



# **DÁIL ÉIREANN**

*Dé Céadaoin, 23 Meán Fómhair, 2020*

*Wednesday, 23rd September, 2020*

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**CEISTEANNA  
QUESTIONS**



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**Ministerial and Departmental titles have been updated on this Question Paper in anticipation of the relevant Government orders to give legal effect to the Taoiseach's announcement in Dáil Éireann on 27 June 2020.**

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

**Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.**

1. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the establishment of a social dialogue unit in his Department. — Alan Kelly. [23765/20]
2. To ask the Taoiseach his plans to establish a unit in his Department to coordinate social dialogue. — Mary Lou McDonald. [23928/20]
3. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Environment and Climate Change will next meet. — Alan Kelly. [23766/20]
4. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Cabinet committee on the Environment and Climate Change. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25393/20]
5. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee which addresses Environment and Climate Change will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [25606/20]
6. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee on Environment and Climate Change will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25610/20]
7. To ask the Taoiseach if he has spoken to elected representatives in the Northern Ireland Assembly following recent statements and actions by the UK Prime Minister on Brexit. — Sorca Clarke. [24107/20]
8. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his engagements with political leaders in Northern Ireland. — Alan Kelly. [25028/20]
9. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his plans for a new Citizens Assembly in 2021. — Alan Kelly. [25030/20]
10. To ask the Taoiseach the financial and staff resources that will be made available to the shared island unit. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [25179/20]
11. To ask the Taoiseach if he is in a position to finalise the membership of the Media Commission. — Richard Bruton. [16500/20]
12. To ask the Taoiseach his plans for a high level review of the economy to be led by his Department. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25392/20]

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13. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Coordination Committee last met. — Alan Kelly. [25396/20]

14. To ask the Taoiseach the Cabinet committee which deals with matters related to the Defence Forces and security. — Alan Kelly. [25397/20]

15. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the economic division of his Department. — Alan Kelly. [25398/20]

16. To ask the Taoiseach if he will create a new Ireland forum to bring together civil and political society to start to work towards further all-Ireland integration and unity. — Peadar Tóibín. [25415/20]

17. To ask the Taoiseach the amount spent by his Department on advertising online, broadcast and print advertising in each of the past five years. — Peadar Tóibín. [25601/20]

18. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee which addresses the Economy will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [25608/20]

19. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee on Arts and Culture will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25611/20]

20. To ask the Taoiseach if the Citizens' Assembly will examine the practicalities of what a united Ireland would entail. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [25613/20]

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

**Chun an Aire Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide agus Líonraí Cumarsáide: To the Minister for Climate Action and Communication Networks.**

\*21. To ask the Minister for Climate Action and Communication Networks if he will assist a company (details supplied) with the provision of broadband in view of the effect it is having on its business and potential expansion; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25800/20]

*Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.*

\*22. To ask the Minister for Transport if a station at Ballybough to service Ballybough, Croke Park, East Point and north Docklands will be considered in the DART extension programme. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25694/20]

\*23. To ask the Minister for Transport the financial penalties that will be applied to companies by the NTA as a result of the bus services provided by them not meeting the targets set out in its contract. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25848/20]

\*24. To ask the Minister for Transport the costs incurred to date in developing the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy. — Duncan Smith. [25705/20]

\*25. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of an application for a taxi licence by a person (details supplied); and when they can expect a decision on the application. — Chris Andrews. [25725/20]

\*26. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the unsatisfactory delays in the processing of driver licences; the efforts being made to improve the processing of times for new driver licences and in the renewal of driver licences; if consideration will be given to developing an online system for the renewal of driver licences; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [25764/20]

\*27. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department will intervene in cases in which Irish persons that booked package holidays before the Covid-19 lockdown that were cancelled that cannot get a cash refund on this holiday or despite booking via a tour operator are being referred to the airline to claim the refund on this portion of the package; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [25770/20]

\*28. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of a roads project (details supplied); the timeline for completion; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25808/20]

\*29. To ask the Minister for Transport the legal provisions that regulate the purchase, ownership and use of scrambler bikes; his plans to legislate to provide for a minimum age of ownership and registration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [25829/20]

\*30. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the fact that many persons that in complying with public health advice to refrain from travelling to particular countries during the Covid-19 pandemic have incurred substantial losses as a result of airline companies' refusal to refund them by stating that their flights are still departing; if he has had meetings with airlines to address the matter; his plans to compel airlines and or hotels to refund customers that cannot travel as a result of public health advice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [25832/20]

\*31. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of subvention payment granted to Irish Rail, Dublin Bus, Bus Éireann and Luas in 2018, 2019 and 2020; if he or his predecessor granted supplementary funds to these companies in 2020; if these companies requested additional funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [25835/20]

\*32. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has conducted assessment and or evaluation of the levels of subvention public transport operators will require for the remainder of 2020, 2021 and 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [25836/20]

\*33. To ask the Minister for Transport if the electrification of the Maynooth rail line will continue as announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [25837/20]

\*34. To ask the Minister for Transport when the range of route options for the proposed new motorway between Limerick and Cork will be whittled down; when; the planning freeze applied to the townland of Derryknockane, Rosbrien, Limerick is likely to be lifted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [25855/20]

\*35. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the review of the Shannon Group; when a decision will be made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [25909/20]

