to provide additional funding in Budget 2020. — Timmy Dooley. [42317/19]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

38. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on whether public service broadcasting should and will include a dedicated station for culture; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42163/19]

39. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his plans for households that are in near proximity to the EIR fibre to the home FTTH but still cannot avail of fibre at present; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that a number of households are in close proximity to FTTH but were not included in the original 300,000 commercial roll out of fibre; if the possibility of having these numerous household connected to broadband will be investigated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [42156/19]

40. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if the retrofitting of social housing and those at risk of energy poverty under the expanded warmer homes scheme will be prioritised; and his plans to ensure that the SEAI is in a position to assess applications and coordinate delivery in a timely manner. — Timmy Dooley. [42298/19]

41. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the estimated cost of the National Broadband Plan once completed; the amount paid out to date; the estimated amount that will be paid between now and the completion of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42249/19]

42. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the number of applications active in the Connemara electoral areas for either new prospecting licences or for the extension of existing licences; when it is expected a decision will be made on the applications; the areas covered in each licence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42278/19]

43. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the timeline for the commencement of works on the ground under the National Broadband Plan; the measures contained within same to ensure rapid roll out of broadband services for rural areas, rural communities and regional towns; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [42304/19]

44. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the engagement he has had with the CEOs of Bord na Móna and the ESB on the future of West Offaly and Lough Ree power stations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [41798/19]

45. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment when he plans to carry out early assessments of the social and employment impacts of climate policies and identify the social protection needs in the changing industries in addition to the active labour market policies as recommended in the recent cross party report of the Joint Committee on Climate Action; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [38878/19]

46. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if persons that had works carried out under the SEAI better energy warmer homes scheme and which were deemed incomplete will be eligible to re-apply under the scheme to get those works completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [42300/19]

47. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the status of the establishment of a digital safety commissioner. — Timmy Dooley. [42296/19]

48. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the status of plans for the rollout of the National Broadband Plan; the activities to take place in 2019 and 2020 following the allocation in Budget 2020 to progress the plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [42314/19]

49. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the progress made to date in relation to the national broadband scheme; when contracts will be signed for the scheme and commence the roll out of broadband; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42277/19]

50. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the position regarding funding streams which are available to support home owners on low incomes to retrofit their homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42250/19]

51. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his plans to address the significant deficit in funding to the SEAI for the deep retrofit of homes here in the context of 2030 climate action targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [41404/19]

52. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the status of the National Broadband Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [42299/19]

53. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the number and location of existing and planned air quality monitoring stations in cities and towns; and the actions he will take to introduce a national clean air strategy in 2019. — Timmy Dooley. [42294/19]

54. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his plans to ensure the future of the post office network; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Timmy Dooley. [42297/19]

55. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the steps being taken to minimise the time period to connect renewable generators to the grid in view of the fact there is a wait of over eight years for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [42158/19]

56. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the timeline for the introduction of legislation for a digital safety commissioner; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Martin. [42274/19]

57. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the extent to which the plans to provide high-quality, high-speed broadband in all areas nationally are progressing; when work on the relevant contract will commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42232/19]

58. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the position regarding the introduction of a nationwide ban on smoky fuels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [41406/19]

59. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if he has considered the implications for rural areas of the target for one million electric cars by 2030; if so, if it is planned to offer a range of additional incentives, particularly aimed at rural communities, to encourage motorists towards electric vehicle ownership as recommended by the Citizens' Assembly; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [30435/19]

60. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if he has had discussions recently with his counterparts in Northern Ireland in relation to the proposed North South Interconnector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42272/19]

61. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the transitional projects that are envisaged by the Budget 2020 announcement of special funding for the midland

region under the decarbonisation plan; and the additional supports that will be put in place (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [42301/19]

62. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the implications for his Department from the recent UN Climate Summit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42164/19]

63. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his views on whether the evidence that fracked gas is significantly worse for the environment, particularly in relation to methane emissions and other types of fossil fuels and that actions or decisions by the Government that would allow the use of fracked gas here directly contravenes and undermines meaningful action on climate change. — Eamon Ryan. [42275/19]

64. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his plans to enhance fast charging points for electric vehicles in counties Cavan and Monaghan; the grants available to owners of service stations nationally to enable them to develop high speed 100 kWh electric car fast charging points at their service stations; the grant supports in place for persons that wish to introduce a charge point at their home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [42251/19]

65. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if the next round of Climate Action Fund will go ahead in 2019 as planned and outlined under the 2018-2027 National Development Plan tranche of Project 2040; and if it will be open to all organisations not just public organisations in view of the fact that the 2018 funding allocation was exclusively provided to public organisations. — Robert Troy. [42302/19]

66. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment 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]

67. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the mechanisms he is considering to develop private finance models in support of the deep retrofit of residential buildings; and the way in which such financing might be expected to operate with respect to the length of loans, interest rates and so on. — Eamon Ryan. [42276/19]

68. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the funding his Department is making available to help county councils deal with incidents of illegal dumping and fly tipping; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42252/19]

69. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the outline of just transition plans for Bord na Mona workers in County Kildare following the announcement of the new fund as part of Budget 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [42279/19]

70. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the status of the planning application in Northern Ireland in relation to the proposed North South Interconnector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42273/19]

71. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the extent to which Ireland plans to address the issue of climate change continues; the main pillars of the

proposal, with particular reference to the extent to which the country can become less reliant on fossil fuel energy; the degree to which electricity generation can depend on alternative such as wind, solar and hydro power; the percentage of total requirements now being met by such means; his projections for the future in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42233/19]

72. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the steps he is taking to protect employment in the Midlands in view of the ceasing of the PSO on West Offaly and Lough Ree power stations in December 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [41799/19]

73. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if a disability advocacy group will be considered as one of the listed SDG champions to drive forward SDGs in view of the number of persons living with disability; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maureen O’Sullivan. [42281/19]

74. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his plans to sign the contract for the complete roll out of fibre to the home; and the timeline for delivering the plan to rural areas such as County Donegal (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [42157/19]

75. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment when a review of security of energy supply will be undertaken; and his plans to ensure that this assessment is carried out independently and transparently. — Timmy Dooley. [42295/19]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*76. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he will consider creating an Army bereavement fund for ex-soldiers whose family members pass away; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [42598/19]

