



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 26 Samhain, 2020
Thursday, 26th November, 2020

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER
CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his plans to review the existing human rights and business plan 2017-2020. — John Brady. [38304/20]

2. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the actions he has taken following Poland and Hungary's veto of the EU budget over the new rules linking funding to the rule of law; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [38181/20]

3. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if the Government will be seeking compensation from the State of Israel for the destruction of infrastructure paid for by the Irish taxpayer by Israeli forces. — John Brady. [38305/20]

4. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the feasibility of the State introducing a Covid-19 stamp on passports to demonstrate that travellers have received the vaccination against the virus. — Marian Harkin. [38293/20]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

5. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his plans to raise the ongoing use of Shannon Airport by the US military with US President-elect Biden, particularly in view of the fact that from January to October 2020, 65,965 US military personnel transited Shannon Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [38480/20]

6. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of negotiations between the European Union and the United Kingdom with regard to the future relationship; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [38449/20]

7. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on whether the actions taken by Hungary and Poland are undermining the effective functioning of the European Union; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [38445/20]

8. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will re-examine the proposed legislation to ban the import of goods from illegal settlements in Palestine in view of recent attacks by the Israeli state there on human rights and the ongoing demolition of homes by the Israeli state; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [38339/20]

9. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on Poland and Hungary blocking coronavirus recovery funding due to it being linked to the rule of law; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [38266/20]

10. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if the draft UN Treaty on Business and Human Rights was discussed at the European Council; and the position he took in relation to same. — Cian O’Callaghan. [36238/20]

11. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will raise the matter relating to a person (details supplied) with his EU counterparts at upcoming EU wide meetings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [38338/20]

12. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he and his EU and UN colleagues are alert to the situation in Armenia, Azerbaijan in respect of Nagorno-Karabakh and Ethiopia Sudan horn of Africa; the degree to which initiatives have been taken to address the humanitarian issues arising; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [38273/20]

13. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his plans to enter discussions with the President-elect of the United States of America, Mr. Joe Biden, on the issue of the difficulties facing undocumented Irish persons in the United States and in particular the progression of the E3 Visa Bill through Congress; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [38205/20]

14. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if the Government will use the opportunity of the election of President-elect Joe Biden to make representations to the incoming administration there around the plight of the undocumented Irish emigrants in the United States. — John Brady. [38301/20]

15. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if there has been discussion at the European Council of Foreign Ministers in relation to controlling the multibillion EU arms industry and ensuring that EU manufacturers of armaments are only being used according to EU wide guidelines; the position Ireland adopted in such discussions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [38363/20]

16. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the position regarding Ireland’s plans to ensure an effective land bridge for Irish agriculture in the aftermath of Brexit to the European market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O’Connor. [38192/20]

17. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the action his Department has taken to build contacts with the incoming Biden administration in the United States of America; if such efforts are being facilitated by the United States Department of State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [38452/20]

18. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the preparations that have been made ahead of Ireland joining the UN Security Council in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [38070/20]

19. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on reports of mass killings in the Northern Tigray region of Ethiopia; his views on whether this could escalate to a civil war; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [37907/20]

20. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has spoken to his counterpart in the UK Government in relation to the Dublin and Monaghan Bombings; if he will provide an update on the independent Police Teams analytic report into the Glennane series of cases that was announced by the PSNI on 30 November 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [32085/20]

21. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on new illegal settlements on the West Bank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [38265/20]

22. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of Brexit negotiations regarding the protection of Irish fisheries and their fishing rights; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [38306/20]

23. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of the way in which his Department is engaging with US Government agencies with regard to the undocumented Irish. — Cathal Crowe. [38082/20]

24. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his discussions with the ambassador of Saudi Arabia on the issue of the treatment and imprisonment of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [38336/20]

25. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the consequences of the conflict in Ethiopia and the region of Tigray in relation to the worsening humanitarian situation in Ethiopia and the region of Tigray and for stability in the Horn of Africa; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [37958/20]

26. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the progress in having the international community including the EU and the UN recognise Ireland’s sovereignty over Rockall. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [38406/20]

27. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of progress his Department has made towards the release of the women’s human rights defender (details supplied) currently on hunger strike in Saudi Arabia. — John Brady. [38299/20]

28. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the progress in relation to suspending Israel from the EUD-Med and EU Neighbourhood Agreements given its continuous flagrant breaches of the human rights of the Palestinian people and specifically its recent settlement programmes on Palestinian land. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [38405/20]

29. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has raised concerns internationally regarding the recent expansion of Israeli illegal settlements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [38198/20]

30. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the progress made to date on resolving the issue of undocumented Irish in the United States of America; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [38208/20]

31. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the fact that some European Union countries are making unsubstantiated claims in relation to the legitimacy of the outcome of the recent presidential election in the United States of America; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [38460/20]

32. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his plans to reopen an Irish Embassy in Iran. — John Brady. [38303/20]

33. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the total financial allocation for the Emigrant Support Programme in 2020; the funding to be allocated for 2021; if this allocation will enable additional programmes to be supported; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [38292/20]

34. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will use Ireland's upcoming membership of the UN Security Council to highlight the increase in recent months in demolitions of Palestinian structures in the West Bank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [38479/20]

35. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the current situation in South Sudan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [38191/20]

36. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if his attention has been drawn to the fact that EU diplomats present were called anti-Semites following the chasing away of the EU's Head of Mission to the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Mr. Sven Kuhn Von Burgsdorff, from a Jerusalem neighbourhood Givat Hamatos the day after Israel issued tenders for 1,257 new homes in the area; the action the EU has taken on the matter to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [37959/20]

37. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs when it is expected that the new consulate in Manchester will be in operation; if other consulates in the United Kingdom are being considered; the role and function of the various missions in the UK post-Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [37960/20]

38. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps he will take to ensure the inquiry into the death of a person (details supplied) takes place in view of a debate in the UK Parliament in relation to same. — Patrick Costello. [38307/20]

39. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps he plans to take on foot of the demolition of homes by the Israeli state in view of the recent illegal demolitions that have destroyed homes built by EU and Irish aid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [38337/20]

40. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the progress to date with the Brexit discussions between the EU and Britain; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [38364/20]

41. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the interaction he has had with his European Council colleagues on the EU Budget 2021-2027; and when it will receive consent from the Council. — Neale Richmond. [36657/20]

42. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of the ongoing outstanding requests with the UK Government regarding inquiries into the Dublin and Monaghan Bombings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [37693/20]

43. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if overseas development programmes have been hampered by the Covid-19 virus; and if unspent money can be carried forward. — Richard Bruton. [37952/20]

44. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his plans to reintroduce legislation similar to that of the Control of Economic Activities (Occupied Territories) Bill 2018. — Thomas Gould. [38242/20]

45. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the reason for the humanitarian crisis in Yemen; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [38190/20]

46. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if progress has been made on establishing an E3 visa agreement between Ireland and the United States of America; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [38209/20]

47. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the action being taken to ensure that the rule of law mechanism will be effective in the EU Budget discussions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [38456/20]

48. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will consider the possibility of allowing local communities decide the use of a small part of the ODA budget through a democratic consultation process in locations in which a well-structured aid programme is in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [37953/20]

49. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the latest discussions he and his officials have had with his counterparts in Northern Ireland during Covid-19 in relation to the Border and combating the virus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [37692/20]

50. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the measures he is taking to address the ongoing political, economic, social and humanitarian crisis in Venezuela; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [38454/20]

51. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on Ireland signing up to the proposed European peace facility; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [29131/20]

52. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the position towards plans by the Hungarian Government to introduce a series of constitutional amendments which include the outlawing of same-sex marriages. — John Brady. [38300/20]

53. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he supports the draft UN Treaty on Business and Human Rights; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [38197/20]

54. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the action of Poland and Hungary in vetoing the Multi Annual Budget and Recovery Programme of the EU; the way in which he sees the requirement for member states to adhere to the common values of the union are to be enforced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [37954/20]

55. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the current position in regard to the Brexit negotiations with particular reference to the issues of most sensitive importance to this country in terms of readily available unimpeded transport facilities onto European markets; the extent to which any agreement has been reached between the EU and the UK with adequate protection for Irish and European interests; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [38274/20]

56. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the position regarding proposed immigration reform in the United States with particular reference to the difficulties facing the undocumented Irish; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [38291/20]

57. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his response to Turkish interference in the affairs of the Island of Cyprus, and the calls by the Turkish President Erdogan for a two-state solution on the island. — John Brady. [38302/20]

58. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on the situation in Belarus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [37906/20]

59. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his plans to ensure adequate inputs from the Houses of the Oireachtas and civil society organisations in Ireland in relation to the proposed EU Strategy for Africa; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [37957/20]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

60. To ask the Minister for Finance if proactive engagement will be undertaken with a bank (details supplied) regarding the reported closure of its branches and operations in view of the recent resignation of its chairman and the involvement of another bank in the strategic review of the operations of the bank and the potential sale of its loan book to a company; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39489/20]

61. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to reports of a company (details supplied) that generated €153 million in profits over a seven month period which through complex accounting procedures turned those profits into a loss and paid no tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39491/20]

62. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the Second Private Motor Insurance Report of the National Information Claims Database; the action he will take in response to its findings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39490/20]

63. To ask the Minister for Finance the expected cost to the Exchequer of the stay and spend scheme in 2021 and 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [38837/20]

64. To ask the Minister for Finance the date he will bring forward an amendment to the Finance Bill 2020 to provide for the existing medical criteria in primary legislation in order to allow for the primary medical certificate assessments to recommence. — Mattie McGrath. [38925/20]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

65. To ask the Minister for Finance if there has been an increase in the purchase of State bonds or savings certificates administered issued by the NTMA or State prize bonds in the past 12 months; if so, the increase and current amounts invested in these bonds and products; and his views on the matter. — Eoghan Murphy. [36722/20]

66. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in counties Offaly and Laois that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [39197/20]

67. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will reform inheritance tax rules in which a favoured niece or nephew is treated in the same manner as a child in circumstances in which they have no family; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [38840/20]

68. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 319 of 10 November 2020, if he will reconsider the position on mortgage lenders in relation to customers that are on the employment wage subsidy scheme and that are being denied mortgages even though they are in long-term employment and their jobs are not considered to be in jeopardy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [36678/20]

69. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of his Department's preparations for Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39213/20]

70. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is considering the calls from a group (details supplied) and other arts and cultural bodies for insurance reform; and if he is considering a refund of public and employers' liability insurance for organisations which now have no insurable events going ahead. — Duncan Smith. [27499/20]

71. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to assist homebuyers that are being refused drawdown of approved loans due to one or both borrowers being on the temporary wage subsidy scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [38632/20]

72. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the legal issues that have arisen following a court case in respect of primary medical certificates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [37826/20]

73. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to incentives to encourage credit unions and post offices to lend to persons whose income has been temporarily affected by Covid-19 to ensure they are not forced to obtain loans from private moneylenders with extortionate interest rates. — Thomas Gould. [39153/20]

74. To ask the Minister for Finance when changes to the disabled drivers and passengers scheme will come into effect; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [39214/20]

75. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he remains satisfied that Ireland's economy remains robust and stable when compared to other economies across Europe, within the Eurozone and without; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39138/20]

76. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in counties Longford and Westmeath that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [39185/20]

77. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is considering a new State-backed investment scheme via a bond, certificate or savings account. — Eoghan Murphy. [36723/20]

78. To ask the Minister for Finance the innovations he plans for the upcoming statement of strategy of his Department. — Richard Bruton. [36171/20]

79. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to a situation whereby a credit union (details supplied) has removed its death grant and refused to reinstate the grant despite a motion passed at the AGM in 2019. — Thomas Gould. [39152/20]