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\*36. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will report on the formulation of a new national aviation policy; if there will be a public and or stakeholder consultation as part of this much needed review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [25914/20]

\*37. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures he will introduce to address the lengthening waiting lists for driver tests in County Wexford; the number waiting nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [25916/20]

\*38. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of plans to improve Primatestown junction, Kilmoon Cross to Rath roundabout, County Meath. — Darren O'Rourke. [25919/20]

\*39. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of Slane bypass. — Darren O'Rourke. [25920/20]

\*40. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of mobility plans and the expansion of cycling and pedestrian networks nationwide. — Darren O'Rourke. [25921/20]

\*41. To ask the Minister for Transport the way in which he plans to increase the number of children taking active travel to and from school. — Darren O'Rourke. [25922/20]

\*42. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to expand the park and ride network. — Darren O'Rourke. [25923/20]

\*43. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the Luas extension. — Darren O'Rourke. [25924/20]

\*44. To ask the Minister for Transport the roads that will not be progressed in view of the Programme for Government plan to divert spending away from roads to public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [25925/20]

\*45. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of his plans to support the taxi industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [25926/20]

\*46. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of his plans to support the limousine and chauffeur industry. — Darren O'Rourke. [25927/20]

\*47. To ask the Minister for Transport when the national transport forum will be established. — Darren O'Rourke. [25928/20]

\*48. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the review of LocalLink with a view to providing an expanded service. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [25960/20]

\*49. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional supports will be provided to Shannon Heritage sites to ensure that they can open in the winter months. — Cathal Crowe. [17287/20]

\*50. To ask the Minister for Transport if discussions have taken place on providing funding for a feasibility study of the Navan to Kingscourt railway line; if the matter will be given consideration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [16585/20]

\*51. To ask the Minister for Transport if discussions have taken place in relation to providing funding for the east west link road and rural roads in general; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [16586/20]

\*52. To ask the Minister for Transport if persons with flights booked to countries not on the green list will be entitled to a refund for their flights under the new regulations; if the matter will be discussed with the airlines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [18464/20]

\*53. To ask the Minister for Transport when Irish Rail, Dublin Bus and Bus Éireann will resume full services in view of the pressures on existing services with reduced capacity due to Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [15994/20]

\*54. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will intervene to stop the cutting of the school bus service previously contracted by Dublin Bus. — Paul Murphy. [16041/20]

\*55. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the review of LocalLink with a view to providing an expanded service. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [25898/20]

\*56. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to develop a public procurement framework for electric vehicles. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [25899/20]

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

\*57. To ask the Minister for Finance the actions he is taking to ensure the SBCI are providing extensions to Covid-19 payment breaks for firms that are impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [25790/20]

\*58. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason for extending the help to buy scheme; when the changes were applied; if consideration was given to backdating the stimulus scheme from March 2020 when the Covid-19 lockdown occurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25917/20]

\*59. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will address a matter (details supplied) in relation to business under pressure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [25918/20]

\*60. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding the cost of insurance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25792/20]

\*61. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount NAMA has made available to developers in loan facilities to complete projects by year up to the end of quarter 2 2020. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25841/20]

\*62. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount NAMA has paid out to date for repair and maintenance of properties in its portfolio. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25845/20]

\*63. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount of interest paid on the national debt in 2020 that was contracted since 2008. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25846/20]

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\*64. To ask the Minister for Finance the details of empty properties and land banks that have not yet been sold with regard to the assets of NAMA; and the negotiations that have taken place to acquire these homes for social and or affordable housing. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25847/20]

\*65. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has had discussions with a bank (details supplied) in relation to reports regarding the possible closure of another bank here which would result in the closure of 88 branches, the loss of 2,500 jobs and would further reduce banking competition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [25860/20]

\*66. To ask the Minister for Finance if minimum public service obligations will be introduced for banks to help ensure the retention or provision of basic financial services in rural towns and villages such as the seaside resort town of Ballybunion, County Kerry, which faces having no banking or ATM service after 9pm; if he will engage with the regulator on the broader subject and with the banks on the case; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25868/20]

\*67. To ask the Minister for Finance if guidance has been provided to the audio-visual sector on the correct application of section 481 tax relief in the context of increased costs associated with operating within Covid-19 health and safety guidelines. — Niamh Smyth. [25904/20]

\*68. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the application of section 481 relief for productions which have been abandoned as a result of Covid-19. — Niamh Smyth. [25905/20]

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

\*69. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his plans to develop a public procurement framework for electric vehicles. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [25961/20]

\*70. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the current policy regarding the archiving or storing of monuments or other significant materials held by the OPW; the cost of such storage; if there are set parameters on the way in which and when such pieces may be on public display; and his views on potential damage to these items in view of the conditions in which they are held or stored. — Eoghan Murphy. [25729/20]

\*71. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his plans to bring a landmark site (details supplied) back into use and open to the public to draw much needed tourism to Drogheda town centre; if a financial assessment has been undertaken to ascertain the overall cost to bring the landmark back into use; if so, the cost; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O’Dowd. [25903/20]

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

\*72. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht her plans to safeguard the jobs of the 35,000 persons in the arts and entertainment industry that have been locked out of their employment when they and their families have been waiting six months in an industry worth €3.5 billion to the economy annually, for a particular plan for their industry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25742/20]