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

*77. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the status of the input by his Department into the ongoing outstanding requests with the UK Government regarding inquiries into the Dublin and Monaghan bombings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42449/19]

*78. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if he will raise with members of the British Government the need to establish a comprehensive enquiry into the Birmingham pub bombings of 1974 as requested (details supplied) as these bombings caused the deaths of 21 innocent persons and the need to have persons brought to justice for these heinous crimes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42550/19]

*79. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if he discussed the Good Friday Agreement when he met with his UK counterpart. — Micheál Martin. [42312/19]

*80. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the progress in having the Assembly and Executive in Northern Ireland restored following his most recent talks with the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42568/19]

*81. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the outcome of his most recent discussions with Mr. Barnier of the EU Commission in relation to Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42569/19]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*82. To ask the Minister for Finance the position regarding the tax refund available to farmers using green diesel following the recent rise in carbon tax affecting of fuel and operating costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [42399/19]

*83. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 57 of 3 October 2019, the value of deposits and investments held by Irish credit unions in the United Kingdom; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [42361/19]

*84. To ask the Minister for Finance the first year and full year costs of changes announced in Budget 2020 to schemes (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [42369/19]

*85. To ask the Minister for Finance the details of an updated cost of adapting the employment and investment incentive scheme following the changes announced in Budget 2020 (details supplied) according to the new income tax relief rate and investment limit introduced in tabular form. — Robert Troy. [42370/19]

*86. To ask the Minister for Finance the first year and full year costs following the changes announced in Budget 2020 to equalising the earned income credit with PAYE credit. — Robert Troy. [42371/19]

*87. To ask the Minister for Finance the first year and full year cost to the Exchequer following the changes announced in Budget 2020 of the change to the research and development tax credit (details supplied) in tabular form. — Robert Troy. [42372/19]

*88. To ask the Minister for Finance the impact of spending on social housing being classified as investment rather than expenditure as part of the EU fiscal rules; and the engagements he has had with the European Commission or EU Council of Ministers to make the case for such a reclassification to assist the State deal with the ongoing housing crisis. — Eoin Ó Broin. [42390/19]

*89. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the investigation into the findings of the Moriarty Tribunal; if he has satisfied himself that the findings will be acted upon; if further consideration has been given to the transmission to other agencies of information obtained by revenue under bilateral agreements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [42419/19]

*90. To ask the Minister for Finance the VAT rate charged on food supplements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [42482/19]

*91. To ask the Minister for Finance if the recent move to close the revaluation loophole upon REIT cessation, section 705P requiring that the relevant REIT has to be in operation for over 15

years before it gets this preferential treatment, will be applicable to the sale of Green REIT to a company (details supplied). — Pearse Doherty. [42515/19]

*92. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason a stamp duty charge of 7.5% is not applicable in which a scheme of arrangement, in accordance with Part 9 of the Companies Act 2014, is used for the acquisition of a company. — Pearse Doherty. [42516/19]

*93. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of persons that have applied for the residential development stamp duty refund scheme; the number that have been successful in their application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42521/19]

*94. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will hold an industry-wide retail export scheme consultation which will include a review of the €175 threshold that will apply to the VAT retail export scheme in the event of a no-deal Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42537/19]

*95. To ask the Minister for Finance his policy in respect of the retail export scheme in particular the proposed €175 VAT refund threshold in the event the UK leaves the EU without a deal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42538/19]

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

*96. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 54 of 8 October 2019, the cost of the works; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42358/19]

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

*97. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if Bus Éireann will be instructed to provide an urgent update on a case (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [42368/19]

*98. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills when a child (details supplied) will receive an appointment for a specific assessment. — Kevin O’Keeffe. [42412/19]

*99. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the remedial works required to deal with the pyrite issues in schools (details supplied); if students will be expected to vacate the schools when works take place; and the timeframe for same. — Maureen O’Sullivan. [42346/19]

*100. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of a grant for the refurbishment of a school (details supplied). — Maureen O’Sullivan. [42347/19]

*101. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will provide the relevant Departmental geographic information systems, GIS data, that is, enrolments and other relevant data which is mapped for the Finglas, Ballymun, Dublin 11 school planning area. — Maureen O’Sullivan. [42348/19]

*102. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if an appeal by a school (details supplied) will be examined in respect of the possible suppression of a teaching post; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [42357/19]

*103. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if a decision will be reviewed to suppress a provisionally granted developing post to a school (details supplied); if the details contained in the appeal will be taken into consideration; the impact such a decision will have on the school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marcella Corcoran Kennedy. [42380/19]

*104. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his attention has been drawn to the fact that there are insufficient ASD units in mainstream schools to accommodate demand; his plans to deal with same; his views on whether establishing an ASD unit in mainstream schools should be entirely at the discretion of the school particularly in cases in which there is a high level of demand in the catchment area of the school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [42382/19]

*105. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the proportion of the €670 million in Budget 2020 for school buildings in 2020 that will be allocated to fixing the structural defects discovered in more than 40 school buildings built by a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42384/19]

*106. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason for delays being experienced in progressing a project to provide additional classroom accommodation at a school (details supplied) in County Donegal; if his attention has been drawn to the impact the stalemate is having on the ability of the school to meet the accommodation and the educational needs of students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [42386/19]

*107. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if correspondence sent to him by a school (details supplied) in County Donegal has been received; when a response will issue; the actions that will be taken to remedy the situation with the view to improving accommodation at the school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [42387/19]

*108. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his attention has been drawn to the severe shortage of secondary school places in Rush, County Dublin in which over 100 students are on a waiting list for a school (details supplied); the steps he is taking to resolve the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darragh O’Brien. [42420/19]

*109. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of pupils that can be enrolled in a new educate together post-primary school (details supplied); if the number can be increased; if the catchment area for the new school is Donaghmede, Howth, Dublin 13, Belmayne and Clongriffin; if the catchment area can be revised in order that children can attend the school nearest to them; the arrangements in place for the revision of school catchment areas generally to take account of rapidly developing areas such as the Dublin city north fringe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [42442/19]

*110. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of the new school building for a school (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42445/19]

*111. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of a funding application by a school (details supplied); when the application will progress to the next stage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42451/19]

*112. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills further to Budget 2020 the current and capital allocation to An Comhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta in 2020. — Dara Calleary. [42454/19]

*113. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if maps of the current school planning areas are available; and if a copy is available for use by schools. — James Lawless. [42477/19]

