



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 24 Meán Fómhair, 2020

Thursday, 24th September, 2020

**CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS**

Déardaoin, 24 Meán Fómhair, 2020
Thursday, 24th September, 2020

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

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

1. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the funding shortfall at Meath LocalLink which has led to school bus transport from Ratoath to Navan being cancelled; and his plans to address the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [25882/20]

2. 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. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25883/20]

3. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures he is taking to protect and ensure the future viability of the taxi industry here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [25995/20]

4. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the trials of proposed pre-flight airport testing and airport protocols before entry here; the stage of the process; the position regarding the overall situation in relation to air travel into and out of Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [25992/20]

5. 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. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [25863/20]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

6. 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]

2012

7. 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]

8. 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]

9. 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]

10. 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]

11. 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]

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

13. 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]

14. 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]

15. 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]

16. 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]

17. 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]

18. 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]

19. 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]

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

21. 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]

22. 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]

23. 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]

24. 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]

25. 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]

26. 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]

27. 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]

28. 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]

29. 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]

30. 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]

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

2014

32. 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]

33. 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]

34. 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]

35. 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]

36. 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]

37. 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]

38. 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]

39. 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]

40. 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]

41. 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]

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

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

44. 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]

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

46. 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]

47. 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]

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

49. 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]

50. 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]

51. 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]

52. 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]

53. 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]

54. 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]

55. 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]

56. 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]

57. 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]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Tánaiste agus Aire Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta: To the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

*58. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the rights a commercial tenant (details supplied) has in circumstances in which a landlord goes into receivership and the tenant took out a lease in good faith, paid all rent due and have spent their own money on the building meaning they will be at a major financial loss; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26153/20]

*59. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding an anomaly in the restart grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26216/20]

*60. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of HSA inspections of airport terminals or airline operations to ensure they are complying with workplace safety measures in relation to Covid-19; if the authority is aware of or adheres to the EASA guidelines for airports and airlines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [26085/20]

*61. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the recourse an employee has if their employer demands they attend the workplace rather than working from home with no apparent reason; and if there is no recourse, if he will consider formulating a procedure to resolve such disputes. — Eoghan Murphy. [26110/20]

*62. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will bring forward legislation to ensure workers in meat plants have access to a sick scheme as a safety measure in view of Covid-19 outbreaks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [26176/20]

*63. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of meat processing plants inspected by the HSA to date since the Covid-19 crisis began; the number of facilities found to be in breach of Covid-19 workplace guidelines; and the penalties that have been or will be levied. — Bríd Smith. [26177/20]

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

*64. To ask the Minister for Climate Action and Communication Networks the supports, funding schemes and grants which are available to schools participating in An Taisce Green Schools programme; the supports available to schools to ensure environmentally friendly waste disposal given increased waste production due to Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [26057/20]

*65. To ask the Minister for Climate Action and Communication Networks when a person (details supplied) will be facilitated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [26026/20]

*66. To ask the Minister for Climate Action and Communication Networks the supports, funding schemes and grants which are available to schools participating in An Taisce's Green Schools programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [26058/20]

*67. To ask the Minister for Climate Action and Communication Networks the implications of the upcoming policy statement on banning the importation of fracked gas on the planned LNG project by the Port of Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26218/20]

*68. To ask the Minister for Climate Action and Communication Networks if his attention has been drawn to allegations that local authorities are allowing construction waste to be buried under road projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26219/20]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*69. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the NDLS (details supplied) is calling persons over 70 years of age to attend appointments for the renewal of their driver licences without informing them when they show up to the centre the appointments have been cancelled; if the matter will be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26000/20]

*70. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26051/20]

*71. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has plans to increase capacity at driving test centres in order to clear backlogs for testing in view of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and in further view of the reduced capacity on public transport; and the number of persons waiting for driving tests for full licences by location in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [26054/20]

*72. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which plans are being made or are in place in an effort to clear backlogs for driving tests that arose as a result of Covid-19 with particular reference to County Kildare; the progress to date in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26061/20]

*73. To ask the Minister for Transport if the information desks at both Tralee and Killarney bus stations will reopen in view of the fact they have been closed for some time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26068/20]

*74. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to transpose the EASA guidelines on safe air travel into enforceable regulations here; if the IAA or other authority has sought to ensure that airports and airlines are operating to these guidelines; if airlines based here are adhering to Covid-19 safety protocols (details supplied) for their workforce and passengers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [26079/20]

*75. To ask the Minister for Transport when funding will be made available for structural repair works and a pedestrian bridge associated to Ardfinnan Bridge, County Tipperary in order to allow traffic to resume at a two-way system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [26121/20]

2018

*76. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to reduce the backlog in driver tests (details supplied); and if additional funding will be provided to address the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [26134/20]

*77. To ask the Minister for Transport if provision can be made for bus drivers whose licences are due to expire in September 2020 in view of the delay in accessing NDLS appointments. — Thomas Gould. [26212/20]

*78. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the current situation of transport services for persons with disabilities in County Mayo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [26217/20]

*79. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps in hand to encourage public road transport towards the use of non-fossil fuels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26245/20]

*80. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which he can assist the transport sector to recover after Covid-19 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26246/20]

