



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 21 Deireadh Fómhair, 2020

Wednesday, 21st October, 2020

**CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS**

Dé Céadaoin, 21 Deireadh Fómhair, 2020
Wednesday, 21st October, 2020

Ministerial and Departmental titles have been and are being updated on this Question Paper to take account of recent 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 when the Cabinet Committee on Europe will next meet. — Mary Lou McDonald. [29924/20]
2. To ask the Taoiseach the status of the work programme development for the shared island unit including the expected timeframe. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [30139/20]
3. To ask the Taoiseach the status of the shared island unit as committed to in the Programme for Government. — Neale Richmond. [30830/20]
4. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the allocations planned from the Shared Island Fund. — Alan Kelly. [31299/20]
5. To ask the Taoiseach the efforts which have been made through the shared island section of his Department to develop an all-Ireland management process in dealing with Covid-19. — Peadar Tóibín. [31372/20]
6. To ask the Taoiseach the projects that will be prioritised in the initial funding allocation to the shared island unit. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [31381/20]
7. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the EU Council meeting of 16 October 2020. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [31339/20]
8. To ask the Taoiseach the number of additional staff recruited or seconded to his Department to assist with the response to the Covid-19 pandemic. — Alan Kelly. [31301/20]
9. To ask the Taoiseach the number of meetings and phone calls between his Department and the offices of the First and Deputy First Ministers in the Executive in Northern Ireland since the election in February 2020. — Peadar Tóibín. [31373/20]
10. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on recent correspondences with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. — Paul Murphy. [31332/20]
11. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of his Department's Housing, Infrastructure and Digital Unit. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31755/20]

12. To ask the Taoiseach his views on the implications of delaying the census by a year. — Mark Ward. [28809/20]

13. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his decision to delay Census 2022. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [28895/20]

14. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the decision to delay the Census. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31753/20]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

*15. To ask the Taoiseach the details of all fees paid by the Office of the Attorney General and the Chief State Solicitor's Office to barristers and solicitors in each of the years 2014 to 2019 and for the first six months of 2020, in tabular form. — Cormac Devlin. [31792/20]

*16. To ask the Taoiseach the number of barristers broken down by junior and senior counsel that submitted applications to the Office of the Attorney General to be nominated as counsel for State work in each of the years 2014 to 2019; the actual number of barristers broken down by junior and senior counsel that received instructions or briefs from the Office of the Attorney General in each of the years 2014 to 2019; and the criteria by which barristers are nominated to receive instructions or briefs from the Office of the Attorney General. — Cormac Devlin. [31794/20]

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

*17. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the redundancy situation regarding travel agency workers whose employer may not be insolvent, but in view of the cash flow problems in the sector may have to make some staff redundant; the impact workers that have been placed on various State income support schemes or that have already been temporarily laid off earlier in 2020 could have on this; if he will provide clarity in this area for workers in this sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [31888/20]

*18. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the position in relation to the case of an employee who pre-Covid-19 was on maternity leave then worked from home and is now being told they have to return to the office to work but feels this is unsafe and during the current situation are capable of working from home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31993/20]

*19. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if an anomaly in the restart grant and restart plus grant will be rectified in which group self-catering businesses are not eligible for same (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [32029/20]

*20. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to international news reports of Covid-19 public health breaches at a location (details supplied); if the issue will be referred to the HSA; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [32030/20]

*21. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is satisfied that the Health and Safety Authority has the necessary enforcement powers to ensure business premises are safe. — Richard Bruton. [31783/20]

*22. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if manufacturing industries will be allowed to continue to operate if Ireland goes to level 5 restrictions as some of these manufacturers would have overseas contracts to fulfil with strict timeframes attached to these contracts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31791/20]

*23. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the position of non-essential workers travelling from a number of different counties, including across the Border that wish to work from home but whose employers are refusing; the protections in place for such employees whose employer is insisting on employees working in their workplace or they may face being laid off; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [31929/20]

Chun an Aire Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide: To the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications.

*24. To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications the number of homes which have been connected with fibre broadband since National Broadband Ireland took control of the roll out of the National Broadband Plan by county in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [31804/20]

*25. To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications when Eir will undertake the necessary upgrades to the local cabinet point in the Knapton, York Road area in Dún Laoghaire, County Dublin which is the only cabinet point out of the four cabinet points in the area that is not fibre enabled, in order that fibre optic internet can be accessed in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [31806/20]

*26. To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications if a person who has availed of the SEAI better energy warmer homes scheme can reapply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [31858/20]

*27. To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications if waste management companies provide information on the percentage of green domestic waste which is eventually recycled; and the systems in place to verify this information. — Eoghan Murphy. [31899/20]

*28. To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications the number of electric charging points in County Wexford; the location of same; his plans for further roll out of electric charging points; the timelines in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31936/20]

*29. To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications the energy activities he envisages will be included in the new definition of emissions in the proposed climate action Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [31967/20]

*30. To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications the differences proposed for agriculture over other sectors in his categorisation of its special role in the new climate action Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [31968/20]

*31. To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications if individual farmers can apply to the Climate Action Fund under changes proposed in the climate action Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [31969/20]

*32. To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications if he will implement the recommendations of a report (details supplied) on the post office network; if his attention has been drawn to the concerns raised over potential closures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [32048/20]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*33. To ask the Minister for Transport if the OPW will provide an update on construction of a bridge over the Dodder linking Bushy Park and Rathfarnham; and if plans have been delayed due to the pandemic. — Eoghan Murphy. [31897/20]

*34. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will address a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [31796/20]

*35. To ask the Minister for Transport the waiting time for a first driver test by centre; the measures he is taking to address the delays; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [31799/20]

*36. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will examine solutions such as ultra-cabins and groundhogs to allow the State's 1,700 driver instructors access to hygiene and sanitation facilities at driver test centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [31835/20]