*114. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if a child (details supplied) can receive school transport in view of the circumstances; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tom Neville. [42484/19]

*115. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills further to Budget 2020, the allocation to the Skillnet Programme in 2020. — Robert Troy. [42500/19]

*116. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the stage a proposed building project (details supplied) is at; when the project will proceed to the next stage; the timescale for the overall development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42571/19]

*117. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the progress in relation to the proposed PLC course at a school (details supplied); if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the proposed PLC course at another school has been postponed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42615/19]

*118. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to further develop partnerships between patronage bodies further to the recent example of a partnership between a community college and educate together in respect of establishing a post-primary school in Dublin 7; his plans to extend this model of school patronage to other educational patrons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42616/19]

*119. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if an analysis has been conducted of the demand for primary school places in the Dublin 15 and Navan Road areas; his plans to ensure there is a sufficient number of primary school places in the Dublin 15 and Navan Road areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42617/19]

*120. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if an analysis has been conducted of the demand for post-primary school places in the Dublin 15 and Navan Road areas, particularly in the areas of Diswellstown and Pelletstown; his plans to ensure there is a sufficient number of post-primary school places in the Dublin 15 and Navan Road areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42618/19]

*121. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the progress on a permanent school building for a school (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42619/19]

*122. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills when the planned special school (details supplied) in Dublin 15 will officially open; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42620/19]

*123. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if an appropriate site has been identified for the planned new post-primary school to serve the west Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 and Blanchardstown

village, Dublin15 school planning areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42621/19]

*124. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to provide the proposed special school in Dublin 15 (details supplied) with a full-time behaviour therapist, occupational therapist and speech and language therapist; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42622/19]

*125. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if the education budget to ensure all school secretaries are paid as public servants will be increased; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39607/19]

*126. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if steps will be taken to cease the practice of segregation and discrimination of children on the basis of religion in schools by moving the teaching of religion to outside school hours thereby allowing parents to choose whether or not they want their child to receive religious instruction in the school setting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [41419/19]

*127. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his views on the important role that school secretaries play in the education system (details supplied); the steps he will take to bring these members of staff into the direct employ of his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [41418/19]

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

*128. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his views on the lack of enforcement being undertaken by An Garda Síochána to prevent private vehicles using bus lanes in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Rock. [42461/19]

*129. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his views on the Statute of Limitations (Amendment) Bill 2018, as it relates to thalidomide survivors and unacknowledged thalidomide survivors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [42489/19]

*130. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he has engaged and or consulted with the Garda Commissioner and or other authorities in respect of broadening and or abolishing the upper age limit on persons wishing to make an application to become a full-time serving trainee Garda in line with the PSNI; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [42502/19]

*131. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the status of a naturalisation application by a person (details supplied); when the application will be finalised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [42507/19]

*132. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of files relating to historic cases of child abuse being kept at the headquarters of an organisation (details supplied) that have been forwarded to An Garda Síochána; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42511/19]

*133. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he will address the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42517/19]

*134. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of civilian executives and Garda civilian staff, under investigation that have been suspended each year since 2010 to date in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [42533/19]

*135. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of civilian executives and Garda civilian staff if suspended that have been reduced to zero rate of pay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [42534/19]

*136. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if serving sworn members of An Garda Síochána, whilst the subject of a public interest inquiry are permitted to be promoted; if not, if promotion is dependent upon the outcome of such an inquiry. — Niall Collins. [42535/19]

*137. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if he will provide the last date on which he and or his officials were briefed with an update by the DPP and or An Garda Síochána in respect of the final report of the Moriarty Tribunal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [42549/19]

*138. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the details of the end recipients of funding that was initially given to an organisation (details supplied) in each of the years 2008 to 2016 in respect of State investment in the intercultural plan of same; the reason for the gaps in 2013, 2014 and 2016; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [42554/19]

*139. To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality his progress in relation to addressing the issues raised by the High Court judgement in respect of time spent outside the State in terms of applications for naturalisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [42626/19]

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

*140. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the reason nurses from outside the EU with diplomas that are seeking work permits here are not considered under the critical skills permit; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42365/19]

*141. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the details of the monetary amount following the announcement in Budget 2020 of a no-deal Brexit support fund for enterprises totalling €110 million that will be made up of financial instruments (details supplied) in tabular form. — Robert Troy. [42373/19]

*142. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the details of the monetary amount following the announcement in Budget 2020 of a rescue and restructuring fund of €42 million for a no-deal Brexit scenario that will be provided according to financial instruments (details supplied) in tabular form. — Robert Troy. [42374/19]

*143. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the details of the monetary amount following the announcement in Budget 2020 of a transformation fund of €8 million for a no-deal Brexit scenario that will be provided according to financial instruments (details supplied) in tabular form. — Robert Troy. [42375/19]

*144. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the details of the monetary amount following the announcement in Budget 2020 of a transition fund of €45 million for a no-

deal Brexit scenario that will be provided according to financial instruments (details supplied) in tabular form. — Robert Troy. [42376/19]

*145. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation further to the announcement in Budget 2020 of a €10 million allocation to the disruptive technologies innovation fund, if this allocation will comprise new capital funding; and if not, if there will be a rollover of existing unused capital expenditure unused from the 2019 allocation of the scheme into 2020. — Robert Troy. [42377/19]

*146. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the allocation in Budget 2020 by her Department to the Brexit working capital and future growth loan schemes. — Robert Troy. [42378/19]

*147. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation her views on the fall of the position of Ireland in the 2019 WEF Competitiveness Rankings. — Robert Troy. [42379/19]

*148. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the steps she is taking to ensure that all public bodies comply with S.I. No. 234/2019 - Sectoral Employment Order (Construction Sector) 2019 introduced by her Department and previous orders; the steps that can be taken if they have not complied with same; if her Department carries out inspections to see if there is compliance by public sector employers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [42411/19]

*149. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the most recent occasion on which the IDA visited counties Cavan, Monaghan and Meath; the number of new jobs that have been created by the IDA in the past 12 months; the steps it is taking to attract companies to the counties; the success it has had with the strategy for the counties; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42425/19]

*150. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation if the introduction of a merchant's incentive scheme to grant small businesses easier access to point of sales terminals will be examined; and when the new digital strategy will be completed and published. — Robert Troy. [42494/19]