*81. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans regarding the upgrading of the national road network in areas throughout the country that have not benefited from such enhancement in the past with particular reference to the need to ensure an adequate and reliable network for commercial transport both throughout the island of Ireland and gaining access to European markets in the wake of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26247/20]

*82. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the upgrading of the M4 from Kilcock to Dublin with particular reference to the urgent need to alleviate current congestion and delays; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26248/20]

*83. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress to date in the preparation of the DART to Maynooth and further afield to such locations as Kilcock and Enfield with a view to catering for the commuter belt across north County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26249/20]

*84. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress to date in the enhancement and upgrading of commuter rail facilities from Sallins to Dublin with particular reference to need at peak times; the extent to which planning has advanced in this regard by way of increased frequency and capacity of commuter trains serving Newbridge, Sallins and Hazelhatch; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26250/20]

*85. To ask the Minister for Transport if research has been carried out into the possibility of extending rail services throughout the commuter belt of north County Kildare to towns that do not have access to services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26251/20]

*86. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress to date in the development of or restoration of rail services in areas throughout the country which might benefit from the restoration of such services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26252/20]

*87. To ask the Minister for Transport the short to medium-term steps he can take to support air transport in the context of the Covid-19 crisis with particular reference to the need to ensure that Irish-based airlines are not disadvantaged on the world market; if he remains satisfied that adequate assistance remains available to airline such as companies (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26253/20]

*88. To ask the Minister for Transport if he remains satisfied that, in the context of state aid towards airlines, the Irish airlines do not become disadvantaged by the extent to which state aid has been extended to their competitors on European or world markets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26254/20]

*89. To ask the Minister for Transport if adequate checks are taking place at airports and ports in relation to dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [26263/20]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*90. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26004/20]

*91. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on a matter as outlined in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26018/20]

*92. To ask the Minister for Finance if there will be a bespoke package of supports in Budget 2021 for chauffeur drivers. — Louise O'Reilly. [26186/20]

*93. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on adjusting the cycle to work scheme to cover the purchasing of child seats or trailers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26243/20]

*94. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated cost of reducing VAT from 13.5% to 9% for hospitality and tourism activities for 2021, calculated on the same basis as the increase from 9% to 13.5% for the same set of activities in Budget 2019. — Pearse Doherty. [25996/20]

*95. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to the request for support measures outlined from the branch of an organisation (details supplied) in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [25998/20]

*96. To ask the Minister for Finance if a company (details supplied) is in receipt of the new employment subsidy scheme for its workforce; if so, the reason; the oversight and safeguards in place to ensure all companies in receipt of the subsidies are dispensing the funds to their employees; the number of employees that are topping up their employees' wages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [26001/20]

*97. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will put the case to the banks and lending institutions to extend the mortgage payment break for those workers who are still laid off due to Covid-19; and if he will focus in particular on the banks that were bailed out and that the State retains part ownership of. — Brian Stanley. [26055/20]

*98. To ask the Minister for Finance if a series of matters raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied) will be given consideration; the steps that will be taken to alleviate the inability of

2020

cross-Border workers to work from home due to double taxation legislation; if steps will be taken to remove the double taxation rules to allow persons here working in the Northern Ireland a better work life balance (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [26076/20]

*99. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on his discussions with a bank (details supplied); if he will be in contact with the bank; his views on the impact of job losses and a loss of banking services to the public should the bank be sold; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [26104/20]

*100. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on protecting those with home loans with a bank (details supplied) in the event of a sale of the mortgage loan book of the bank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [26105/20]

*101. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to meet with representatives of the employees of a bank (details supplied) to discuss concerns over the withdrawal of the bank from the market. — Mick Barry. [26106/20]

*102. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will intervene with the Central Bank in relation to credit union regulations that require a majority of members to sign up to a death benefit scheme in order for the scheme to be continued by a given credit union in order that these regulations are amended to allow for the schemes to be continued for those that wish to avail of it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [26116/20]

*103. To ask the Minister for Finance the costs associated with claims finalised by the State Claims Agency in each year since 2010 by awarded damages, legal costs, medical fees, engineering fees and other costs in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [26142/20]

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

*104. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the timescale for the reopening of Bawnboy Garda station, County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [26198/20]

*105. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if consideration will be given to the request for support measures outlined from the branch of an organisation (details supplied) in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [25999/20]

*106. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the position regarding a use of a building (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [26090/20]

*107. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the reason for considering centralising European Regional Development Funds in Dublin rather than being used in the regions for the regions as has been the case up to now; when a decision will be made on the plans being considered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26151/20]

*108. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will meet with and engage with the Northern and Western Regional Assembly on plans to change the way in which the

European Regional Development Fund is managed in view of the downgrading of the region by the EU Commission and in further view of the unique challenges the region faces as a region in transition and the urgent need to take advantage of the status while EU co-funding will be at 60%; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26152/20]

*109. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the timescale for the refurbishment or upgrading of a Garda station (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [26215/20]

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

*110. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht the reason all senior amateur adult club championship GAA games can continue but not senior amateur adult soccer games under level 3 Covid-19 guidelines. — Louise O'Reilly. [26197/20]