*37. To ask the Minister for Transport if a compromise will be found that will ensure that driver test instructors are provided with adequate bathroom facilities and sanitisation facilities at driver test centres as a precaution to combat the spread of Covid-19. — Louise O'Reilly. [31836/20]

*38. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 73 of 9 September 2020, the status of the review; when the review will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31868/20]

*39. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to reopen closed railway stations on existing lines that are operational and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick O'Donovan. [31878/20]

*40. To ask the Minister for Transport if driver instructors are considered essential workers under level 4 of the Plan for Living with Covid-19; if driver tests can take place under level 4; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [31889/20]

*41. To ask the Minister for Transport if funding will be provided to progress a project (details supplied) in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [32062/20]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*42. To ask the Minister for Finance if track bookmakers can qualify for supports under the Covid-19 restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31802/20]

*43. To ask the Minister for Finance if self-employed workers will be eligible for the warehousing of tax announced in Budget 2021. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31990/20]

*44. To ask the Minister for Finance if the Covid-19 restrictions support scheme will be available for businesses such as those in the live events, arts and entertainment sectors that do not own their own premises. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31991/20]

*45. To ask the Minister for Finance if travel agencies qualify for the CRSS. — Gary Gannon. [32069/20]

*46. To ask the Minister for Finance if businesses closed during level 1 and level 2 qualify for the CRSS and payment breaks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [32070/20]

*47. To ask the Minister for Finance the position regarding the status of the planned changes to the retail export scheme including changes to the spending threshold; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [31778/20]

*48. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to ensure the availability of life insurance for persons in situations in which due to a change in policy by a provider, older persons are unable to secure a new life insurance policy due to their age, such as in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [31789/20]

*49. To ask the Minister for Finance if the State Claims Agency has carried out an assessment of the effectiveness of the operation of the panels of barristers maintained by the State Claims Agency; the criteria by which barristers on the panel are selected or nominated to receive briefs or instructions from the State Claims Agency; when it is planned to hold the next competition or tender process for the State Claims Agency barrister panel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [31795/20]

*50. To ask the Minister for Finance if legal issues have arisen following a court case in respect of primary medical certificates; his plans to rectify the issue in a timely way in order that eligible persons are not adversely affected; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [31797/20]

*51. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a schedule of businesses and sectors that qualify for CRSS scheme. — Catherine Murphy. [31839/20]

*52. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is engaging with banks regarding the issue that mortgage approvals are being delayed in which an applicant's employer is in receipt of the EWSS despite the applicant's wages remaining unaffected; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31846/20]

*53. To ask the Minister for Finance if travel agents qualify for the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [31847/20]

*54. To ask the Minister for Finance the categories of business and industry that the reduced VAT rate of 9% will apply to from 1 November 2020. — Paul McAuliffe. [31855/20]

*55. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will address a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31856/20]

*56. To ask the Minister for Finance if Irish licensed travel agents fall within the remit of the CRSS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [31860/20]

*57. To ask the Minister for Finance if the reduced VAT rate for the hospitality and tourism sector including hairdressers from 13.5% to 9% will be extended to include beauticians; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [31865/20]

*58. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will clarify certain details regarding the temporary wage subsidy scheme (details supplied). — Eoghan Murphy. [31896/20]

*59. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide clarity with regard to the new CRSS scheme; and if there is flexibility in the qualifying criteria which refers to annual turnover of less than €2 million to reflect businesses such as travel agents that may have significant turnover but the vast majority contributes to other business endeavours rather than their own. — Steven Matthews. [31902/20]

*60. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has held further talks with the main lender banks with regard to the provision of loans and mortgages to those in receipt of EWSS or the pandemic unemployment payment (details supplied). — Steven Matthews. [31906/20]

*61. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a grant (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [31938/20]

*62. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will address a matter in relation to the Covid restrictions support scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [31939/20]

*63. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will work with a bank (details supplied) to prevent job losses and a loss of competition to the banking market here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [31941/20]

*64. To ask the Minister for Finance if employees of public bodies qualify as e-workers for payments of up to €3.20 per day; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [32033/20]

*65. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to review the 10% threshold for heating, electricity and broadband bills on which employees can claim tax relief when working from home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [32034/20]

*66. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 65 of 23 September 2020, the further contact that has been made with a financial institution (details supplied); the progress made to secure existing employment and retain the services provided by this financial institution nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [32040/20]

*67. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the European Commission's decision to appeal the ruling of the EU General Court of the European Union on Ireland and tax paid by an organisation (details supplied) to the European Court of Justice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32046/20]

*68. To ask the Minister for Finance his engagement with the Central Bank in relation to Brexit preparedness based on the likelihood of a no-deal scenario; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32047/20]

*69. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the call by an association (details supplied) to reverse the suspension on the primary medical certificate; if his attention has been drawn to the impact suspending this scheme will have on those affected; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [32051/20]

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

*70. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the situation in respect of civil and public servants that must work from home due to Covid-19 restrictions and their ability to accumulate and use flexi hours worked (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [31887/20]

*71. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will ring-fence seized funds and the proceeds of seized goods for investment in drug treatment or youth diversion programmes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32060/20]

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

*72. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if a group of musicians can continue to do an online session from home in circumstances in which it is their sole income in view of the fact it has been indicated that tradesmen can continue to work in private homes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [31798/20]

*73. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will provide clarity regarding yoga studios and the current guidelines for this sector under level 3 Covid-19 restrictions and the way in which they can operate in the course of the current pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31808/20]

*74. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when the special Covid-19 grants will be paid by Sport Ireland; the amount and value of the grants; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [31824/20]

*75. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the position regarding sports capital grants; when she expects to be able to announce a new round of same; and the amount that will be available to clubs under such an announcement. — Duncan Smith. [31825/20]

*76. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the reason sexually explicit, graphic and inappropriate content such as (details supplied) is part of the programme for children at the National Youth Theatre. — Peadar Tóibín. [31841/20]