*151. To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation the amount of funding allocated to the programme for research in third-level institutions in 2020. — Robert Troy. [42499/19]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*152. To ask the Minister for Health if he has discussed with the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the possibility of making entry to State funded or recognised creches conditional on children having received childhood vaccinations; his plans to introduce such a stipulation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42362/19]

*153. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be seen by Athenry ASD services for speech and language; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [42367/19]

*154. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) cannot receive additional home help hours; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42383/19]

*155. To ask the Minister for Health the start date of a sarcoma specialist post in St. Vincent's University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [42388/19]

*156. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an appointment for a procedure at Galway University Hospital; the waiting times for the procedure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [42391/19]

*157. To ask the Minister for Health the number of the 114 assistant psychologists that are currently employed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [42393/19]

*158. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for home help package applications in County Donegal; the length of time after approval of home help it takes within the county to receive the service in the applicants home; the number of applicants waiting for homecare at present in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [42394/19]

*159. To ask the Minister for Health the timeline of events in relation to the process carried out to date in the appointment of a full-time consultant medical oncologist with a special interest in sarcoma based at St. Vincent's University Hospital created by him in July 2016; if interviews were held in March 2017 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Casey. [42396/19]

*160. To ask the Minister for Health the number of attendances at the minor injury unit in Monaghan hospital in each of the years 2010 to 2018 and to date in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42401/19]

*161. To ask the Minister for Health the number of emergency department attendances at Cavan General Hospital in each of the years 2012 to 2018 and to date in 2019, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42402/19]

*162. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a palliative care unit (details supplied); if the location of same been decided upon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42403/19]

*163. To ask the Minister for Health if a refund can be provided to a person (details supplied) who has had to incur substantial medical costs as a result of a protracted wait on the public waiting list for treatment. — Robert Troy. [42406/19]

*164. To ask the Minister for Health the plans in place for restoring a second ambulance to south west County Donegal covering the area from Inver to Glencolmcille including the areas of Ardara and Glenties; if in the context of the new budget for 2020 this will be given priority from his Department and the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [42410/19]

*165. To ask the Minister for Health the progress of the digitalised registration system in the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland, funded by his Department; his views on the resignation in May 2019 of the project sponsor and resignation of the project lead in August 2019 leading to a delay in the commencement of the system roll out scheduled to take place in September 2019; the details of the original tender cost of the project; the additional costs that will be incurred as a result of the delay; the projected commencement roll out date of this project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42416/19]

*166. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the investment for the upgrade of the emergency department at Cavan General Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42422/19]

*167. To ask the Minister for Health if the opening times at a unit (details supplied) will be extended; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42423/19]

*168. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the sale of a building (details supplied); if the building can be kept in State ownership; if other Departments have indicated an interest in same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42424/19]

*169. To ask the Minister for Health the number of pregnant mothers that have used the anomaly scan in Cavan General Hospital to date by month in tabular form; his plans to increase the service in County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42441/19]

*170. To ask the Minister for Health the details of the Waterford thriveabetes project as contained in the recent Sláintecare plan; the way in which it will benefit persons with type 1 diabetes attending University Hospital, Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Butler. [42448/19]

*171. To ask the Minister for Health the number of specialist substance abuse mental health teams in place; the number of staff in each; the location and base of each team; and the way in which the number of staff compares to the recommendations of A Vision for Change taking into account population changes since 2006. — James Browne. [42450/19]

*172. To ask the Minister for Health the level of funding paid to an organisation (details supplied) in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42465/19]

*173. To ask the Minister for Health if he will honour the commitment he made at a conference (details supplied) to expand the role of community pharmacies to include the full and immediate national roll out of a minor ailments scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42466/19]

*174. To ask the Minister for Health the timeframe for the expansion of community pharmacy services to include a minor ailments scheme and the provision of chronic disease management services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42467/19]

*175. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to ensure greater levels of genetic testing for cancer and ultra-rare diseases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42468/19]

*176. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to consult with charities and patient organisations on whole genome sequencing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42469/19]

*177. To ask the Minister for Health the reason patients going across the Border for treatment are waiting for arrears payment from the HSE; the number of cases that have been dealt with in 2019; the number waiting to be reimbursed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42471/19]

*178. To ask the Minister for Health the reason there is no periodontist based in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [42475/19]

*179. To ask the Minister for Health the percentage of homecare support services outsourced to private companies in 2018 and to date in 2019, by CHO in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42476/19]

*180. To ask the Minister for Health if correspondence has been received from a pharmacist (details supplied) in relation to the abuse of codeine products; if he has considered the contents of the correspondence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [42490/19]

*181. To ask the Minister for Health the number of slots provided to Cavan General Hospital for the Drogheda fracture clinic due to increased demand and to ease waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42509/19]

*182. To ask the Minister for Health the details of the €25 million allocated to disability services between the four sections listed on page 112 of the Budget book, that is, school leavers, respite, emergency protocols and autism; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42518/19]

*183. To ask the Minister for Health the additional funds that have been provided in Budget 2020 for the assessment of needs programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42519/19]

*184. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children awaiting an assessment of needs; the number awaiting a report from their assessment of needs nationally by CHO; the length of time each child is waiting for the assessment; the length of time they are waiting for the report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42520/19]

*185. To ask the Minister for Health when he will meet a person (details supplied) regarding their issues with the content of the MacCraith Report; if he will meet with them prior to An Taoiseach issuing an apology to those caught up in the CervicalCheck controversy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Harty. [42522/19]

*186. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to reintroduce the rehabilitative training allowance in view of its value and importance to many trainees nationwide; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42570/19]

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

*187. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason Cork County Council refuse to remove stray horses from lands in Hollyhill, Cork city, in view of numerous requests from the landowner to do so; the reason persons living in the area are allowed to own horses if they do not have adequate land for grazing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [42547/19]

*188. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which 4,000 acres of forestry of native species can contribute to carbon sequestration annually; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42558/19]

*189. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which 4,000 acres of forestry of coniferous species can contribute to carbon sequestration annually; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42559/19]

*190. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the position regarding possible vaccination of hares to protect them from the RHD2 virus which has been detected in a number of counties including County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [42366/19]

*191. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the contingency steps being taken to limit the impact of a no-deal Brexit on the agriculture sector here. — Niamh Smyth. [42400/19]

*192. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if an ANC payment will be processed for a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [42404/19]