\*73. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht her plans to appoint a nominee from the commercial live events sector onto the Arts and Culture Recovery Taskforce; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [25712/20]

\*74. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht the current policy regarding the archiving of works of art or monuments owned by the State and State institutions or in their trust; the cost of such archiving; if there are set parameters on the way in which and when such pieces may be on public display; and her views on potential damage to the items in view of the conditions in which they are held or stored. — Eoghan Murphy. [25728/20]

\*75. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht her plans for the €3.5 billion entertainment industry that employs 35,000 persons; the timeline for the €6 million pilot project; when she expects to publish the findings of this pilot project; and the number of seats she plans to offer to this industry on the planned recovery taskforce. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25743/20]

\*76. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht the amount it would cost in 2021 if the budget for Screen Ireland increased by 10%. — Richard O'Donoghue. [25747/20]

\*77. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht if Údarás na Gaeltachta will provide grant aid to a business (details supplied) in County Kerry for roof repairs to its premises; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25866/20]

\*78. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht her plans to continue to support independent producers of content for the audio-visual sector in 2021. — Niamh Smyth. [25900/20]

\*79. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht her views on the establishment of an insurance bond scheme for the audio-visual sector. — Niamh Smyth. [25901/20]

\*80. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht the status of engagements with RTÉ to address funding issues identified at the broadcaster. — Niamh Smyth. [25902/20]

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

\*81. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when a deer licence will be issued to a person (details supplied). — Niall Collins. [25852/20]

\*82. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps that have been taken in the past six months to address the seal population problem here (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [25859/20]

\*83. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of applicants on the RAS and HAP housing transfer lists. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25700/20]

\*84. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated full cost of emergency accommodation in 2019; and the projected cost for 2020 and 2021 by local authority

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and type of emergency accommodation, that is, hotels, bed and breakfasts, hostels and family hubs. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25701/20]

\*85. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of housing applicants on local authority lists. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25714/20]

\*86. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average cost of building council housing on publicly-owned land that is fully serviced. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25715/20]

\*87. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average cost of building 1 to 4-bed homes on fully serviced publicly-owned land. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25716/20]

\*88. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated cost to provide a home to each person on local authority homeless lists, that is, excluding use of the private rental market in 2021. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25717/20]

\*89. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated amount it would cost to increase Part V from 10% to a statutory minimum of 20%. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25720/20]

\*90. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of vacant properties here; the number suitable for social housing; and the number that have been considered for acquisition by local authorities by authority. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25721/20]

\*91. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on a matter (details supplied) regarding financial assistance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25763/20]

\*92. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average cost of one, two, three and four-bedroomed local authority new build units on the basis of costings submitted by local authorities over the past 12 months; the details of all in costs and construction only costs; and the itemised costed list of the individual non-construction costs for each unit size. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25774/20]

\*93. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the cost of Part V social housing units by local authority in each of the years 2015 to 2019; the average cost of each unit by local authority for the same period; the number of leased Part V units by local authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25775/20]

\*94. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the cost of social housing capital investment programme units by local authority in each of the years 2015 to 2019; the cost of each unit by local authority for the same period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25776/20]

\*95. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the cost of capital assistance scheme units by local authority in each of the years 2015 to 2019; the cost of each unit by local authority for the same period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25777/20]

\*96. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the cost of capital advance leasing facility units by local authority in each of the years 2015 to 2019; the cost of each unit by local authority for the same period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25778/20]

\*97. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the cost of a turnkey social housing units by local authority from 2015 to 2019; the cost of each unit by local authority for the same period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25779/20]

\*98. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated average price reduction per unit provided under the local infrastructure housing activation fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25780/20]

\*99. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the timeframe for the delivery of affordable units under the local infrastructure housing activation fund; the location of the units on a local authority basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25781/20]

\*100. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the drawdown of funding under LIHAF to date by project; the number of units delivered per project to date; the number projected per project; the number of affordable units to be provided per project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25782/20]

\*101. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of local authority voids returned to stock in each year in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date in 2020; the number of voids in each local authority; the location of these voids within each local authority; the cost per unit of bringing each unit back in stock in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date in 2020; the average turnaround time per year of bringing each unit back in stock; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [25783/20]

\*102. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason for the delay in carrying out an environmental impact assessment at the Derrybrien wind farm as required under a 2008 Court of Justice of the European Union ruling case c-215/06; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [25820/20]

\*103. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a person (details supplied) is entitled to have an inspection completed on their septic tank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [25830/20]

\*104. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the issue of deer hunting licences (details supplied) will be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [25875/20]

\*105. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the details of ongoing or planned housing developments in County Roscommon; the location and the make-up of the developments; the estimated completion time for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [25915/20]

\*106. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if financial support will be provided to local authorities as an emergency fund to ensure that revenue and services will be

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maintained during the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [25933/20]

\*107. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if local authorities will be entitled to retain 100% of the local property tax in 2020 and 2021 as an emergency measure to ensure that revenue and services will be maintained during the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [25935/20]

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

\*108. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if Ireland has been requested or has offered assistance in terms of accommodating some refugees from Greece in view of the recent fires at the Moira Camp on the Island of Lesbos; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [25789/20]