*77. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the oversight and procedures in place to monitor the content being utilised in youth programmes such as the

National Youth Theatre, and ensuring children are not exposed to sexually graphic and inappropriate content. — Peadar Tóibín. [31842/20]

*78. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the funding that has been allocated for dance schools following the announcement of Budget 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [31871/20]

*79. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the breakdown of the €50 million provided for the live entertainment sector in Budget 2021; the way in which this funding will be used; the way in which live entertainers can avail of support; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [31907/20]

*80. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when the next round of the sports capital fund will be announced; the expected duration of the process; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31935/20]

*81. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the increase to baseline core funding for the Arts Council separate from specific Covid-19 contingency funding for 2021. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31982/20]

*82. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the amount of funding announced in Budget 2021 for her Department which is to be made available or spent before 31 December 2020. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31983/20]

*83. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the way in which the €11 million additional funding for the national cultural institutions will be distributed. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31984/20]

*84. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the way in which the €9 million additional funding for the audiovisual sector will be distributed. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31985/20]

*85. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if there is a cost associated with the transfer of the National Symphony Orchestra to the National Concert Hall as outlined in Budget 2021. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31986/20]

*86. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if there remains unallocated Covid-19 contingency funding from her Department which could be used in the event of a worsening Covid-19 situation or continued lockdown restrictions affecting the sectors under its remit. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31987/20]

*87. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the amount of the €50 million in additional funds announced for the live entertainment support scheme which will be available for workers and businesses in the industry if Covid-19 restrictions continue to prohibit indoor gatherings and therefore events. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31988/20]

*88. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the amount of additional funding for the arts and culture sector as a whole, the Arts Council, the live entertainment support scheme, the audiovisual sector and the national cultural institutions which is specifically new funding when compared with the amounts provided for in the revised estimates for 2020. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31989/20]

*89. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the support available for businesses such as those in the live events, arts and entertainment sectors that do not own their own premises other than the Covid restrictions support scheme. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31991/20]

*90. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén fáth an bhfuil gearradh siar déanta ar chaiteachas caipitil sa Bhuiséad in earnáil na Gaeltachta. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31999/20]

*91. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cad atá i gceist san airgead breise atá fógartha sa Bhuiséad le haghaidh na Straitéise 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010 – 2030. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [32000/20]

*92. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán conas atá €4 mhilliún sa bhreis i leith chaiteachas caipitil an Údaráis fógartha sa Bhuiséad céanna ina bhfuil €2.5 mhilliún gearrtha siar as airgead caipitil na Gaeltachta; agus cár b as a dtagann na €6.5 mhilliún de ghearradh siar atá ag teastáil chun na €4 mhilliún sin a fháil. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [32001/20]

*93. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán an bhfuil aon ardú ar bhunlíne maoinithe earnáil na Gaeltachta, Fhoras na Gaeilge, agus Údarás na Gaeltachta, nó an ardú aonuaire amháin atá i gceist sa Bhuiséad chun dul i dtairbh le Covid-19. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [32002/20]

*94. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cá mhéad airgid sa bhreis a bheidh Foras na Gaeilge ag fáil sa €1.77 milliún atá fógartha don Fhoras Teanga, agus cén fáth a bhfuil €2 mhilliún bhreise fógartha dóibh sa Tuarascáil Chaiteachais. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [32003/20]

*95. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén fáth nach bhfuil aon airgead breise chun deileáil le Brexit fógartha don Ghaeltacht. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [32004/20]

*96. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén fáth nár thug sí na €4.1 mhilliún a bhí de dhíth ar TG4 dar le hÚdarás Craolacháin na hÉireann dóibh sa Bhuiséad seo. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [32005/20]

*97. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cár b as a bhfuil an €1.9 milliún ag teacht chun róchaiteachas TG4 a íoc roimh dheireadh na bliana. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [32006/20]

*98. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if the restart plus grant will be extended to bed and breakfast operators that have deferred their opening until 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [32081/20]

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

*99. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the breakdown of the funding allocation for his Department for 2021, by project. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31816/20]

*100. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the allocation of serviced sites fund by project for 2019 and 2020, in tabular form; the amount allocated and drawn down; the location of the development; the number and typology of homes per project; if the project has planning; if the project has commenced construction; and the estimated target date for completion. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31817/20]

*101. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if Dublin City Council has submitted an application for the serviced sites fund for St. Michael's Estate, Inchicore, Dublin 8; the amount requested; and when a decision will be made on the issue. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31818/20]

*102. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount, interest rate and maturity on the European Investment Bank loan provided for the cost rental apartments in St. Michael's Estate, Inchicore, Dublin 8. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31819/20]

*103. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has sought the advice of the Central Bank on the shared equity loan for which €75 million of funding was provided in Budget 2021; and if so, if the advice will be published. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31820/20]

*104. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has sought the advice of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform on the shared equity loan for which €75 million of funding provided in Budget 2021; and if so, if the advice will be published. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31821/20]

*105. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the breakdown of the 10,300 social homes targeted for delivery in 2021 by category (details supplied). — Eoin Ó Broin. [31822/20]

*106. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a landlord gives notice to vacate to a tenant in a rental accommodation scheme contract, if the local authority is responsible for rehoming the tenant as part of the contract; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31826/20]

*107. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the efforts he has made in respect of the 15% homeless persons in rural Ireland reported by a charity (details supplied) in July 2019; the progress made to house these persons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard O'Donoghue. [31851/20]

*108. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of homeless taskforce meetings he has held since taking office; the dates on which these meetings were held; and the attendees at these meetings. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31908/20]

*109. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of housing delivery taskforce meetings he has held since taking office; the dates on which these meetings were held; and the attendees at these meetings. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31909/20]

*110. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the Traveller accommodation funding drawn down by each local authority to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31918/20]

*111. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of Rebuilding Ireland home loan applications; and the number approved and drawn down in each quarter of 2020. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31919/20]