*111. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht the identity of the purchaser for each of the public lands and properties listed in the response to Parliamentary Question No. 347 of 8 September 2020 relating to the number and location of all sales of lands and property owned by Údarás na Gaeltachta in County Galway in the past ten years. — Mairéad Farrell. [26037/20]

*112. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Meán, Turasóireachta, Ealaíon, Cultúir, Spóirt agus Gaeltachta ainneoin nach féidir mionsonraí faoi dhíolcháin ar leith a thabhairt, an ndearnadh luacháil neamhspleách, gairmiúil de réir an ghnáth-chleachtais ar ocht bhfoirgneamh agus ceithre phíosa talún a dhíol Údarás na Gaeltachta i gcondae na Gaillimhe le deich mbliana anuas, de réir mar a nochtadh i gCeist Pharlaiminte Uimhir 347 ar an 8ú Meán Fómhair 2020; ar fógróidh na díolacháin áirithe seo go poiblí; an bhfuil sí den tuairim gur cheart d'Údarás na Gaeltachta bheith i dteagmháil le coistí pobail áitiúla nó leis an chomhairle contae ábhartha maidir le riachtanais tithíochta sa cheantar agus talamh nó foirgnimh á ndíol acu; agus an bhfuil cead Bhord an Údaráis ag teastáil le talamh nó foirgnimh a dhíol agus ar tugadh cead maidir leis na sócmhainní luaite anseo. — Mairéad Farrell. [26038/20]

*113. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht the steps being taken to protect the event management industry from the devastation caused by Covid-19 restrictions; and if she will meet with representatives of the industry. — Jim O'Callaghan. [26100/20]

*114. To ask the Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht if the sports capital grant scheme will open in 2020 for applications; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [26124/20]

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

*115. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the Cork events centre. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26010/20]

*116. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the person or body responsible for the eradication of Japanese knotweed if the source is on one property and is

2022

encroaching on a neighbouring property; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26070/20]

*117. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if funding will be provided for the modernisation and regeneration of a flat complex (details supplied) to bring it up to the highest level of energy efficiency possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Chris Andrews. [26193/20]

*118. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of applications for the Rebuilding Ireland scheme to date in 2020; the number of applicants who have been successful; and the number of those who have been refused. — Denise Mitchell. [26023/20]

*119. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the avenues of appeal available to people after An Bord Pleanála has delivered a verdict; if there is a higher planning authority or avenue through the Planning Regulator, the Houses of the Oireachtas, the courts or elsewhere; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [26027/20]

*120. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of active rental accommodation scheme tenancies. — Eoin Ó Broin. [26112/20]

*121. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the renewal of the national coursing licence; his views regarding the renewal of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [26126/20]

*122. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if issues faced by planning authorities will be reviewed regarding the taking in charge process particularly concerning developer provided infrastructure and management companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [26127/20]

*123. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will request Irish Water to give an exemption from water charges to community councils and voluntary groups which provide meals on wheels services and other services for those in need; if his attention has been drawn to organisations that have been billed for thousands of euro in the space of a few months; if his attention has been further drawn to the difficulties such organisations have in paying charges due to low income and the recent fall in funds due to Covid-19 restrictions; if his attention has been further drawn to the high water charges they are faced with regularly; his views on the way in which such organisations have been heroes of the Covid-19 pandemic; his views on recognising their efforts by providing such exemptions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [26200/20]

*124. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will publish a copy of the licences to net and tag hares for the upcoming coursing season. — Paul Murphy. [26206/20]

*125. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to the fact that 39 homeless persons have died in Dublin to date in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26223/20]

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

*126. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if a working holiday application will be processed as a matter of urgency for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [26011/20]

*127. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if assistance will be provided and matters addressed in relation a recent incident (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [26071/20]

*128. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the highlighting by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the lack of respect by Spain for international bodies with regard to the situation in Catalonia; the steps Ireland can take to impress on the Spanish authorities the need to respect international law in relation to the situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [26077/20]

*129. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the action taken to protect small businesses particularly along the Border counties in view of the potential damage that the UK Internal Market Bill poses to the Good Friday Agreement, Northern Ireland and the economy here; and if the relevant Government bodies have engaged directly with ferry companies and ports, that is, Rosslare Port to ensure Ireland can maintain the continuity of incoming and outgoing goods with European partners in cases in which problems arise with a no-deal Brexit scenario and the UK land bridge. — Johnny Mythen. [26156/20]

*130. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the position in relation to an application for a passport in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26257/20]

*131. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will engage with the Greek authorities with a view to helping relocate more of the refugees, particularly unaccompanied minors displaced from the Moria camp in Greece; and if he will implore the Greek authorities to make sure that minors are registered as minors and not as adults; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [26266/20]

Chun an Aire Cosanta: To the Minister for Defence.