\*109. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 369 of 15 September 2020, if persons applying to join the election observation roster in 2018 had to supply details of their address to his Department; if his Departmental officials stored the addresses on computer packages such as spreadsheets; if they remain available; if a breakdown of successful applicants from the island of Ireland and the rest of the world based on available records will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [25876/20]

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

\*110. To ask the Minister for Defence when construction works on a new gymnastics at Sarsfield Barracks, Limerick will be completed; and the estimated cost of the project. — Richard O'Donoghue. [25746/20]

\*111. To ask the Minister for Defence if he will reconsider the awarding of distinguished service medals for gallantry to the men of A Company 35th Infantry Battalion that engaged and survived the 1961 Siege of Jadotville in the Congolese province of Katanga; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25807/20]

*Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.*

\*112. To ask the Minister for Education the person or body responsible for ensuring that secondary school students wear face coverings on Bus Éireann school buses. — Neale Richmond. [25708/20]

\*113. To ask the Minister for Education the efforts her Department and agencies under her remit are making to address the shortage in school bus transport; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [25929/20]

\*114. To ask the Minister for Education when the adult and child charter in the Education Act 1998 will be enacted; and the number of persons with a qualified primary degree in child welfare are employed within her Department. — Emer Higgins. [25706/20]

\*115. To ask the Minister for Education the procedure or policy for a person (details supplied) that cannot return to the workplace due to the high risk of Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [25724/20]

\*116. To ask the Minister for Education the timeline for the tendering, construction and opening of the new schools on Harold's Cross Road, Dublin 6 West. — Eoghan Murphy. [25730/20]

\*117. To ask the Minister for Education if a return to school form will be considered similar to the one used for the GAA return to play (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25733/20]

\*118. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the decision to remove from admission policies a preference for siblings in Dublin Catholic schools; if her Department was consulted on this move; and if this is regarded as a source of difficulty in achieving equitable admission in view of the considerable inconvenience for parents affected. — Richard Bruton. [25734/20]

\*119. To ask the Minister for Education if she will fast-track a tender process for a new build for a college (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [25738/20]

\*120. To ask the Minister for Education if she will fast-track a tender process for a new build (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [25739/20]

\*121. To ask the Minister for Education : if she will provide the necessary funding and instruct Bus Éireann to immediately roll-out the 50% capacity on the post-primary school transport in view of the fact that only 20% of services are currently in compliance with the 18 August 2020 public health advice; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25751/20]

\*122. To ask the Minister for Education the evidential support and scientific basis available to her Department underpinning the advice in respect of the wearing of face coverings in post-primary schools; if this guidance is in accordance with the advice given by the World Health Organisation on this issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [25768/20]

\*123. To ask the Minister for Education if there will be schemes put in place for children carrying heavy school bags to avail of wheeled bags or technological-based solutions due to closure of school lockers to prevent groups gathering as a result of Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [25769/20]

\*124. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding a new school project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25809/20]

\*125. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding the provision of a new school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25810/20]

\*126. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding a new school project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25811/20]

\*127. To ask the Minister for Education her views on a school (details supplied) which is seeking an additional allocation of SNAs to meet the increased demand for special educational resources within the student cohort; and if the application will be supported. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [25833/20]

\*128. To ask the Minister for Education when a decision will be made on the sitting of the leaving certificate for the class of 2021 taking into consideration that traditional exam settings may not be suitable in view of social distancing requirements; if predicted grades will be used during the

leaving certificate for the class of 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [25838/20]

\*129. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated full year cost of measures (details supplied). — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25850/20]

\*130. To ask the Minister for Education the number of primary and post-primary schools that have provided a mobile number for a designated contact following communication from her Department on 8 September 2020; and the recourse if a mobile number for a designated contact is not provided. — Gary Gannon. [25871/20]

\*131. To ask the Minister for Education the reason for requesting teachers that re-register with the Teaching Council to furnish original transcripts of their qualifications in view of the fact their credentials are available by accessing DES teachers number and PPS number; the consideration that will be given to streamlining and simplifying the process for those returning to teaching; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [25878/20]

\*132. To ask the Minister for Education if a series of matters raised in a joint submission by two schools (details supplied) will be addressed; if the schools will receive assistance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [25937/20]

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

\*133. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if recipients of the Covid-19 pandemic unemployment payment paid at the top rate will be made eligible for free Springboard courses; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [25771/20]

\*134. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the amount paid out annually in rent allowance in 2019 and to date in 2020; and the projected amount for the remainder of 2020 and 2021. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25688/20]

\*135. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full year cost of ensuring the State contributory and non-contributory pensions are available to all those that reach 65 years of age. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25689/20]

\*136. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost of reinstating the transitional pension. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25690/20]

\*137. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost to introduce a universal State pension of €250 weekly and reduce the pension age to 65 years of age. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25691/20]

\*138. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the funds saved following the transfer of recipients of rent allowance to HAP, leasing arrangements and RAS have then been transferred to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage; the organisation responsible for the latter payments; and if so, the amount in each of the years since the commencement of the payments. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25693/20]

\*139. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost of reinstating a concurrent payment of half-rate illness benefit and jobseeker’s benefit in addition to one parent family payment and widow’s and widower’s pensions. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25695/20]

\*140. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost to increase child benefit in respect of children over 12 years of age by €30. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25697/20]