*112. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average Rebuilding Ireland home loan amount that was drawn down in Dublin and outside of Dublin, respectively in each quarter of 2020. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31920/20]

*113. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the detail of the organisations that made submissions to the public consultation on the general scheme of the water environment (abstractions) Bill in September and October 2018. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31930/20]

*114. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the breakdown of Covid-19 related homeless services expenditure in 2020 by each local authority that will be reimbursed; when these reimbursements will take place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [31931/20]

*115. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to a number of homes in County Clare which have been adversely impacted by defective building blocks; if he will make the necessary arrangements to extend the defective concrete block grant scheme to County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [32035/20]

*116. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if local authorities are permitted to obtain specific information (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [32038/20]

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

*117. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his plans for a colour coded common travel agreement within the EU in relation to foreign travel during Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [31781/20]

*118. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if his attention has been drawn to recent reports of the demolition of Palestinian homes in Masafer Yatta on the West Bank that had been funded by EU member states including Irish Aid; his views on same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [31815/20]

*119. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the cases of political prisoners (details supplied) in Bahrain that were sentenced to death. — Paul Murphy. [31932/20]

*120. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of additional staff from his Department and other Departments and State organisations that will be based in the Irish UN office in New York for the duration of Irish membership on the Security Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31933/20]

*121. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the discussions that have been held with the UK and Welsh Governments with regard to the Brexit preparedness of ports such as Holyhead, Fishguard and Pembroke; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32041/20]

*122. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of the engagement with the Chinese Government in relation to the treatment of the Uighurs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32043/20]

*123. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of the European Commission's article seven actions against Poland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32044/20]

*124. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of the European Commission's article seven actions against Hungary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32045/20]

*125. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the way in which a person in the case of an Irish passport holder from Northern Ireland, living in Ireland who wishes for all their official documentation to feature the Irish version of their name as opposed to the English version and their birth certificate is British or Northern Irish, can apply for this change to the version of their name and have it featured going forward in applications for passports, driver licences and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [32080/20]

Chun an Aire Cosanta: To the Minister for Defence.

*126. To ask the Minister for Defence his plans to award medals of honour to the seven surviving members of the siege of Jadotville; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that a person (details supplied) who was the officer in charge at the time recommended the awarding of medals of honour to these men; his views on whether it is now time to get this miscarriage of justice overturned while these men are still alive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [31869/20]

*127. To ask the Minister for Defence the number of Defence Force members currently carrying out contact tracing duties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32059/20]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*128. To ask the Minister for Education if employment terms and conditions for school bus escorts will be reviewed to allow for entitlement to sick leave and school holidays; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31780/20]

*129. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 155 of 9 September 2020, her previous response in regard to the loss of teachers this year following the retention assessment and further to the announcement in the budget that there will be a three point reduction in the retention schedule, if she will fast-track the process for the school in this current school year considering their unacceptable loss of teachers and with full regard to the pressures the current pandemic is placing on schools in this position; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31803/20]

*130. To ask the Minister for Education if she will respond to a person (details supplied) in relation to DEIS 1 schools and budget announcements; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31805/20]

*131. To ask the Minister for Education if there are plans in place to review the school bus transport scheme in view of the serious difficulties that arise with the scheme each year and in particular in the lead-up to the commencement in September of the academic year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [31807/20]

*132. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated cost in 2021 of increasing the book grant by €4 per pupil at primary level and by €7.50 per pupil at post-primary schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [31811/20]

*133. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to an application for summer works by a school (details supplied) in County Mayo; if the application will be expedited with a view to allocating funding to complete the project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [31854/20]

*134. To ask the Minister for Education if she is satisfied that a school (details supplied) has sufficient special needs support in view of the enrolment of additional students with special needs at the school since the review took place in May 2020; if she will request an examination of the situation to be carried out as a matter of urgency; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [31857/20]

*135. To ask the Minister for Education if a student (details supplied) in County Kerry will be made eligible for school transport; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31859/20]

*136. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the significant drop in fundraising support for schools as a result of Covid-19; the specific measures available in the Roadmap for the Return to Schools or Budget 2021 to address this funding shortage for schools that have been unable to fundraise; her plans to ensure no school is reliant on future fundraising activity for basic educational resources such as book rentals; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [31866/20]

*137. To ask the Minister for Education the preparations she has put in place to allow students to continue to access education via online portals should schools be forced to close for a time due to Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoghan Murphy. [31901/20]

*138. To ask the Minister for Education when the Emergency Works Scheme appeal submitted by a school (details supplied) will be decided and an answer sent to the management of the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31937/20]

*139. To ask the Minister for Education if she will give consideration to concerns raised by a union (details supplied) and school principals regarding the need to extend the planned class size reductions in order that DEIS band one senior schools, DEIS band one junior and vertical schools are included in the measure; if she will meet with the union to discuss same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [31940/20]

*140. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an analysis of the make-up of the student population whose teacher marks were adjusted as part of the standardisation process, showing in particular, the distribution of the cases adjusted by gender, distinguishing up-marks from down-marks, adjustments to different grade levels and other data to support the claim that the method was blind between school types. — Richard Bruton. [32007/20]

*141. To ask the Minister for Education the reason for the delay in the progression of a school build for a school (details supplied) other than Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [32063/20]

*142. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide a timeline for completion of a school project for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [32064/20]

*143. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the position in a school (details supplied) and the increased risks the school faces losing a teacher due to lower enrolment numbers than expected; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [32065/20]

*144. To ask the Minister for Education the number of primary schools due to lose staff on 24 October 2020 due to smaller enrolments than expected reported on the annual school census by county; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [32066/20]

*145. To ask the Minister for Education the number of school builds that are in the various stages of planning and build process in tabular form; and her views on the extent Covid-19 has delayed the process. — Gary Gannon. [32068/20]

*146. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the fact that many schools in the Dublin area are operating without satisfactory levels of PPE; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [32073/20]