*132. To ask the Minister for Defence the status of plans for the Nenagh military barracks site, County Tipperary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [26120/20]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*133. To ask the Minister for Education if a request for a SNA can be looked at again for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26014/20]

*134. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to set up a formal appeals process for students that have had their leaving certificate results downgraded by her Department as against the grade awarded to them by their teacher; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [25997/20]

2024

*135. To ask the Minister for Education when after-school facilities such as homework clubs may open in schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [26033/20]

*136. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 424 of 15 September 2020, if a school, having previously appealed a reduction in staff under grounds contained in circular 0018/2020, can now appeal this reduction under different grounds or grounds not captured in the circular but connected to new difficulties as a result of the Covid-19 crisis and taking the necessary public health measures advice by her Department (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [26046/20]

*137. To ask the Minister for Education her views on matters outlined in correspondence (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [26053/20]

*138. To ask the Minister for Education if a child, who has a letter from a doctor confirming they are unable to wear a mask on medical grounds, can be exempt from wearing a mask whilst at school. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26059/20]

*139. To ask the Minister for Education the position of her Department on whether post-primary pupils should wear masks during PE class. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26060/20]

*140. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to introduce a permanent voluntary redeployment scheme for post-primary teachers to allow for an option for relocation similar to that which is in place for many other public sector workers; if such proposals will be examined; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26075/20]

*141. To ask the Minister for Education the reason a child (details supplied) is being refused school transport. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [26108/20]

*142. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider a request to part fund a hall for a school (details supplied) that has no indoor recreational areas; and if the funding will be made available soon in order to concur with other building works. — Eoghan Murphy. [26111/20]

*143. To ask the Minister for Education the number of engagements that have taken place with the landowner of a proposed new school site (details supplied) since July 2020; if there has been engagement with the council planners; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [26114/20]

*144. To ask the Minister for Education the extent of engagement she has had with a school (detail supplied) regarding the new school site over the past year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [26115/20]

*145. To ask the Minister for Education if the building of a new school (details supplied) has completed the tender stage; if the contract has been awarded; if so, when building work will commence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [26118/20]

*146. To ask the Minister for Education if there is an appeals process for leaving certificate students unsatisfied with their predicted grade to appeal the grade rather than the process; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26138/20]

*147. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the application by a school (details supplied) for a sports hall. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26160/20]

*148. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the situation of a teacher (details supplied); and her further views on the lack of panels for secondary school students which makes it is more difficult to transfer to a more local school; and her plans to make changes to the system. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26163/20]

*149. To ask the Minister for Education when a detailed update sought on behalf of a person (details supplied) from her office on 3 September 2020 will be provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [26168/20]

*150. To ask the Minister for Education the basis under which the results of a leaving certificate student (details supplied) were downgraded; the opportunities they have to appeal this decision and be awarded the grades proposed by the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [26169/20]

*151. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to review the school transport scheme; when the review will commence; if submissions will be invited as part of the process; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [26184/20]

*152. To ask the Minister for Education the reason a school (details supplied) has not received an additional teacher; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [26190/20]

*153. To ask the Minister for Education the reason two children (details supplied) in County Mayo are not being allocated school transport in view of the fact that that other children on the route were allocated seats; the criteria used to determine the successful applicants; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [26195/20]

*154. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to ensure proper ventilation for schools to deal with Covid-19 (details supplied). — Louise O'Reilly. [26196/20]

*155. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the provision of prefabs for a school (details supplied) for the 2020/2021 academic year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [26199/20]

*156. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will move to a compulsory purchase order of land in Buncrana, County Donegal to secure the long delayed sites for new schools and campuses for schools (details supplied); if her attention has been drawn to the emergency this long delay has created for the teachers, children and students; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [26202/20]

*157. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the plans for a new building for a school (details supplied). — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [26203/20]

*158. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the plans for a new building for a school (details supplied). — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [26204/20]

*159. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the plans for a new building for a school (details supplied). — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [26205/20]

2026

*160. To ask the Minister for Education if the technical report from officials in her Department on the calculated grades and standardisation process will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26238/20]

*161. To ask the Minister for Education her views on implementing flexibilities into the staffing schedule for primary schools to enable schools to retain teachers to ensure that classes can be kept at a small a size as possible during the Covid-19 pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26239/20]

*162. To ask the Minister for Education the number of requests received for additional special needs assistants from schools in County Cork; and the number of requests that have been approved. — Holly Cairns. [26240/20]

*163. To ask the Minister for Education the number of primary and secondary schools in County Cork without hot water facilities; and the steps taken to rectify such issues in view of the fact children have returned to school. — Holly Cairns. [26241/20]

*164. To ask the Minister for Education the qualifying criteria for schools to be eligible to receive the minor works grant; the schools in receipt of the grant in County Cork; the reason schools were denied a grant; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26242/20]

*165. To ask the Minister for Education if and when concessionary bus places will be offered in respect of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26260/20]

*166. To ask the Minister for Education the staged timelines for a tender (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [26264/20]

*167. To ask the Minister for Education the staged timelines for a tender (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [26265/20]

*168. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the contracts of private bus operators with respect to PSO agreements through Bus Éireann; if contracts have been renewed and agreed with operators; if consideration has been given to supporting private operators running private bus services which may have to reduce to 50% capacity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [25993/20]

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

*169. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if recipients of the pandemic unemployment payment such as former workers of a company (details supplied) who have no prospect of returning to their previous employment, are entitled to access further education and training courses; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [26031/20]

*170. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will extend the income limit for back to school allowance to €700 to allow a couple who have both lost their employment and are on Covid-19 payments to qualify; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [26047/20]

*171. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a community employment scheme will be extended for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26062/20]

*172. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of an application for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [26064/20]