\*141. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost of reversing cuts to the back to education allowance. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25699/20]

\*142. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to immediately reinstate the full rate per week of the employment wage subsidy scheme and pandemic unemployment payment payments to those persons employed in the events and entertainment industry until they are allowed to return to work; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [25711/20]

\*143. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way in which receipt of the pandemic unemployment payment will affect the determination of average weekly earnings for PRSI-based social welfare payments, for example, jobseeker's benefit when 2020 is the relevant tax year, for example, in 2022. — Thomas Gould. [25744/20]

\*144. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the social welfare supports available to a person (details supplied) who is an Irish citizen but resides in England. — Chris Andrews. [25773/20]

\*145. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the extension of the restriction on redundancy rights precludes a laid-off worker who cannot afford to wait to be rehired and takes another job, and loses their entitlement to redundancy lump sum payments from the original employer; and if they will qualify for that redundancy payment at a future date when the restrictions are lifted. — Louise O'Reilly. [25786/20]

\*146. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of carer's allowance applications over the past three years in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25799/20]

\*147. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if time spent on a Covid-19 payment will be allowed as a qualifying period for VTOS courses and studies; if there has been discussion with the Department of Education on same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25813/20]

\*148. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost to increase social welfare payments to 2009 levels. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25840/20]

\*149. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost of measures (details supplied). — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25849/20]

\*150. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on a carer's allowance appeal in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25869/20]

\*151. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if pandemic unemployment payment applicants can close their claim to take on a period of work and then go back on the payment by making a new claim; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [25870/20]

\*152. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on a review of a decision on a invalidity pension appeal in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25872/20]

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\*153. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the social welfare complaints made by Aer Lingus employees that they have been prevented from claiming the temporary wage subsidy scheme and or the employment wage subsidy scheme and the short time work support scheme have been addressed; if the matter of back pay and the unfairness of no back pay being awarded for the employees that have been prevented from claiming both social welfare schemes for months have been addressed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [25930/20]

\*154. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of social welfare applicants that have been in receipt of both the temporary wage subsidy scheme and the short time work support scheme together by week in each of the past six months; the number of social welfare applicants that have been in receipt of both the employment wage subsidy scheme and the short time work support scheme together since the employment wage subsidy scheme was introduced in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [25931/20]

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

\*155. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the estimated average cost of keeping one young person in remand in a youth justice remand facility for one year. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25726/20]

\*156. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the average estimated cost of recruiting four youth workers, one team leader and an administration person in the youth work sector for one year. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25727/20]

\*157. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the budget allocation for the Ombudsman for Children's Office in each of the years of 2018 to 2020, in tabular form. — Richard O'Donoghue. [25748/20]

\*158. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if his attention has been drawn to an issue (details supplied) being experienced by childcare providers; if he will address the issue as a matter of priority with Pobal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [25842/20]

\*159. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if he will address a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25854/20]

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

\*160. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he has engaged with private accommodation providers regarding returning deposits to students that will not be availing of student accommodation due to the blended learning format of the 2020/2021 academic year. — Mattie McGrath. [25741/20]

\*161. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of learners that can be facilitated in accordance with public health guidelines in both further education and higher education settings; if specific arrangements have been put in place to



complete courses in the further education area that were interrupted by Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [25762/20]

\*162. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he has reviewed the plans for the safe return of students to third-level education produced by individual institutions; if he is satisfied that these plans are in line with his Department guidelines published in July 2020, the HSE approval guidelines from an association (details supplied) in addition to the Living with Covid plan published in September 2020; if he is satisfied that the institutions have accurately interpreted the two metre social distancing rule; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [25766/20]

\*163. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if sole traders registered with the Revenue Commissioners can be made eligible for free Springboard courses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [25772/20]

\*164. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider reviewing the residency clause of the Student Support Act 2011 in order that the children of returning Irish emigrants are not discriminated against by not being in the State for three out of the previous five years prior to their student grant application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [25853/20]

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

\*165. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will address a matter regarding the case of persons (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [25692/20]

\*166. To ask the Minister for Justice if the additional three-week parental leave will be enacted as soon as possible (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25696/20]

\*167. To ask the Minister for Justice the provisions in place for the regulation of property management companies; and her plans to introduce further provisions for the regulation of property management companies. — Paul Murphy. [25719/20]

\*168. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to publish the eighth report of the Implementation Oversight Group relating to the Implementation of Penal Policy Review Group Recommendations. — Patrick Costello. [25793/20]

\*169. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of fine defaulters that have received community service in lieu of prison time in the past four years by county. — Patrick Costello. [25794/20]

\*170. To ask the Minister for Justice the position regarding tackling violent crimes involving knives; the new initiatives under way to address the issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [25795/20]

\*171. To ask the Minister for Justice the actions taken to date to monitor the prevalence and frequency of persons carrying knife-like instruments on their persons; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [25796/20]

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\*172. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of knives seized by An Garda Síochána in Cork city and county in 2019; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [25797/20]

\*173. To ask the Minister for Justice if a person (details supplied) is eligible for a work permit; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [25826/20]

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

\*174. To ask the Minister for Health if a person (details supplied) in County Cork may be entitled to a payment of gratuity since retiring on health grounds from the HSE in 2002. — Sean Sherlock. [25713/20]

\*175. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding hospital restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [25702/20]