*147. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 218 of 13 May 2020 and 155 of 9 September 2020 and the loss of teachers in 2020 following the retention assessment and further to the announcement in Budget 2021 that there will be a three point reduction in the retention schedule, if she will fast-track the process for a school (details supplied) in this current school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [32077/20]

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

*148. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person on the pandemic unemployment benefit is entitled to take up a full-time study as an undergraduate; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [31801/20]

*149. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way in which pandemic unemployment payments interact with other social welfare payments including disability allowance and the means testing of same. — Thomas Gould. [31838/20]

*150. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an issue (details supplied) in respect of the pandemic unemployment payment earnings and social protection assistance for the taxi sector will be addressed. — Catherine Murphy. [31840/20]

*151. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of lone parents that will benefit from the removal of the income threshold to OPFA; the estimated costings for the removal of the income threshold for OPFA; the estimated cost to increase the income disregard on OPFA and JST by €10; and the way in which new applicants for OPFA and those currently on OPFA can be means tested for payment with removal of the current income threshold. — Martin Kenny. [31844/20]

*152. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a decision on a child benefit claim will be made in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Cork. — Sean Sherlock. [31853/20]

*153. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the time limits will be extended for jobseeker's benefit payment for those that need it in view of the increased challenge faced by many to gain employment during this pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [31867/20]

*154. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the provisions in place for community employment scheme employees to work from home during level 3 and 4 restrictions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [31870/20]

*155. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the qualifying criteria for a person returning here to work that needs to have their PRSI contributions made in the United Kingdom added to their PRSI contributions recorded here without delay in order to allow them apply for jobseeker's benefit in view of the fact this person already satisfies the habitual residency condition; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [31876/20]

*156. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person that was working in the UK, but is resident in Ireland, can apply for jobseeker's benefit by adding their PRSI contributions from the UK; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [31877/20]

*157. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the increased parents benefit as introduced in Budget 2021 can be availed of by those that had children in 2020 in view of the childcare and other challenges currently presenting; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [31880/20]

*158. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an application for the living alone allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31882/20]

*159. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an application for carer's allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31890/20]

*160. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of rent supplement payments being paid at present. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31921/20]

*161. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when payment will be reinstated for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [31964/20]

*162. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a previous application for a contributory pension based on self-employment and partnership contributions in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [32015/20]

*163. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will extend the jobseeker's allowance for those that need it in view of the unique challenges in finding employment during this pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [32050/20]

*164. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps she is taking to provide community employment supervisors access to pensions in line with the 2008 Labour Court recommendation to provide access to an occupational pension scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [32052/20]

*165. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are plans to reduce the qualifying period on social welfare in order to receive the back to education payment from nine months to three months for level 8 courses. — Gary Gannon. [32071/20]

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

*166. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration when it is planned that parental leave will be extended to five weeks; if the legislation that is required to introduce it will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [31786/20]

*167. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if children that are home schooled can leave their county for educational purposes such as nature walks, educational trips and so on; and if specific guidance will be provided to the parents of home-schooled children. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [31978/20]

*168. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if he will bring forward the implementation of the extension of the current two weeks parents leave to five weeks in order that many new mothers that gave birth during this pandemic can avail of the extension; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [32049/20]

*169. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the amount of funding provided to the domestic, sexual and gender-based violence sector in each of the years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [31810/20]

*170. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if he will advise on the approach to records from mother and baby homes; the proposed archival of same; the issues that arose from this proposal; his views on whether access to the records would be beneficial to survivors, historians or other interested parties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [31879/20]

*171. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the number of adults and children remaining in direct provision centres after their leave to remain has been granted for the most recent date available. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31922/20]

*172. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the number of adults and children that accessed Tusla funded domestic violence refuge accommodation to date in 2020; the average length of time families spent in such accommodation; and the number of beds available on a given night in 2019. — Eoin Ó Broin. [31923/20]

*173. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the number of witnesses that appeared before the Confidential Committee of the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31943/20]

*174. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the number of witnesses that appeared before the Investigative Committee of the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31944/20]

*175. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the number of witnesses that appeared before the Confidential Committee were subsequently referred to the Investigative Committee of the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31945/20]

*176. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the number of written testimonies received by the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31946/20]

*177. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the number of witnesses that gave either oral or written testimony to the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation that were covered by the Commission's Terms of Reference. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31947/20]

*178. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the number of anonymised witness testimonies that will be included in the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation report. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31948/20]

*179. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if anonymised witness testimonies will be reproduced in full in the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation report. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31949/20]

*180. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if witness testimonies from the Confidential Committee of the Commission will be in the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation report. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31950/20]

*181. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if witness testimonies from the Investigative Committee of the Commission will be in the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation report. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31951/20]

*182. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if written witness testimonies submitted to the Commission will be in the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation report. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31952/20]

*183. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if written or oral testimonies from witnesses not covered by the Commission's terms of reference will be in the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation report. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31953/20]

*184. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if the Commission has contacted witnesses to inform them that their testimonies will be included in the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation report. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31954/20]

*185. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if the Commission has contacted witnesses to ask permission for their testimonies to be included in the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation report. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31955/20]

*186. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if the Commission has contacted witnesses to ascertain their wishes regarding anonymisation of their testimonies in the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation report. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31956/20]

*187. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the methodology used by the Mother and Baby Homes Commission to pick extracts from the testimonies. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31957/20]

*188. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the methodology used to give summaries of testimonies. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31958/20]

*189. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the number of witnesses the Commission gave evidence to in view of the provisions of section 12 (1) of the 2004 Act (details supplied). — Mary Lou McDonald. [31959/20]

*190. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the methodologies used by the Commission to decide on the evidence to give or withhold from witnesses in view of the provisions of section 12(1) of the 2004 Act (details supplied). — Mary Lou McDonald. [31960/20]