*173. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if meetings to give personal and sensitive details in relation to the filing of a form for the registration of a death will be undertaken in a private, confidential setting on a one to one basis in a meeting room in each facility during Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [26074/20]

*174. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a NCF payment will be processed for a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26080/20]

*175. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a carer's allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26083/20]

*176. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a carer's allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26084/20]

*177. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a carer's allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26086/20]

*178. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a disability allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26089/20]

*179. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a disability allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26091/20]

*180. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a disability allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26092/20]

*181. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a disability allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26094/20]

*182. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of an appeal by a person (details supplied) regarding a decision in relation to a disability allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26095/20]

*183. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a carer's allowance application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26096/20]

2028

*184. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a diet supplement payment will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26103/20]

*185. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of active rent supplement payments. — Eoin Ó Broin. [26113/20]

*186. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on a carer's support grant appeal in respect of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26117/20]

*187. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of arrears owed to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [26119/20]

*188. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) has an entitlement to the fuel allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [26132/20]

*189. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the process undertaken to issue arrears due to recipients and former recipients of the pandemic unemployment payment; the length of time the process will take; if additional staff will be employed to assist with the task; when the first payments of arrears will issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26136/20]

*190. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if workers at an airline (details supplied) that were in receipt of the temporary wage support scheme and on significantly reduced working days will have their claims for short term work support backdated for the period for which they were in receipt of the temporary wage support scheme. — Louise O'Reilly. [26185/20]

*191. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on a matter (details supplied) in relation to children allowance payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26191/20]

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

*192. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if flexibility will be shown to a person (details supplied) who has missed out on an EECE scheme place by three days. — Seán Crowe. [26102/20]

*193. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if information will be provided to a person (details supplied) in relation to a Montessori school. — Sean Sherlock. [26130/20]

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

*194. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if consideration will be given to those who sat the 2020 HPAT exam to use their 2020 HPAT results to gain entry into medicine and health professions degree programs in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [26069/20]

*195. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if SUSI applications for the 2021/2022 academic year will consider the fact that many students were on the Covid-19 payment due to the extraordinary circumstances of the pandemic (details supplied). — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26093/20]

*196. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if and when a review can be undertaken of the refusal of a SUSI grant to a person (details supplied); if the circumstances could be urgently reviewed and taken into account with a view to awarding the SUSI grant in this case; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26028/20]

*197. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his attention has been drawn to a proposal to help alleviate the shortage of medical scientists by way of a graduate-entry course at TU Dublin; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that TU Dublin is preparing for an initial intake of students in January 2020; the measures he will take to ensure sufficient staff are in position to deliver the course; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [26081/20]

*198. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if supports will be made available for a mature student (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [26107/20]

*199. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the industries, that is, education, health, information technologies, financial services, legal services and so on which provide payment to students for their work as part of their college degree; the person or body responsible for issuing payment to students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [26125/20]

*200. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will make additional third-level places available in high demand courses to ensure that students that were downgraded in their leaving certificate exam through standardisation do not lose out on a college place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [26154/20]

*201. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his attention has been drawn to universities limiting the number of students that can defer their places; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26230/20]

*202. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his attention has been drawn to communications from NUIG to postgraduate research students for them to undertake unpaid teaching contributions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26231/20]

*203. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if all higher education institutions are implementing a physical distance of two metres under all circumstances possible as required in the Implementation Guidelines for Public Health Measures in Higher Education Institutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26232/20]

*204. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on whether the exemption for the physical distance of two metres for students in higher education institutions in the Implementation Guidelines for Public Health Measures in Higher

Education Institutions applies to classroom or lecture theatre settings (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26233/20]

*205. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if research will be funded into the psychological and emotional impacts of Covid-19 and the restrictions on society, including persons that contracted the disease. — Holly Cairns. [26234/20]

*206. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of sexual harassment or assault cases of students and staff in each third-level educational institution between 1 January 2013 and 1 July 2020, in tabular form. — Holly Cairns. [26235/20]

*207. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the definition of enhanced protective measures to be implemented by higher and further education institutions in view of heightened Covid-19 restrictions in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26236/20]

*208. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the enhanced protective measures that have been implemented by higher and further education institutions in view of heightened Covid-19 restrictions in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26237/20]

*209. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of incidents, reports made or complaints received of academic bullying throughout all universities in each of the past eight years to date; the nature of such events whether professional, gender or race related; the actions taken arising from such complaints by each third-level institution involved; if the practice has ceased; if not, the reason therefor; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26262/20]

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

*210. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to address the poverty rates of persons with disabilities which is 10% higher here than the EU average; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26220/20]

*211. To ask the Minister for Justice if the case of a person (details supplied) will be addressed and clarified; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26048/20]

*212. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of an application for naturalisation by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26056/20]

*213. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in determination of eligibility for naturalisation and or stamp 4 in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26063/20]

*214. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of attachment orders, community service orders, prison orders and recovery orders in each of the years 2016 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in relation to non-payment of court order fines. — Patrick Costello. [26088/20]

*215. To ask the Minister for Justice the direct provision centres operating in County Meath; and the contact details for same. — Darren O'Rourke. [26135/20]

*216. To ask the Minister for Justice the position in relation to eligibility for residency status, stamp 4 or eligibility for naturalisation in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26255/20]