\*176. To ask the Minister for Health if adequate stockpiles of the flu vaccine have been secured; the reason for the delay in securing these and rolling out the flu vaccine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [25703/20]

\*177. To ask the Minister for Health the assistance and treatment that can be offered in the case of a person (details supplied). — Bernard J. Durkan. [25707/20]

\*178. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which further interaction or discussion has taken place between the HSE and a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [25709/20]

\*179. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that primary care centres built under a public private partnership arrangement cannot be structurally altered without a formal approval by the PPP company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [25710/20]

\*180. To ask the Minister for Health if a baby swimming company providing a structured lessons to parents and children in which they do not interact or share equipment and in a chlorinated environment would fall under the same restrictions as gyms, leisure centres and swimming pools if they were situated in an area with phase 3 Covid-19 restrictions. — Paul Donnelly. [25718/20]

\*181. To ask the Minister for Health the number of mental health beds available in each CHO; and the number of persons waiting for beds. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25722/20]

\*182. To ask the Minister for Health if it is mandatory for retail staff to wear face coverings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [25723/20]

\*183. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that diverting speech and language therapists risks disrupting service at a critical time and disrupting the pipeline of work experience for graduates. — Richard Bruton. [25737/20]

\*184. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to the inclusion of a drug for a person (details supplied) on their long-term illness card in view of the fact that this is prescribed by their consultant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [25740/20]

\*185. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [25745/20]

\*186. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding access to the drug dupilumab for eczema sufferers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [25752/20]

\*187. To ask the Minister for Health the status of elective surgeries with particular emphasis on orthopaedic surgeries in University Hospital Kerry. — Pa Daly. [25753/20]

\*188. To ask the Minister for Health the efforts being made to find independent living for the 97 residents under 65 years of age that are currently residing in private nursing homes in the midwest region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [25755/20]

\*189. To ask the Minister for Health the efforts being made to find independent living for the eight residents under 65 years of age that are currently residing in public nursing homes in the midwest region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [25756/20]

\*190. To ask the Minister for Health when the PMO will sign off on renewal applications for the hardship scheme that are currently pending in the Cork, Clare and Limerick local health offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [25759/20]

\*191. To ask the Minister for Health if Ireland will officially recognise Covid-19 as an occupational illness given that health workers make up an average of 10% of infections worldwide; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [25760/20]

\*192. To ask the Minister for Health if he will review the current procedures that exist for applicants under the hardship scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [25761/20]

\*193. To ask the Minister for Health if he will request that his Department carry out a review of adult speech and language services available in County Wicklow (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [25765/20]

\*194. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the cost, safety and patient benefits of sensors for the purposes of blood tests for diabetes patients; the actions and steps he will take to expand the drug reimbursement scheme to include sensors for all diabetic patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [25767/20]

\*195. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to persons in north County Tipperary being referred to University Hospital Limerick due to a lack of capacity in Nenagh, County Tipperary; if he will make local testing facilities available; if those that incur additional expansion in order to travel from Nenagh to Limerick will be compensated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [25784/20]

\*196. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the situation facing HSE workers in the Dublin north mental health services that are now having large pay deductions due to a payroll error by the HSE; and the reason the HSE and Dublin north mental health services are continuing to refuse to engage with the workers and their trade unions in order to come up with a payment plan to ensure that the return of the overpaid moneys is done in a fair and affordable way and that does not create significant financial difficulties for the workers concerned. — Louise O'Reilly. [25788/20]

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\*197. To ask the Minister for Health the number of flu vaccines available ahead of the winter flu season; the timescale for the delivery and distribution of these vaccines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [25791/20]

\*198. To ask the Minister for Health when the threshold for the drugs payment scheme will be changed from €124 to €114 per month as promised in Budget 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [25798/20]

\*199. To ask the Minister for Health if a review of medical card eligibility had been launched; the number of medical cards under review; the number of cards that have been extended following the review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25814/20]

\*200. To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE staff from each of the CHOs redeployed from their contracted role to provide Covid-19 swabbing functions in test centres each month from May to September 2020, in tabular form. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25817/20]

\*201. To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE dental staff in CHO9 that have been redeployed to provide Covid-19 swabbing functions in test centres in each month from May to September 2020, in tabular form. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25818/20]

\*202. To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE addiction staff in CHO9 that have been redeployed to provide Covid-19 swabbing functions in test centres in each month from May to September 2020, in tabular form. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25819/20]

\*203. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the capital works to accommodate the provision of a second CT scanner for the Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar purchased through fundraising by the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [25827/20]

\*204. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients that were referred to acute stroke units in each of the CHOs in each month since January 2020; the names and locations of each of the units; the number of persons referred to the aforementioned acute stroke services from outside of their CHO areas due to stroke services in their own areas being out of hours in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O’Dowd. [25831/20]

\*205. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 19 of 16 September 2020, if students on placement in a healthcare setting that have part-time employment are expected to continue to go out to work in a wide range of settings while also working on placement thus vastly increasing the risk of transmission; the position regarding those students that work in caring or other related positions; and if they are expected to complete their placement in a hospital and then go to work in a nursing home or other similar setting despite certain employers, third-level institutions and trade unions (details supplied) advising against same. — Martin Browne. [25834/20]