*191. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if State papers in their original form examined by the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation that were previously accessible under the National Archives Acts 1986 and 2018 have been returned to the National Archives and will remain accessible to members of the public. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31961/20]

*192. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the date by which all State papers in their original form examined by the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation will be returned to the National Archives and be available for public inspection under the National Archives Acts 1986 and 2018. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31962/20]

*193. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if personal and administrative records normally held by Tusla and other bodies in their original form examined by the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation have been returned to the original record holders. — Mary Lou McDonald. [31963/20]

*194. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration if he is satisfied that Oberstown Children Detention Campus is implementing and adhering to the best Covid-19 practices; the procedures in place to protect children and staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [31965/20]

*195. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the position regarding the additional three weeks parental leave announced in Budget 2021; if this is combined with the previous two weeks; the timeframe that parents have until this leave becomes unavailable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [31974/20]

*196. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Integration the provisions that are available to assist frontline workers with childcare needs during Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [32061/20]

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

*197. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the documents that would suffice regarding Article 21(3)(b) of the student grant scheme 2020 to prove estrangement in the case of persons (details supplied). — Sorca Clarke. [31970/20]

*198. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his attention has been drawn to plans to close the business school at the GMIT Mayo campus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [31790/20]

*199. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the arrangements being put in place to hold online courses for apprentices in lieu of the 12 week courses in colleges normally attended by them, particularly for those near the end of their apprenticeships; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [31850/20]

*200. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the €167 million announced as Covid-19 related expenditure in Budget 2021 is separate and in addition to the €168 million announced in July 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31911/20]

*201. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way in which the €167 million announced as Covid-19 related expenditure in the Budget 2021 will be spent by category; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31912/20]

*202. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way in which the €38 million allocation of additional resources in Budget 2021 will be spent by category; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31913/20]

*203. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to pay €3,000 per employer as part of the apprenticeships incentivisation scheme; if the target is 4,000 additional apprenticeships and financial resources allocated is €8 million; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31914/20]

*204. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if universities in Northern Ireland are able to offer courses through the CAO system; his views on whether the inclusion of institutes of higher education in Northern Ireland participating in the CAO would increase cross-Border enrolment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31915/20]

*205. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps that are being taken to put supports in place for nursing and other medical students that have been forced to give up work for a number of months during placement in order to avoid any risk associated with cross contamination; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31916/20]

*206. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 236 of 14 October 2020, if Dublin Technical University currently holds no debt; if he plans to create a borrowing framework for the technological universities to allow them to borrow in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31917/20]

*207. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the breakdown of the funding for laptops for disadvantaged third-level students for each qualified college in tabular form; the number of laptops supplied to individual students from each college involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [31995/20]

*208. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the persons eligible for the once-off €50 million Covid-19 fund; if agriculture colleges (details supplied) are included; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard O'Donoghue. [32039/20]

*209. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the engagements he has had with University College Dublin in relation to providing Covid-19 compliant accommodation to students on campus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32055/20]

*210. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the engagements he has had with University College Dublin in relation to accommodation costs for students on campus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32056/20]

*211. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the engagements he has had with Science Foundation Ireland in relation to its participation in the Department of Foreign Affairs' Ireland House strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32057/20]

*212. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the supports that will be provided to students to assist them with online and blended learning in which difficulties arise due to inadequate broadband telecommunications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [32074/20]

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

*213. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide details of the powers of homeowners and management companies under the provisions of the Multi-Unit Developments Act 2011 and related legislation, in relation to management agencies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [31924/20]

*214. To ask the Minister for Justice when she expects to take Committee Stage of the Perjury and Related Offences Bill 2018 as agreed following the PMB motion of 29 July 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [31785/20]

*215. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of barristers by both junior and senior counsel that were on the Legal Aid Board's barrister panels in each of the years 2014 to 2019 inclusive; the criteria by which barristers are selected to be allocated cases or briefs by the Legal Aid Board; the number of individual barristers by both junior and senior counsel that actually received instructions or briefs from the Legal Aid Board in each of the years 2014 to 2019 inclusive; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [31793/20]

*216. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason for issuing a circular (details supplied) instructing face-to-face learning in international language schools; if ELE industry specific risks were taken into consideration when issuing the circular; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31809/20]

*217. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason a person (details supplied) was scheduled for release back into society on 24 September 2020 when they were still believed to be homicidal, is facing charges of sexually assaulting two women and is charged with threats to kill two persons one being their mother. — Peadar Tóibín. [31829/20]

*218. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of convictions processed in the State for membership of terrorist organisations in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date in 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [32053/20]

*219. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason there is a delay in the payment of criminal legal aid fees to solicitors and barristers in some of the District Court and Circuit Court areas; the reason for the delay; the time period from date of application to the District Court or Circuit Court Office for the payment of the fees to the date that same are paid; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [32075/20]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*220. To ask the Minister for Health his views on and the position regarding the enforcement of the behaviour of customers, for example, mask wearing and social distancing; and his views on whether the requirement to call in An Garda Síochána for such issues is unduly cumbersome. — Richard Bruton. [31783/20]

*221. To ask the Minister for Health the details of the community healthcare organisation quality improvement plan including the defined actions to improve maternity care and the timeframe for these actions as outcomes from the National Maternity Experience Survey. — Gary Gannon. [32067/20]

*222. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that there is no provision of general anaesthetic services for small children accessing dental health services in Dublin North City CHO9; his plans to address same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [31777/20]

*223. To ask the Minister for Health if he will publish information in relation to the terms and conditions of persons employed as contact tracers including the rates of pay, the length of the contracts, the number of hours work guaranteed per week, pension entitlements, holiday and sick pay arrangements; if the recruitment and ongoing HR issues are managed by an outsourced firm; if a copy of a template contract or contracts will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [31779/20]

*224. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) has not received an appointment in Temple Street; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [31782/20]