*217. To ask the Minister for Justice the position regarding residency or an extension to the current visa in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26256/20]

*218. To ask the Minister for Justice if the case of a person (details supplied) will be reconsidered; the reason for revoking the set aside at this time, if the case can receive meritorious consideration given that they are in this jurisdiction for more than eleven years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26258/20]

*219. To ask the Minister for Justice the position regarding processing an application for asylum in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26259/20]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*220. To ask the Minister for Health when an important procedure will be carried out for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26005/20]

*221. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to lessen the restrictions in maternity hospitals on persons who can be in the birthing room during labour in view of restrictions in other parts of society easing significantly; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [26009/20]

*222. To ask the Minister for Health if some maternity hospitals have the facilities to carry out quick turnaround Covid-19 testing; if this facility can be extended to cover partners of pregnant persons in order that they can be present for scans and other maternity services and resume the much-needed support of their partners during hospital maternity visits and labour; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [26012/20]

*223. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a HSE publication (details supplied); if it will be implemented and applied here; and if the excessive restrictions placed on women and partners in pregnancy will be changed. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26017/20]

*224. To ask the Minister for Health the priority level provided to Covid-19 tests from teachers. — Patrick Costello. [26019/20]

*225. To ask the Minister for Health the number of Covid-19 tests which have been carried out on teachers since the reopening of schools until 18 September 2020; and the number that resulted in a positive diagnosis. — Patrick Costello. [26020/20]

*226. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the case of children (details supplied); if his Department can investigate this case and others with a view to resolving this lack of supports and services in south western areas of Dublin; and the position regarding the matter of delays to interventions by children's disability services and the resulting regression seen in many cases. — Seán Crowe. [26022/20]

*227. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider adjusting public health guidelines surrounding weddings by which 150 persons can attend a church ceremony yet only 50 can attend a reception afterwards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [26024/20]

*228. To ask the Minister for Health when the Covid-19 related restrictions that mean physiotherapists cannot have trainees in the room while they are seeing placement will be reviewed and change to allow for practical third-level training to commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [26025/20]

*229. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the recent recommendation by the WHO (details supplied) supporting women having a chosen companion during labour and childbirth; and if he will re-evaluate the restrictions on partners accompanying pregnant women at appointments, in pre-labour ward and at every opportunity in which it is safe to do so. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26030/20]

*230. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider the pre-Budget submission from an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [26032/20]

*231. To ask the Minister for Health if there are research teams or research clinics set up to treat and research the conditions those recovering from Covid-19, post-covid19 infection are suffering, including but not solely chronic fatigue; if there is medical research ongoing, the detail of the different research and treatment facilities and teams; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [26034/20]

*232. To ask the Minister for Health the person or body responsible for the treatment and research into the ongoing health complications of patients who are post-Covid 19 infection; the types of conditions being examined for inclusion in post-Covid-19 treatments and research; the locations the research and treatment is being conducted from; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [26035/20]

*233. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE or another organisation is researching the conditions affecting patients post-Covid-19 infection; if they are being considered as post viral fatigue syndrome patients; if so, if they can be examined at a later date to ascertain if they are possibly suffering from ME as a result of Covid-19 infection; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [26036/20]

*234. To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting times for consultations with audiologists in County Mayo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [26039/20]

*235. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the inequalities that exist between professional psychology doctoral training courses; and if there are plans to address this by funding both the educational and counselling psychology doctoral courses in line with clinical psychology doctorates. — Joe O'Brien. [26040/20]

*236. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the inequalities that exist between professional psychology doctoral training courses regarding mental health and older persons; and if there are plans to address this by funding both the educational and counselling psychology doctoral courses in line with clinical psychology doctorates. — Joe O'Brien. [26041/20]

*237. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the establishment of a national psychology placement office; when this is likely to be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe O'Brien. [26042/20]

*238. To ask the Minister for Health the date on which the threshold for medical card eligibility for the over 70s will change; and the date on which prescription charges will be reduced. — Eoin Ó Broin. [26050/20]

*239. To ask the Minister for Health when the mental health service in County Mayo will reopen, specifically a facility (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [26052/20]

*240. To ask the Minister for Health when a new landing pad will be in place in CUH (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26072/20]

*241. To ask the Minister for Health when the prescription charges for medical card holders over 70 years of age will be reduced as per Budget 2020. — Kieran O'Donnell. [26073/20]

*242. To ask the Minister for Health if an increase is due on a HSE pension to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26078/20]

*243. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a proposal to help alleviate the shortage in medical scientists by way of graduate-entry course at TU Dublin; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that the course has received approval in principle from the HSE for funding for clinical placement; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that the process has been delayed despite the fact that TU Dublin is ready for an initial intake of students in January 2020; the measures he will take address the impasse; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [26082/20]

*244. To ask the Minister for Health if his department and the HSE will allocate funds to pay student nurses returning to work in hospital settings for placement in the coming weeks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [26122/20]

*245. To ask the Minister for Health the timeline to establish the national psychology placement office which will be tasked with examining the funding for all trainee psychologists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [26131/20]

*246. To ask the Minister for Health the reason Thurles, County Tipperary and surrounding areas has been left without ambulance cover for long periods due to personnel being requested to cover other areas of the country. — Alan Kelly. [26133/20]