*193. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the contingency steps being taken to limit the impact of a no-deal Brexit on the agriculture sector here. — Niamh Smyth. [42474/19]

*194. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the remote sensing inspection will be completed; when payment will issue to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Breen. [42479/19]

*195. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Budget 2020, the current and capital allocation for the forestry programme in his Department in 2020; the amount of capital carryover for the programme in 2020; and the allocations for each respective forestry scheme that will be provided in 2020. — Jackie Cahill. [42488/19]

*196. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of farmers enrolled in the ANC scheme in 2019; the breakdown by each respective area designation including mountain type land, more severely handicapped lowland, less severely handicapped lowland and areas of specific constraints islands; the payment rate for each respective area designation; the amount of funding allocated to the scheme in 2019; the allocation made in Budget 2020 for the scheme in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [42504/19]

*197. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of farmers enrolled in the ANC scheme in 2019, by county; the number of farmers by county enrolled in the ANC by each respective area designation; the number of applicants to the scheme in 2019; the number of approved applicants by county that have received their 85% advance payment; the number of approved applicants that have not received their advance payment; and the number of applicants that were not approved into the scheme. — Charlie McConalogue. [42505/19]

*198. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a partial BPS payment will issue to a person (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [42532/19]

*199. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he discussed the fishing zones between Ireland and the UK and possible blockades and conflict at sea with his UK counterpart. — Micheál Martin. [42311/19]

*200. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which grant funding remains available for qualified or unqualified farmers for the construction of on-farm underpasses and bridges in cases in which health and safety standards have dropped significantly due to increased vehicular traffic levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42566/19]

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 steps to be taken following the publication of a report from the Environmental Protection Agency (details supplied). — Martin Heydon. [42508/19]

*202. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment his plans for improving the availability of mobile phone signals in rural Ireland and particularly within County Donegal at present; if he is dealing with this matter as a priority at present; his views on whether something can be achieved to alleviate this crisis of mobile phone coverage at present nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [42409/19]

*203. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the number of vehicles Inland Fisheries Ireland purchased in 2018 and to date in 2019; the type of vehicles purchased; the cost of each vehicle; and the cost of installing IFI logos on the new vehicles. — Seán Crowe. [42421/19]

*204. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the status of the broadband plan for rural Ireland; the details of the broadband officers for county councils nationwide; the mechanisms which may help persons that cannot get high speed broadband to the home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42446/19]

*205. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the process in order to avail of the new communal chargers for electric vehicles for apartment blocks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Rock. [42460/19]

*206. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the number of environmental economists employed by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [42472/19]

*207. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the status of an Eircode for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42529/19]

*208. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the extent to which he sees Ireland's climate action programme moving closer to international targets in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42555/19]

*209. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the extent to which he has measured the extent to which Ireland will reach its targets in respect of climate change in each of the next five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42556/19]

*210. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the degree to which non-fossil fuel generated electricity will become available to the national grid over the next five years; the extent to which this will affect carbon reduction levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42557/19]

*211. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the expected progress in the delivery of nationwide high speed, high quality broadband over the next five years; the way in which this will contribute to the creation of job opportunities in all locations nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42560/19]

*212. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the degree to which the quality and availability of mobile telephones services throughout Ireland compares with others throughout the European Union; the extent to which improvements can be achieved with minimal disruption; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42561/19]

*213. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the electricity requirements at peak times available nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42562/19]

*214. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the steps he will take to improve the availability and quality of mobile telephone services nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42563/19]

*215. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the amount of electricity generated from oil, coal, gas, biomass, solar, wind or wave generation; the extent to which this is expected to change within the next five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42564/19]

*216. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if a means can be found to incentivise a reduction in the use of non-biodegradable plastic wrappings and containers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42565/19]

*217. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment when broadband facilities will be extended to areas (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42567/19]

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

*218. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the number of environmental economists employed by the National Transport Authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [42473/19]

*219. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the arrangements his Department has made with the Department of Finance and the NTA to ensure that increases in carbon tax on fuel will not result in price hikes in public transport fares; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [42381/19]

*220. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the position regarding the rebate available to hauliers following the recent rise in carbon tax affecting cost of fuel and operating costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [42398/19]

*221. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if additional funding for the R232 Laghey to Pettigo regional road in County Donegal will be provided; if he will further commit to completing the ongoing upgrading of the road in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [42407/19]

*222. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the funding available for community and other groups marketing Ireland or holding events, festivals and so on internally and abroad as a destination based on the traditions of Halloween or Samhain; if there is national coordination of such a theme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jonathan O'Brien. [42418/19]

*223. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the status of progress towards facilitating digital payments acceptance in taxis and public transport providers; and the timelines for meetings deadlines committed to in this area. — Robert Troy. [42495/19]

*224. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the reason a promise made in Dáil Éireann in 1975 by the then Minister for Transport and Power, Peter Barry TD has not been honoured (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [42540/19]

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

*225. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the funding that will be provided to afterschool providers under the national childcare scheme to pay for the inclusion of support workers such as special needs assistants to safely meet the needs of young children with a disability and or autism that attend an afterschool service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [42417/19]

*226. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the amount spent by Tusla on external legal agencies in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42426/19]

*227. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the amount spent by Tusla on external agencies on Guardian ad Litem in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42427/19]

*228. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 1710 of 6 September 2019, the discussions that have taken place between her Department and an organisation (details supplied) in relation to historic files being held at the organisation's headquarters covering historic cases of child abuse, child sexual abuse, emotional abuse and physical abuse; the number of such files; the person charged with auditing these files; if these files have been incorporated into Tusla's work with the organisation's current review of its child safeguarding practices ahead of the publication of the written progress report due for publication at the end of October 2019; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42428/19]

*229. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 1710 of 6 September 2019, if she will be making public the written report from an organisation (details supplied) into its child safeguarding and reporting obligations which is due for publication

at the end of October 2019; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42429/19]

*230. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will be making public the report drawn up by a person (details supplied) into their review of child safeguarding standards in an organisation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42430/19]

*231. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will be making public an organisation's (details supplied) report into the historic review of files, as referenced in the organisation's report to her Department in March 2019; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42431/19]

*232. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the information passed on to the person suspected of alleged abuse in the social work assessment of a retrospective disclosure if it includes the personal details of the complainant; the statutory protocol being followed in doing same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42434/19]