*225. To ask the Minister for Health the number of optometrists recruited by the HSE for CHO area 5 in each of the years 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form; if there are plans to roll out enhanced eyesight testing for children between 8 and 12 years of age in schools to assist in early diagnosis of any degeneration which may be missed in the absence of such a programme for free especially in low income households; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [31812/20]

*226. To ask the Minister for Health the additional theatre capacity that was provided in St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny in each of the years 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [31813/20]

*227. To ask the Minister for Health if couples that do not cohabit and live across boundary lines can visit each other during level 3 Covid-19 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31814/20]

*228. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that a resource centre (details supplied) has not received an increase in funding since 2010; and if he will provide pay restoration to 2020 levels for this group. — Patrick Costello. [31823/20]

*229. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider a case on compassionate grounds of a person (details supplied) who is awaiting an assessment of needs as they require intervention and supports. — Thomas Gould. [31845/20]

*230. To ask the Minister for Health the date on which adult and paediatric audiology services and speech therapy services will resume; and the number of waiting lists as of 15 October 2020 for each of the services by location. — Catherine Murphy. [31848/20]

*231. To ask the Minister for Health the budget that was allocated to Clare County Council for homeless services in 2019; and if this entire budget was spent in 2019. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31861/20]

*232. To ask the Minister for Health the number of physiotherapy appointments provided per year and county for children with a disability under the age of 16 over a five-year period from 2015 to 2019, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31872/20]

*233. To ask the Minister for Health the number of speech and language appointments provided for children with a disability under the age of 16 in each of the years 2015 to 2019, by county in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31874/20]

*234. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children with a disability under the age of 16 years registered with the HSE disability services in each of the years 2016 and 2019, by county in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31875/20]

*235. To ask the Minister for Health when funding will be made available to support the delivery of community action on alcohol from the additional funding announced within Budget 2020 with specific reference to funding for the Alcohol Subgroup of the Canal Communities Regional Drug and the Alcohol Task Force. — Patrick Costello. [31881/20]

*236. To ask the Minister for Health if prescription drugs ramilo for blood pressure and stugeron for vertigo are covered on a medical card; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31884/20]

*237. To ask the Minister for Health the reason he or his predecessor has not published an independent review of the charge rate negotiation system that was presented in May 2019; if he will immediately publish this review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [31891/20]

*238. To ask the Minister for Health the process of a new capital project in health from end to end, that is, from design to planning to procurement to build; if he will identify the different stages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [31893/20]

*239. To ask the Minister for Health if he will examine the possibility of ending unpaid placements for student nurses and midwives in hospitals (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31903/20]

*240. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the delay in providing student nurses and midwives with travel and accommodation expenses when they are on unpaid placements in hospitals; if this issue will be rectified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31904/20]

*241. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider providing suitable financial compensation for student nurses and midwives while on mandatory work placement as part of their training in order that students do not have to choose between education and temporary employment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31905/20]

*242. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 459 of 15 September 2020, 133 of 7 October 2020 and 174 of 14 October 2020, if his Department will provide a sample showing the exact format of the medical certificate required to certify that a secondary school student falls into one of the categories for a face covering exemption; if a copy of this sample medical certificate will appear on his Department's website; if he will provide a link to same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [31926/20]

*243. To ask the Minister for Health when funding will be made available to support the delivery of community action on alcohol from the additional funding announced in Budget 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [31927/20]

*244. To ask the Minister for Health when the threshold for medical cards will be raised as committed to in Budget 2020 in order that persons can apply for same. — John Lahart. [31942/20]

*245. To ask the Minister for Health if an appointment already in place for a person (details supplied) in County Cork will be brought forward in view of the urgency of their case. — Sean Sherlock. [31966/20]

*246. To ask the Minister for Health the rate of pay for personal assistants in each CHO area that work with disabled persons to ensure they live independent lives. — Sorca Clarke. [31971/20]

*247. To ask the Minister for Health if there is a standard hourly rate paid to agencies that employ personal assistants to work with disabled persons to ensure they live independent lives. — Sorca Clarke. [31972/20]

*248. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to introduce a standardised rate of pay for all personal assistants employed to work with disabled persons in assisting them live independent lives. — Sorca Clarke. [31973/20]

*249. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department has set targets for increasing the use of generics medicine within the medicines market here; if so, the targets; the extent to which Ireland compares to other EU countries in the use of generic medicines; the estimated extra saving

envisaged in 2021 by increased use of generics medicines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [31975/20]

*250. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department has set targets for increasing the use of biosimilars medicine within the medicines market here; if so, the targets; the extent to which Ireland compares to other EU countries in the use of biosimilar medicines; the estimated extra saving envisaged in 2021 by the increased use; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [31976/20]

*251. To ask the Minister for Health if he has reviewed the proposals from a group within a report (details supplied) which suggest that if implemented, there could be savings of up to a further €1 billion over the next five years in reducing the cost of medicines here; his engagement on the matter; his views on the cost of medicines here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [31977/20]

*252. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive a residential placement considering that they are already on the HSE's list for emergency residential care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [31979/20]

*253. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the delay with the distribution of the flu vaccine (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [31998/20]

*254. To ask the Minister for Health the number of ICU units by public hospital in tabular form; the details of ICU surge capacity available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [32031/20]

*255. To ask the Minister for Health the number of ICU units by private hospital in tabular form; the details of ICU surge capacity that was available during the HSE private hospital contract period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [32032/20]

*256. To ask the Minister for Health if provision is made to prioritise Covid-19 testing for healthcare workers and their immediate family members in circumstances in which it is deemed necessary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [32037/20]

*257. To ask the Minister for Health when a hospital bed including accessories can be provided for homecare in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [32054/20]

*258. To ask the Minister for Health his views on human connection and if it is a basic human need; and if so, the way that this affects individuals living alone. — Gary Gannon. [32072/20]

*259. To ask the Minister for Health when early intervention services will resume for children with Down's syndrome (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [32076/20]