*247. To ask the Minister for Health the dentists currently operating the general medical scheme in County Meath; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [26140/20]

*248. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 757 of 21 July 2020, when a reply will issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [26141/20]

*249. To ask the Minister for Health his views on delays to developmental checks for young children; if he has concerns in this regard; when these developmental checks by public health nurses will resume; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26143/20]

*250. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on waiting lists for all types of assessments, including speech and language per county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26144/20]

*251. To ask the Minister for Health if therapists employed by the HSE have been redeployed to Covid-19 testing centres; if so, the number; if further redeployment of therapists is continuing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26145/20]

*252. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to ensure that strike action by public health specialists is avoided; his further plans for these specialists in their request for consultant status; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26147/20]

*253. To ask the Minister for Health the number of audiologists in each CHO area; the number of vacancies in each CHO; if audiologists are being redeployed to Covid-19 testing; if so, the number; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26148/20]

*254. To ask the Minister for Health the number on the waiting lists for audiology for children and adults in each CHO area; the average waiting time in each CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26149/20]

*255. To ask the Minister for Health the services providing a healthcare or public health function that have been closed or prevented from operating due to the current Level 3 Restrictions in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [26155/20]

*256. To ask the Minister for Health the quantity of the flu vaccine ordered for the country; the reason for the shortage of same (details supplied); and if sufficient supply will be guaranteed for the winter months. — Johnny Mythen. [26157/20]

*257. To ask the Minister for Health the name of the chairpersons of mental health tribunals on the list of those retained by the Mental Health Commission. — Michael Ring. [26158/20]

*258. To ask the Minister for Health the number of tribunal hearings allocated to each of the chairpersons retained on the list of those retained by the Mental Health Commission in 2019 and to 31 August 2020. — Michael Ring. [26159/20]

*259. To ask the Minister for Health the number of tribunal hearings allocated to chairpersons by the Mental Health Commission in centres in counties Mayo, Galway, Sligo and Roscommon in 2019 and to 31 August 2020. — Michael Ring. [26161/20]

*260. To ask the Minister for Health the name of the lawyers appointed as chairpersons of tribunals by the Mental Health Commission in each of the years 2019 and to 31 August 2020 in centres in counties of Mayo, Galway, Sligo and Roscommon. — Michael Ring. [26162/20]

*261. To ask the Minister for Health if the current advice on the potential impact of the winter flu vaccination programme on the susceptibility to other respiratory viruses (details supplied) will be provided in advance of the administration of the vaccine; if he has engaged with other colleagues across the EU on the issues raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [26166/20]

*262. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department was notified by a company (details supplied) of a Covid-19 outbreak; if so, when; the actions taken; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [26174/20]

*263. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a procedure for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26178/20]

*264. To ask the Minister for Health when the vacant position for a paediatric diabetic nurse at the Midlands Regional Hospital, Mullingar will be filled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [26182/20]

*265. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on progress to increase acute bed capacity at University Hospital Limerick; when the 60-bed modular unit and the planned 96 bed ward block will become operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [26183/20]

*266. To ask the Minister for Health the new regulations in relation to christenings in Dublin; the number permitted to attend; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [26187/20]

*267. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an application by a person (details supplied) for a laptop and software; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [26188/20]

*268. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the availability of imfinzi for advanced lung cancer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [26189/20]

*269. To ask the Minister for Health the number of calls made to the ambulance service in Thurles, County Tipperary from 1 January to 1 September 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [26207/20]

*270. To ask the Minister for Health the number of calls to the ambulance service in Thurles, County Tipperary from 1 January to 1 September 2020 that were for outside the mid-west region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [26208/20]

*271. To ask the Minister for Health the number of calls to the ambulance service in Thurles, County Tipperary from 1 January to 1 September 2020 for the Thurles and mid-west region that were dealt with by ambulances from outside the Thurles area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [26209/20]

*272. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter regarding the promotion of rights for persons with intellectual disabilities in Budget 2021 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26210/20]

*273. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the delivery of flu vaccinations has been delayed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [26211/20]

*274. To ask the Minister for Health the amount spent on hiring private public relations companies and communications consultants by his Department between 1 March 2020 and 21 September 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26225/20]

*275. To ask the Minister for Health the number of employees in occupational health departments in the HSE; and his plans to recruit additional staff. — Holly Cairns. [26226/20]

*276. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department or the HSE responded to the call by an association (details supplied) in March 2020 to examine and assess the amount of antenatal care that can be provided by midwives antenatally in community halls, centres and hotels or in the home; if so, if the result of the assessment will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26227/20]

*277. To ask the Minister for Health the way in which his Department or the HSE responded to the call by an association (details supplied) in March 2020 to invoke the use of self-employed midwives to provide continuing care to women in labour that may require transfer in from hospital instead of continuing with a home birth as their case midwife; if by issuing honorary contracts or not in view of the fact many midwives already provide services subcontracted by the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26228/20]

*278. To ask the Minister for Health if he or NPHE have considered procedures to introduce sub-county restrictions to counter future clusters or rising transmission rates of Covid-19 which is especially relevant for counties Cork or Galway which may have vastly different rates between the urban centres and rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26229/20]

*279. To ask the Minister for Health when a Covid-19 test result will issue in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [26261/20]