*233. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 251 of 19 June 2019, the definitions of high, medium and low assigned by social workers when dealing with cases of retrospective abuse; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42435/19]

*234. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of persons dealing with cases of retrospective abuse in Tusla prior to them being assigned to a social worker; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42436/19]

*235. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the way in which the information relating to cases of retrospective abuse is stored by Tusla; the person or body that has access to the files; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42437/19]

*236. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if issues at a crèche (details supplied) were flagged with her Department; if so, when; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [42438/19]

*237. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if sufficient funding will be ring-fenced for a charity (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [42480/19]

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

*238. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the steps he will take in relation to a community centre (details supplied) which urgently requires funding to address health and safety problems; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Chambers. [42444/19]

*239. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development further to Budget 2020 the Exchequer amount allocated between current and capital allocations in 2020 to schemes and programmes (details supplied) in his Department in tabular form. — Dara Calleary. [42455/19]

*240. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development further to Budget 2020 the Exchequer amount allocated between current and capital expenditure in 2020 to the Western Development Commission in tabular form. — Dara Calleary. [42456/19]

*241. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development further to Budget 2020 the current and capital allocation in 2020 to the implementation of strategies (details supplied) in tabular form. — Dara Calleary. [42457/19]

*242. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development further to Budget 2020 the amount of dormant accounts funding allocated to social enterprises in 2020 for this funding stream. — Dara Calleary. [42458/19]

*243. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development further to Budget 2020 the current and capital amounts that will be allocated to the RAPID programme, community facilities scheme and community enhancement programme in 2020. — John Curran. [42462/19]

*244. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development further to Budget 2020 the current and capital funding to be allocated in 2020 under the RAPID programme, community facilities scheme and community enhancement programme to the Dublin north-east inner city area. — John Curran. [42463/19]

*245. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the number of responses received as part of the public consultation into the review of the Control of Dogs Act 1986; the timeline for the processing leading to his report on the consultation; the date on which he plans to publish same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [42501/19]

*246. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the amount available to each LAG for projects under the present Leader programme; the amount of expenditure approved for projects to date by LAG; the amount expended; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42514/19]

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

*247. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the steps she will take to include persons in receipt of a partial capacity payment as eligible to participate in training and education and upskilling opportunities for example Springboard in line with the eligibility of those in receipt of disability or jobseeker payments; her views on the unintended discriminatory nature of the ineligibility of those receiving a partial capacity payment and the impact it has on their efforts to secure employment in view of the ratification of the UNCRPD; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [42356/19]

*248. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the status of a carer's allowance application by a person (details supplied). — Tom Neville. [42359/19]

*249. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the reason those in receipt of illness benefit will not receive the Christmas bonus payment which is paid to those in receipt of other social protection payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [42405/19]

*250. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the number of recipients in the Dublin 7 area that receive domiciliary care whose child has a diagnosis of asthma. — Mary Lou McDonald. [42408/19]

*251. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the status of a household benefits package application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Tom Neville. [42443/19]

*252. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the number of students studying MEd (details supplied) that are in receipt of the back to education allowance. — Mary Lou McDonald. [42481/19]

*253. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection when the decision was made to roll out the front office back office model; if consultations took place ahead of the roll out; the reason for the move; the amount of savings that will be made from this model change; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [42485/19]

*254. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if the roll out of the front office back office model will lead to a reduction in staff; if so, the number; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [42486/19]

*255. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the way in which the roll out of the front office back office model will occur; the timeframe in place for same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [42487/19]

*256. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if a person (details supplied) in County Kerry received a carer's allowance payment for the 12 weeks after the passing of the person they were caring for; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [42492/19]

*257. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if a decision on an application for a fuel allowance can be reviewed in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [42493/19]

*258. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection further to changes in Budget 2020, the estimated cost of extending carer's and illness benefit to eligible self-employed class S PRSI contributors in 2021; and the first year and the full year cost of extending these benefits in tabular form. — Robert Troy. [42496/19]

*259. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the estimated take-up in the first full year of extending carer's and illness benefit to eligible self-employed class S PRSI contributors. — Robert Troy. [42497/19]

*260. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the estimated number of self-employed contributors that will be eligible for the jobseeker's benefit when introduced in late 2019 and over a full year; the estimated number of eligible contributors that will avail of the benefit in late 2019 and over a full year; the cost of extending the benefit in late 2019; the allocation made by her Department towards same; the estimated allocation for extending the benefit over a full year; and the allocation made by her Department for extending the benefit in 2020. — Robert Troy. [42498/19]

*261. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection further to Budget 2020 the allocations to both the rural social scheme and the farm assist scheme in 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [42503/19]

*262. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the details of her returnships for women announced in Budget 2020; the funding that has been allocated to this initiative; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [42506/19]

*263. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the number of meetings held and the progress made regarding the issue of pensions for community employment supervisors following the postponement of industrial action by supervisors in May 2019 for the final resolution of this dispute; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [42530/19]

*264. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection the purpose of her proposed research project to examine funeral poverty here; the amount allocated in Budget 2020; the details of the person or body carrying out the research; the range of matters to be addressed; the expected or planned timescale for completion; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [42531/19]

*265. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if the impact on the income disregard for the carer's allowance was given consideration in view of the increase in the hours permissible to work as announced as part of Budget 2020; if the income disregard for carers will be revised in view of the increase in the hours that they can work (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [42551/19]

*266. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection her views on the case of a person (details supplied) in relation to the calculation of means for an adult dependent; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [42599/19]

*267. To ask the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection if a family (details supplied) is eligible for the new two week paternity leave; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [42600/19]

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

*268. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the steps he is taking to support businesses concerned regarding the impact of commercial rates increases on the future of their business due to the national review; if he has consulted with other Ministerial colleagues in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42464/19]

*269. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the status of plans to support businesses concerned regarding the impact of commercial rates increases on their businesses futures due to the national review; if he has consulted with other Ministerial colleagues in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42536/19]

*270. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the reason tenants of Traveller specific homes are excluded from consideration under the terms of the incremental tenant purchase scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42363/19]

*271. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government his plans to take action in relation to illegal dumping on a foreshore (details supplied) without a foreshore licence; the reason for the delay in dealing with the matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42364/19]