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

*260. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will address a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [31849/20]

*261. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the persons eligible for the young farmers scheme in 2020; the percentage variance from 2019 to 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard O'Donoghue. [31852/20]

*262. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a new date will issue for persons (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31883/20]

*263. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the funding available from his Department for the restoration and maintenance of piers; the process for applying for funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [31885/20]

*264. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if those that made a simple error on their BPS 2020 applications (details supplied) will be allowed to be included for payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [31895/20]

*265. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the Forestry Appeals Committee has now set up multiple divisions to hear appeals; if not, when it will do so; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31980/20]

*266. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if additional personnel have taken up their roles in the Forestry Appeals Committee; if not, when they will be in a position to do so; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31981/20]

*267. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of new persons that are being appointed to the Forestry Appeals Committee; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31992/20]

*268. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of Forestry Appeals Committee appeal hearings scheduled for October, November and December 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31994/20]

*269. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the current backlog of 500 appeals is expected to be cleared by the Forestry Appeals Committee; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31996/20]

*270. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the Forestry Appeals Committee has now set up multiple divisions to hear appeals; if not, when it will do so; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31997/20]

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

*271. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if the Leader programme will provide for new applications in 2021. — Sean Sherlock. [31832/20]

*272. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that has been made available for a national rural development programme as committed to in the Programme for Government to replace the current Leader programme in 2021. — Sean Sherlock. [31833/20]

*273. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the consultation that has taken place with stakeholders on the development of a transitional Leader programme to 2023;

and the way in which she plans to proceed in terms of developing a national rural development programme as outlined in the Programme for Government. — Sean Sherlock. [31834/20]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH,
I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 22 DEIREADH FÓMHAIR, 2020
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY,
FOR ORAL ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 22 OCTOBER, 2020**

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

1. To ask the Minister for Justice the criteria for groups and or organisations to access funding made available by her Department to community and voluntary groups to support their response to Covid-19; the way in which decisions to allocate funding to such groups were made; the reason an organisation (details supplied) was denied such funding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [32009/20]

2. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will commission a review of the effects of changes in the law regarding the offence of prostitution and specifically the effects of this change on vulnerable women; the number of women that have been charged with the offence of brothel keeping since the change to the legislation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [32021/20]

3. To ask the Minister for Justice the date on which the transfer of functions will take place from her Department of matters relating to discrimination in accessing third-level education, public services and employment by minors and young persons that were born here or that are long-term resident here but that are not Irish, EEA, UK or Swiss citizens; the steps that will be taken following the transfer of functions to ensure access to these services for these persons; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [30629/20]

4. To ask the Minister for Justice if she supports legislative change to ensure that persons born and or are a long term resident here as minors but are not Irish, EEA, UK or Swiss nationals will be able to access work, third-level education and other public services on the same basis as persons with one of those nationalities; if she will review the situation facing these persons; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [32028/20]

5. To ask the Minister for Justice if her attention has been drawn to a study (details supplied) calling for a fresh approach to policing, crime prevention and youth engagement; and if she will consider the way in which working across Government the ambitions of this report can be fulfilled. — Richard Bruton. [30682/20]

6. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to criminalise adults who groom children to commit crimes as outlined in the Programme for Government. — Paul McAuliffe. [31241/20]

7. To ask the Minister for Justice her views on the demand for a public inquiry into the death of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [32020/20]

8. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will outline progress in the fight against organised crime and the activities and the membership of organised criminal gangs; her views on the adequacy

of existing legislation to deal with any challenges arising; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [32018/20]

9. To ask the Minister for Justice the physical renovations being made to existing courthouses and Garda stations to prevent the spread of Covid-19; and if Tralee courthouse will be one of those allocated funds to do so. — Pa Daly. [30963/20]

10. 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. [31787/20]

11. To ask the Minister for Justice her views on whether an additional €0.4 million in additional funding will be sufficient for organisations and groups responding to increased service demands from persons impacted by domestic abuse Covid-19 restrictions; if consideration is being given to tailoring the methods used to prevent and to deal with instances of domestic crime now that additional funding has been allocated to her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [32027/20]

12. To ask the Minister for Justice the estimated breakdown of costs within the €8 million allocated to the Stardust inquest; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [32012/20]

13. To ask the Minister for Justice if she is satisfied with the level of compliance by persons that are subject to the requirements of Part 2 of the Sex Offenders Act 2001; the number of breaches of these conditions recorded by An Garda Síochána in the past 12 months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [30685/20]

14. To ask the Minister for Justice the mental health supports that are being provided to members of An Garda Síochána to support them through the Covid-19 pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [30836/20]

15. To ask the Minister for Justice the breakdown of costs of the €70 million in the Garda ICT budget for 2020 and 2021; the total projected cost of upgrading the Garda ICT; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [32011/20]

16. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will address the issue of parent alienation; if her attention has been drawn to the issue; her plans to address same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [31083/20]

17. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to provide a women's open centre along the lines of Shelton Abbey or Loughan House for female prisoners on the grounds of equality; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [30914/20]

18. To ask the Minister for Justice if community Gardaí will be increased in view of the additional budgetary allocation for her Department; the methodology that would be used to do so in view of the fact that the incidence rates of particular types of crime can vary; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [32026/20]

19. To ask the Minister for Justice the details of the capital expenditure projects under the justice heading of Budget 2021. — Pa Daly. [30962/20]

20. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to recognise the residency of non-EEA nationals under 16 years of age; if she is satisfied that the current situation is not open to legal challenge; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [30684/20]

21. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of Garda stations that do not have at least full-time Garda allocated to them; the number of Garda stations that do not have a regular opening time; if the Garda authorities have sought further resources so that these stations can be manned; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [30913/20]

22. To ask the Minister for Justice her views on the recently published Report on Capping Damages in Personal Injury Actions by the Law Reform Commission; the actions she will take on foot of the recommendations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [32024/20]