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

*280. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the Agriculture Appeals (Amendment) Bill 2020 will come before Dáil Éireann in view of the urgency of the situation that exists in the sector (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [26002/20]

*281. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when an application by a person (details supplied) to plant forestry in Kilrush, County Clare will be finalised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [26003/20]

*282. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will support the application by Horse Sport Ireland to become a commercial semi-State body; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [26013/20]

*283. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason farmers are being informed that EU priority habitats of community importance (details supplied) are ineligible for CAP funding in view of the fact EU governing regulations listed in Annex 1 of the Habitats Directive show such sites as being eligible; the reason farmers are being informed that EU treaties and laws agreed to preserve and maintain EU sites of community importance compel them to preserve and maintain their properties for free; the treaty or law in which such a policy was agreed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [26015/20]

*284. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of hectares of farmland that have been lost to erosion and notified to his Department via changes in land parcel

information by county in tabular form; if he will consider a scheme to assist farmers whose land is affected by erosion; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [26021/20]

*285. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will address a series of matters in relation to Coillte Nature (details supplied). — Richard Boyd Barrett. [26044/20]

*286. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the agricultural appeals office is complying with EU law and governing regulations when making decisions on appeals regarding payments denied to farmers for preserving EU designated priority habitats of community importance; if it is policy to drive farmers that own such sites off their land by withholding EU funding from them (details supplied); his views on whether the EU Commission has been misled by the State on the environmental protection policy being implemented here; if Ireland is in breach of the birds and habitats directives which result in the imposition of millions of euros in fines from by the EU; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [26101/20]

*287. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if farmers are given an opportunity to rectify works uncompleted before being penalised under the rules of the GLAS scheme in cases in which the criteria of the scheme have not been established; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26139/20]

*288. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the way in which he plans to ensure that the new antiparasitic medicine regime to be implemented from January 2022 retains a substantive role for existing stakeholders and delivers value for money for farmers here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [26164/20]

*289. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a copy of correspondence sent to a person (details supplied) in County Mayo in June 2019 will to be sent to them. — Michael Ring. [26165/20]

*290. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 650 of 28 July 2020 and 254 of 10 September 2020, if the information (details supplied) has since been provided to his Department; when the information will be available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [26167/20]

*291. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason funding is being deducted as a penalty for non-compliance with GLAS rules from a farmer (details supplied) who has an active appeal awaiting an oral hearing; the total amount of the proposed penalty; the amount recouped to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [26170/20]

*292. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department is willing to defer the oral hearing in an appeal case (details supplied) relating to the failure in one year to register with the CPBS in order to allow the society an opportunity to amend its rules to allow for paying late memberships outstanding to the society; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [26171/20]

*293. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of farmers that have had a penalty applied to their GLAS scheme payments for failure to comply under the rare breeds measure with the requirement to register each year with a society (details supplied); if a 100% penalty was applied in each case; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [26172/20]

*294. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department was notified by a company (details supplied) of a Covid-19 outbreak; if so, when; the actions taken; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [26173/20]

*295. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of cattle herds in each of the years 2017 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in which no additional animals were bought but which still failed the tuberculosis test in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [26179/20]

*296. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of the PGI submission by a group (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [26180/20]

*297. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the role of Bord Bia in respect of the negotiation of contracts on the price of beef at international trade fairs and in the promotion of Irish beef; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [26181/20]

*298. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of applications received for the latest round of EMFF fisheries local action groups funding announced on 21 September 2020; if applications were received from County Louth; if so, the reason applications were not successful; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [26194/20]

*299. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will delay the proposed nitrates changes (details supplied) until the formal review of the regulations next year and stakeholder consultation and the current economic crisis for farmers due to Covid-19 and Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [26201/20]

*300. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will ensure that suitably qualified persons, licensed merchant stores and veterinary pharmacies will be able to continue the prescribing and supply of anthelmintics; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [26213/20]

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

*301. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands if consideration will be given to the request for support measures outlined from the branch of an organisation (details supplied) in County Clare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [25999/20]

*302. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands when libraries will reopen to the public under current NPHEET recommendations; if plans are in place for same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26137/20]

*303. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands the reason community organisations that are designated company limited by guarantee, are not included in the Covid-19 stability scheme for community and voluntary organisations. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26006/20]

*304. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands if she will provide stability funding or assistance to community associations or organisations that are

designated company limited by guarantee or any such sources of funding that exists. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26007/20]

*305. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands if it is encouraged by her Department for community organisations to become a company limited by guarantee. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [26008/20]

*306. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands when an application will be assessed (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [26043/20]

*307. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands if additional funding will be made available through the Covid-19 town and village renewal accelerated measures grant scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [26123/20]

*308. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands the funding an organisation (details supplied) can apply for to assist it to remain open in view of the effect of Covid-19 on its organisation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [26150/20]

*309. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands the funds granted to villages with a population of under 1,000 persons under the town and village renewal scheme by each local authority area between 1 January 2017 and 1 September 2020, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26221/20]

*310. To ask the Minister for Community and Rural Development and the Islands her plans to increase digital infrastructure and connectivity in County Cork in view of the increased number of persons working from home due to the Covid-19 pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [26222/20]