\*206. To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE disability staff in CHO9 that have been redeployed to provide Covid-19 swabbing functions in test centres in each month from May to September 2020, in tabular form. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25843/20]

\*207. To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE primary care staff in CHO9 that have been redeployed to provide Covid-19 swabbing functions in test centres in each month from May to September 2020, in tabular form. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25844/20]

\*208. To ask the Minister for Health if urgent consideration will be given to issues raised in correspondence (details supplied) concerning the difficulties in delivering health services; and if assistance will be provided to the sector as promised by his predecessor; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [25856/20]

\*209. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a primary medical cert application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [25864/20]

\*210. To ask the Minister for Health if the issue of the non-existent orthopaedic operations (details supplied) in University Hospital Kerry will be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [25865/20]

\*211. To ask the Minister for Health if a pop up Covid-19 test centre will be provided in Drogheda, County Louth in view of the significant increased demand on testing that has been evident since July 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [25867/20]

\*212. To ask the Minister for Health if concerns raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied) in relation to the dentistry profession will receive a response; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [25873/20]

\*213. To ask the Minister for Health the provisions being made to provide PPE to dental surgeries, general practice, pharmacies and other non-HSE aspects of the healthcare system; if provision will be made to allow them to procure PPE VAT-free; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [25874/20]

\*214. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to reports of the requirement of Covid-19 screening of patients for scheduled procedures amounting to 100s of Euro that is not being covered by health insurance; his views on such reports; if he has raised Covid-19 screening costs with insurance companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [25877/20]

\*215. To ask the Minister for Health the guidance and information being given or that will be given to general practitioner practices regarding patients experiencing long Covid-19 symptoms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [25907/20]

\*216. To ask the Minister for Health the amount of funding provided to independent dental practitioners for PPE since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. — Patrick Costello. [25908/20]

\*217. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 239 of 22 July 2020, if a copy of the strategic plan for the longer term requirement for testing and tracing which he indicated would be submitted by the HSE in August 2020 will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [25932/20]

\*218. To ask the Minister for Health the ICU capacity by region versus expected capacity without Covid-19; and the expected effect of changing each restriction and forecast of the impact of outbreak types. — Catherine Murphy. [25936/20]

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

\*219. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will engage with his counterpart in the British Government to cooperate on new legislation that would regulate the

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proliferation of oyster trestles on the western shore of Lough Foyle. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [25735/20]

\*220. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will engage with his counterpart in the Northern Executive to ensure that all aquaculture activity on the shores of Carlingford Lough is licensed and regulated by the Lough's Agency. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [25736/20]

\*221. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to the current shortage of timber and the economic impact this is having here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard O'Donoghue. [25749/20]

\*222. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to the current shortage of timber and the economic impact this is having here (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [25750/20]

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

\*223. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands when the final tranche of decisions will be made for applications received under the Covid-19 stability fund for community and voluntary, charity and social enterprises; if organisations can be notified on the outcomes of their applications as soon as possible; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [25906/20]

\*224. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands the position in relation to an application for aid through the stability fund by an organisation (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [25704/20]

\*225. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands the amount of funding paid out by her Department for the commissioning of the pilot Town Centre Living Initiative report by a company (details supplied) which was published in June 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [25757/20]

\*226. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands when the steering group which is to be established to review the suggested actions identified in the independent report on the pilot Town Centre Living Initiative will be operational; the details of the membership of the group; the terms of reference of the group; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [25758/20]

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**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I  
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 24 MEÁN FÓMHAIR, 2020  
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL  
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER, 2020**

**Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.**

I. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps that will be taken in 2020 and the resources that will be made available for the development of the Western Rail Corridor; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [25686/20]

2. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to improve the frequency of bus services between mid-Cork villages and the city; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [25671/20]

3. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the MetroLink development as of September 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25666/20]

4. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 229 of 8 September 2020, the specific supports to be provided for small coach operators in view of severe financial pressure being placed on businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [25674/20]

5. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of plans to extend the LUAS to Bray, County Wicklow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [25822/20]

6. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the fact that park and ride facility for the east and west side of Galway city has been an objective of the Galway city development plan since February 2005; the engagement he has had with the City Council to progress the rollout of park and ride in the city; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [25893/20]

7. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to advance the N80 relief road Mountmellick, County Laois. — Brian Stanley. [25663/20]

8. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has discussed with parents affected by the removal by Dublin Bus of a dedicated bus service for a school (details supplied) for students coming from Blessington, County Wicklow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [25912/20]

9. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider funding for the East West Link which is urgently needed in the north-east; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [25672/20]

10. To ask the Minister for Transport if funding for the inner relief road Mountmellick, County Laois is provided for in the stimulus package or in capital investment plans. — Brian Stanley. [25664/20]

11. To ask the Minister for Transport if the demands of representative groups of taxi drivers will be agreed to namely to dissolve the Taxi Advisory Committee and instead establish a national transport forum with strong representation from these representative groups to extend the 10 year rule for replacing taxis to 12 years to instigate an immediate moratorium on the issues of licence and to establish a licence buy back scheme for taxi drivers wishing to exit the industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [25892/20]

12. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will bring forward sectoral specific legislation or measures to protect jobs in the aviation sector. — Louise O'Reilly. [15878/20]

13. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will continue to engage with representatives of taxi drivers in view of the difficulties they are experiencing due to the fall off in demand as a result of Covid-19. — Paul McAuliffe. [25895/20]

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14. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the draft Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Transport Strategy; his views on whether the document contravenes the climate change commitments as set out in the Programme for Government; his further views on whether the modal shift as proposed in the draft document is adequate; if a ministerial review of the draft document will be carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25825/20]

15. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the review of transport strategy for the greater Dublin area. — Darren O'Rourke. [25881/20]

16. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of strategic transport infrastructure plans for Dublin including but not limited to BusConnects and the Metro project. — Eoghan Murphy. [25678/20]

17. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has had engagement with The National Transport Authority in relation to tax-saver tickets and potential changes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [25861/20]

18. To ask the Minister for Transport if a refund or motor tax credit will be issued to motorists that did not use their car or used it to a minimal extent during the Covid-19 lockdown in line with many insurers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [25675/20]

19. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to further decarbonise the transport fleet; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [25896/20]

20. To ask the Minister for Transport if funding will be provided in 2021 for the upgrading of a road (details supplied) in view of its strategic importance in counties Cavan and Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [25681/20]

21. To ask the Minister for Transport when it is expected that a decision will be made on the reopening of the Athenry to Claremorris section of the Western Rail Corridor; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [25016/20]

22. To ask the Minister for Transport the engagement he has had with the road haulage and transport operators with regard to the reduction of carbon emissions within the sector to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [25251/20]

23. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of plans for the N11/M11 project in north County Wicklow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [25677/20]

24. To ask the Minister for Transport the role of the IAA in oversight of the health and safety of passengers and workers in airports in view of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25887/20]

25. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of strategic plans of the transport infrastructure of Dublin including but not limited to rail capacity and new measures needed. — Eoghan Murphy. [25679/20]

26. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of his plans to legislate for e-scooters. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [25897/20]



27. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the development of a new DART station at Woodbrook, County Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [25821/20]

28. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the need to review Public Service obligation contracts within the Cork east region in the categories of destinations, frequency, unreliability and cost to passengers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [25910/20]

29. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to ensure that public transport is available to all those that need it during the Covid-19 crisis in view of the fact that most transport is running at 50% capacity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [25891/20]

30. To ask the Minister for Transport the degree to which steps can be taken to allow sea and air transport to operate within specific guidelines necessitated by the Covid-19 crisis in view of the need to recognise the important role of the transport sector in the economy; the extent to which he continues to have discussions with stakeholders in the industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [25823/20]

31. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will allocate the funds required for a feasibility study on the Navan to Kingscourt rail line; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [25673/20]

32. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on whether the reinstatement of the Dublin Navan rail line would help reduce car emissions by taking thousands of cars off the road every day; his further views on this vital public transport project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [16066/20]

33. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to support Cork Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [25670/20]

34. To ask the Minister for Transport when a feasibility study for light rail in Galway will be undertaken and or commissioned by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [25894/20]

35. To ask the Minister for Transport the factors used to decide the creation or depreciation of rural bus stops by Bus Éireann. — Pa Daly. [25660/20]

36. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has considered providing masks and hand sanitiser at public transport stops and hubs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [25913/20]

37. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the Navan rail line. — Darren O'Rourke. [25879/20]

38. To ask the Minister for Transport the supports in place for Shannon Airport. — Cathal Crowe. [25668/20]

39. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to deal with the issue of illegally driven scrambler bikes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [22243/20]

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40. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of plans for the electrification of the bus and rail fleet. — Darren O'Rourke. [25880/20]

41. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to increase funding for LocalLink services in the upcoming Budget 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [25676/20]

42. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to expand our national rail network to further reduce emission via high speed low emissions rail as the Programme for Government states a plan to further invest in new roads infrastructure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [16049/20]

43. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of plans for a rail stop in place in Crusheen, County Clare. — Cathal Crowe. [25669/20]

44. To ask the Minister for Transport the engagement he has had with the DAA in relation to protecting jobs at the airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25888/20]

45. To ask the Minister for Transport the supports being put in place to ensure the economic viability of regional airports, such as Ireland West Airport, which are facing enormous economic challenges as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. — Marian Harkin. [25863/20]

46. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which he envisages facilitating a travel regime in which air and sea transport can be restored to reasonable levels; if he is satisfied that the airline industry has available to it necessary supports to offset the impact of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [25824/20]

47. To ask the Minister for Transport the detail of the Programme for Government proposal on DART expansion; if it will include the DART underground; if the DART routes will be expanded further into County Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [16048/20]

48. To ask the Minister for Transport his policy in relation to the pricing of publicly funded transport services within the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [25017/20]

49. To ask the Minister for Transport the supports being proposed to support the chauffeur industry in view of the fact revenue of members is down 98% in March and April, 2020 when compared to the same period in 2019. — Marian Harkin. [25862/20]

50. To ask the Minister for Transport if funds for the road infrastructure budget for projects such as the Cork, Mallow, Galway outer bypass, N4 and N5 will be ring-fenced in order that the projects can proceed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [16461/20]

51. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the proposal in the Programme for Government for new buses to be electric or hybrid after 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [25667/20]

52. To ask the Minister for Transport when Kishoge railway station will open; the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [25665/20]

53. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the roll-out of the 25 extended trams for the Green Line LUAS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [24988/20]