*272. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the engagement he or his officials have had with the European Commission on the general scheme of the Land Development Agency Bill 2019; the nature, frequency and substance of this engagement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [42389/19]

*273. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 708 and 709 of 2 July 2019, if the revaluation of the commercial rates base for County Donegal will commence in the final quarter of 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat The Cope Gallagher. [42392/19]

*274. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the status of plans to support businesses concerned regarding the impact of commercial rates increases on their businesses futures due to the national review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42478/19]

*275. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the details of the €27 million reduction to local government as detailed in Budget 2020. — Eoin Ó Broin. [42483/19]

*276. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government the reason for the delay in implementing the new three year investment programme for water services in rural areas that was announced in February 2019 to be in place by the end of April 2019; when the changes will be rolled out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [42546/19]

*277. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if he will address concerns that Dublin City Council were involved in the payment of moneys relating to criminal activities at a social housing development in Dublin city; when his or a Minister of State at his Department's attention was drawn to this issue; the measures taken in response to ensure that such practices are not being carried out at other local authority social housing developments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [42548/19]

*278. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government if he or local authorities have the power to apply a discount to commercial rates in cases in which businesses have been adversely affected by roadworks resulting in reduced trade; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [42625/19]

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

*279. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht her views on a matter (details supplied) regarding the turf cutting ban; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42395/19]

*280. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht if the funding application process for Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann is being reviewed; if the Arts Council will have a role in such changes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [42415/19]

*281. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht his views on whether the National Parks and Wildlife Service had at its disposal adequate resources in order to deal with its responsibilities for protecting special areas of conservation, such as at a location (details supplied). — Maureen O’Sullivan. [42452/19]

*282. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht further to Budget 2020 the current and capital funding allocations in 2020 for each item (details supplied) in tabular form. — Dara Calleary. [42453/19]

*283. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht if the delay in the processing of a compensation payment for a person (details supplied) will be investigated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [42491/19]

*284. To ask the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht the number of bog SACs which have now been resolved; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42539/19]

*285. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta an gceapann sí go bhfuil cothrom na féinne á fáil ag Pobal na Gaeltachta agus na Gaeilge ós rud é go bhfuil €5 mhilliún sa bhreis á thabhairt don Chomhairle Ealaíon, ach nach bhfuil ach €2.4 milliún sa bhreis á thabhairt do Roinn na Gaeltachta i gcomhair na Gaeltachta, na Gaeilge, Fhoras na Gaeilge agus na n-oileán ar fad le chéile; An bhfuil cúrsaí ealaíon dhá oiread níos tábhachtaí ná inmharthanacht phobal labhartha na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht agus lasmuigh di; An lorgóidh an tAire breis maoinithe don Ghaeltacht agus don Ghaeilge sna Meastacháin Athbhreithnithe roimh an Nollaig. — Pearse Doherty. [42623/19]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH,
I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 17 DEIREADH FÓMHAIR, 2019
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 17 OCTOBER, 2019**

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

1. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the steps he will take to support small schools and the communities they serve. — Peter Burke. [42607/19]

2. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the measures in Budget 2020 which will contribute to a reduction in the pupil-teacher ratio in primary schools; the progress that has been made in previous years in reducing the pupil-teacher ratio; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McLoughlin. [42613/19]

3. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the progress on the acquisition by the Louth and Meath Education and Training Board of a permanent site for a school (details supplied); if his attention has been drawn to the lack of further education facilities in the County Meath area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42581/19]

4. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason for delays in the payment of teachers salaries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [42541/19]

5. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if the project brief for a school redevelopment project at a school (details supplied) has been finalised; when the brief will proceed to the next stage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [42602/19]

6. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he has satisfied himself that the provisions of the Education Act 1998 paragraph 18 (1) is not placing an unnecessary administrative financial burden on national schools; if he has satisfied himself that the insistence by an organisation (details supplied) that national schools must submit accounts online via an accountant, as opposed to school treasurer thus incurring a significant fee is not placing an unnecessary administrative financial burden on national schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bobby Aylward. [42354/19]

7. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the analysis his Department undertook of detailed submissions forwarded by community groups in relation to the proposed closure of two second-level schools (details supplied); if the analysis by his Department was brought to his attention; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42594/19]

8. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his attention has been drawn to the lack of provision for further education and the limited number of PLC courses available to those in the Dublin 15 and Dunboyne areas; if his attention has been further drawn to the number of young persons that lack opportunities to progress to third-level; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42579/19]

9. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of a development at a school (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [41416/19]

10. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of the project brief for a school redevelopment project at a school (details supplied); the most recent contacts with the school patron in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [42601/19]

11. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the details of the planned programme for school building for 2020; if the capital spending programme will meet the demands expected in primary, secondary and third levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [42577/19]

12. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if teaching principals in small and medium schools will be supported in recognition of their administrative responsibilities. — Pat Deering. [42603/19]

13. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the projects likely to be impacted by recent cuts to the projected capital spend envisaged for his Department in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [42545/19]

14. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to meet with a deputation (details supplied) in relation to the delivery of second-level education in north west County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42593/19]

15. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the additional recruitment in schools which will take place as a result of Budget 2020; the progress made in school recruitment since mid-2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McLoughlin. [42614/19]

16. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais agus Scileanna an bhfuil sé i gceist aige deontas céad faoin gcéad a thabhairt isteach arís chun go gclúdfar an costas a bhaineann leis an tréimhse a chaitheann ábhair oidí sa Ghaeltacht mar chuid riachtanach dá gcúrsaí; agus an ndéanfaidh sé ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42351/19]

17. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the impact of the bereavement supports introduced for the leaving certificate in summer 2019 have had to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [42610/19]

18. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his views on the lack of access to counselling for second-level students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [41410/19]

19. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason for the reduction of the capital budget in Budget 2020 for his Department. — Thomas Byrne. [42524/19]

20. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if children in ASD units receive follow-up assessments and checks to ensure their educational needs are met; the way in which this is monitored and reported; if separate funding is made available for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42589/19]

21. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason for his decision to give history special core status. — Pat Deering. [42604/19]

22. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his attention has been drawn to the frustration of school secretaries at the delay in actions that would have their pay and conditions put on a par with all other public servants; his views on the matter; and if he will work towards a speedy resolution that avoids potential industrial action at schools. — Niamh Smyth. [42353/19]

23. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to address the number of primary and secondary schools using temporary premises for their schools; the checks that take place by his Department to insure these temporary premises are fit for purpose; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [42575/19]

24. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the efforts he is making to support small schools; the measures in Budget 2020 which assist small schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [42609/19]

25. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if works on permanent places for all colleges of further education have been ceased in 2019 pending the completion of a review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Byrne. [42525/19]

26. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the actions he is taking for September 2020 to address unmet demand for school places for children with special needs. — Thomas Byrne. [42527/19]

27. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the further actions he will take to accelerate the narrowing of the gap between DEIS and non-DEIS schools and further improve the outcomes for those attending DEIS schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [41421/19]

28. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he is satisfied with the new criteria for Irish exemptions as announced on 12 August 2019; the way in which he can address concerns of many that this new criteria has led to downgrading of Irish as a thought subject in schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maureen O’Sullivan. [42345/19]

29. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to introduce history as a core subject on the junior cycle. — Thomas Byrne. [42526/19]

30. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if teaching principals in small and medium schools will be supported in recognition of their administrative responsibilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [42611/19]

31. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason for the decision to give history special core status for the junior cycle. — Peter Burke. [42608/19]

32. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the way in which and when he will ensure that all school secretaries are properly remunerated for the important work they do; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [41412/19]

33. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the discussions he has had with the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to ensure comprehensive transport services for a radius of at least 45 kilometres from towns and cities with third-level institutions in view of the fact that under 45 kilometres his Department, through SUSI, only pay the adjacent rate grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42350/19]

34. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the impact the cut to the education capital budget will have in view of the 471 schools that are in temporary buildings and numerous other schools promised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42588/19]

35. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the steps he is taking to support the children identified in the counties of Roscommon and Mayo audiology misdiagnosis within the education system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [41801/19]

36. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if additional core funding has been provided for the third level education sector in Budget 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Martin. [42439/19]

37. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of the talks in relation to industrial action being undertaken by school secretaries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [42542/19]

38. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the additional funding provided for higher level student supports in Budget 2020, in particular for SUSI; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Martin. [42440/19]

39. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of the site acquisition to accommodate a school (details supplied); the timeline of works to ensure that the school campus is completed as soon as possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [41413/19]

40. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the degree to which he expects class sizes and student teacher ratios to improve in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42553/19]

41. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his views on the limited increase in the capitation grants in view of the number of schools which struggle to cover their running costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42582/19]

42. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of students that have availed of bereavement arrangements since the pilot scheme was introduced in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [42612/19]

43. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the progress in identifying possible sites for the proposed new school building for a school (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [42597/19]

44. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if the €19 million drop in capital spending arising from his post-budget statement will affect school building projects in the Dublin 7 and Dublin 15 areas, in particular for schools (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42578/19]

45. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his Department receives feedback from principals of secondary schools regarding the need for special education classes including those schools already taking students from ASD schools at primary level; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [41411/19]

46. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to include school secretaries in full-time year-long remuneration with full rights and employment entitlements as enjoyed by others working in the public sector. — Peadar Tóibín. [39523/19]

47. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais agus Scileanna cén fáth nach bhfuil sé chun ábhar éigeantach a dhéanamh athuair den stair i gcomhair an Teastais Shóisearaigh, agus cad iad a thuairimí ar an ábhar sin. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [41408/19]

48. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his hosting of a symposium on small schools before summer 2019 and his introduction of changes to the PTR for small schools and additional release days for teaching principals, signals a policy shift to support small schools. — Tom Neville. [42606/19]

49. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of the process to move a school (details supplied) to tender stage; the status of conveyancing of the site; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [42596/19]

50. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the progress of the new building for a school (details supplied) in County Kildare; the timeline for completion; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [42513/19]

51. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the steps he is taking to support rural schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [41800/19]

52. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the situation of schools affected by an issue with a company (details supplied); if a full independent review will be conducted; if so, when such a review will take place; and the mechanisms his Department is using to procure the school building programme. — Bríd Smith. [42576/19]

53. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to establish a digital literacy education programme at both primary and secondary level in schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [42544/19]

54. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais agus Scileanna an bhfuil sé chun aon athrú a dhéanamh ar an éagóir atá i gceist maidir leis na táillí suntasacha is gá d'ábhair múinteoirí a íoc as an gcoicís éigeantach a chaitheann said sa Ghaeltacht mar chuid den chúrsa bunmhúinteoireachta i mbliain a haon agus i mbliain a trí den chúrsa, agus an bhfuil sé i gceist aige an táille a ísliú nó deireadh a chur léi. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [41407/19]

55. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if the 1,000 SNA positions announced in Budget 2020 are additional to the 900 announced in 2019; the number of the 900 positions that have been filled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42352/19]

56. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the level of funding for accommodation adaptation available to the schools in the Dublin 7 and 15 areas that have been served with notices pursuant to section 37A of the Education Act 1998; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [42580/19]

57. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the details of additional provision made for student accommodation in Budget 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Ryan. [42595/19]

58. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to develop a strategy to address the falling university rankings. — Thomas Byrne. [42528/19]

59. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of school building projects at stage 2B detailed design; the number that have been at this stage for up to 1, 1 to 3, 3 to 5, 5 to 7, 7 to 10 and more than 10 years, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [41420/19]

60. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will consider changing the status of turntables to deem them musical instruments on the school curriculum; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tom Neville. [42605/19]

61. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the extent to which he expects the teaching requirements of children with special needs will be met in the coming year with particular reference to the availability of special needs teachers, special needs assistants, speech and languages therapists and occupational therapists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42552/19]

62. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if the contracts of employment of SNAs allow for the loss of employment of a SNA worker in a school following a SENO assessment in which it is deemed a position is not required for example; the security of employment or guarantee of another position elsewhere for SNAs affected by such an assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [42591/19]

63. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he has considered the CIPFA report initiated by the ETB and brought to his attention in July 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maureen O’Sullivan. [42344/19]

64. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the progress of a new building for a school (details supplied) in County Laois; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O’Loughlin. [42512/19]

65. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the way in which funding for apprenticeships was allocated by his Department; and if preference was given to rural areas in such allocations. — Martin Kenny. [30218/19]

66. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason for the apparent overpayments by his Department in purchasing land intended for new schools in Dublin specifically the purchase of sites in Harold’s Cross and Sandymount; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [42543/19]