80. To ask the Minister for Finance the tax, VAT and excise reliefs and exemptions that currently exist in Irish tax law for armed forces from another state; the estimated cost of these reliefs and exemptions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [39217/20]

81. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of measures being taken to encourage more companies to adopt recommendations made by the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [38073/20]

82. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to implement reforms in view of the increasing cost of car insurance premiums; the latest discussions his Department has had on this issue; the persons or bodies the issue was discussed with; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [37718/20]

83. To ask the Minister for Finance the engagement he has had with chambers of commerce and an organisation (details supplied) regarding personal tax liabilities for employees resident in Ireland but that work in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [36710/20]

84. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to extend the eligibility criteria for the Covid restrictions support scheme in order that it can be accessed by sole traders and small businesses such as taxi drivers, artists, musicians and live entertainment workers that do not have public facing premises; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39234/20]

85. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the decision taken by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child to examine the impact of Ireland's international tax policy on the ability of countries of the Global South to raise revenue and fulfil their human rights obligations; the details on any engagement his Department has had to date in 2020 with the UN Committee in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [39158/20]

86. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in County Tipperary that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [39204/20]

87. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to seek state aid approval from the European Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [38841/20]

88. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will support the Consumer Credit (Amendment) Bill 2018 and its objectives in reducing the usurious rates of interest charged by moneylenders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39229/20]

89. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in County Kildare that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [39211/20]

90. To ask the Minister for Finance the impact assessment that has been carried out by his Department into the proposed changes to the retail export scheme minimum purchase threshold, particularly on businesses working in the tourism industry in Ireland; if he will commit to keeping the retail export scheme minimum purchase threshold at €0.01; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [39150/20]

91. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will audit the recipients of the wage subsidy scheme to ensure that it is not being abused; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39235/20]

92. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which economic fundamentals remain positive notwithstanding the ravages of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39137/20]

93. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review the VAT rates for vaccines particularly those administered by injection such as for flu, pneumonia and a possible Covid-19 vaccine which are rated at 21% while all medicines which are administered orally are zero rated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [32809/20]

94. To ask the Minister for Finance the measures being taken by his Department to grow both the financial technology and asset management sectors here in the post-Brexit period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [38074/20]

95. To ask the Minister for Finance his response to a letter written by the Central Bank on 17 November 2020 regarding Thematic Inspections of Compliance by Regulated Financial Service Providers with their Obligations under the Fitness and Probity Regime; when he will publish legislation to implement the senior executive accountability regime; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39227/20]

96. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department has modelled the economic impacts of pursuing a zero Covid policy compared to the current policy of intermittent lockdowns; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [39168/20]

97. To ask the Minister for Finance the degree to which he expects to be in a position to incentivise alternatives to fossil fuels in the short and medium term; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [38843/20]

98. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has made representations regarding the proposed changes to the retail export scheme in the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2020; if he has liaised with stakeholders on the consequences of the proposed change; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [37045/20]

99. To ask the Minister for Finance if a tax relief or credit could be introduced for low to mid-income families that do not meet the criteria to avail of social housing or HAP to assist with their rental payments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [39119/20]

100. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in County Kilkenny that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [39209/20]

101. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses nationwide that have applied for funding under the Covid restrictions support scheme; the number that have been successful in their application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [39184/20]

102. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in County Cork that have qualified for the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [39195/20]

103. To ask the Minister for Finance when the HSE will be in a position to resume issuing primary medical certificates in the context of the disabled drivers tax concession scheme which was halted in 2020 as a result of a Supreme Court ruling; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [38317/20]

104. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason he did not push for the extension of loan and mortgage payment breaks of 12 months, as has been done in Germany, Italy, Spain and Portugal; and his views on whether this failure will have a damaging effect on SMEs and microbusinesses as they now risk their loans falling into default and their credit rating being impaired. — Louise O'Reilly. [30366/20]

105. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the impact on businesses by plans in relation to tax back for shoppers from overseas in relation to raising the threshold for qualifying items; if his attention has been drawn to the concerns of already struggling retailers, craft producers and other Irish producers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [34934/20]

106. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to review the Covid restrictions support scheme in view of the number of businesses that are not eligible for the scheme despite being severely impacted by Covid-19 restrictions. — Dara Calleary. [39188/20]

107. To ask the Minister for Finance the likely impact of the move to level 5 restrictions on tax receipts for the rest of 2020. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39186/20]

108. To ask the Minister for Finance the consideration being given to extending the spend and stay scheme given that with level 5 restrictions individuals are not able to avail of this scheme currently; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [39120/20]

109. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider a proposal to abolish VAT on condoms. — Cathal Crowe. [39121/20]

110. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to tackle lack of competition in the banking and mortgage markets in views of the Central Bank's retail interest rates for August 2020 that shows a big differential between interest rates here and the average EU interest rates; the contact he has had with a bank (details supplied) regarding its continued involvement in the banking market here; and the way in which the State can leverage its shareholding in the banking sector here to maximise competition. — Michael Creed. [30692/20]

111. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the operation of the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [39190/20]

112. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to expand the Start-Up Relief for Entrepreneurs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [30100/20]

113. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the impact on Irish tourism and the retail sector of the proposed changes in the retail export scheme in the Brexit Omnibus Bill. — Seán Canney. [38204/20]

114. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in County Carlow that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [39201/20]

115. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is reviewing any of the Covid-19 support schemes under the remit of his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [39193/20]

116. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on whether, in respect of a film production company in receipt of section 481 tax relief to claim in the Labour Court or WRC that it is not the employer of the film crew working on a film production funded by section 481 relief represents a breach of the declaration that company is required to sign in order to access the relief and that any company doing this should have the relief withdrawn; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39233/20]

117. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider legislation to strengthen the Consumer Protection Code; his views on the lack of enforcement action taken by the Central Bank for breaches of the code; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39230/20]

118. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will act to ensure that the Revenue Commissioners has the powers necessary to fully investigate potential cases of bogus self-employment. — Paul Murphy. [39169/20]

119. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in County Limerick that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [39207/20]

120. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to implement the recommendations made in the report by the working group on reducing the cost of motor insurance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39117/20]

121. To ask the Minister for Finance the additional resources being allocated to the Revenue Commissioners following the Brexit checklist sent to approximately 225,000 businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [30601/20]

122. To ask the Minister for Finance if all individual taxpayers will be able to make manual submissions to the Revenue Commissioners of their tax returns rather than online at least until universal high-speed broadband is available throughout Ireland under the national broadband plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [38362/20]

123. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has asked the motor insurance industry to provide refunds to learner drivers that typically pay very high premiums until they receive their licences but that have been unable to take the tests due to Covid-19 restrictions. — Martin Browne. [36600/20]

124. To ask the Minister for Finance when the issue with regard to disabled drivers and passengers obtaining a primary medical certificate will be resolved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [33171/20]

125. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the fact that some motor insurance companies are only providing a Covid-19 rebate to their customers upon renewal of policy; his views on whether this is unfair on customers who may wish to change their provider rather than to renew their cover with their existing provider; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [39157/20]

126. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the fact that domestic employers that availed of the temporary wage subsidy scheme for domestic employees such as childminders are being asked to pay the full amount given to them as part of the scheme back to the Revenue Commissioners; if a reimbursement scheme can be set up to cover this loss as had employers not availed of the temporary wage subsidy scheme employees would have applied for the pandemic unemployment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [38835/20]

127. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in counties Mayo and Roscommon that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [39189/20]

128. To ask the Minister for Finance the progress made to date with the roll out of the CRSS; the number of applications received to date for the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [34992/20]

129. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will convey again to a bank (details supplied) the need to retain its business network which is important for many rural communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [39167/20]

130. To ask the Minister for Finance his Department's current projection of the extent to which the economy will contract in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39187/20]

131. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps he will take to ensure that banking fees for cashless transactions from the start of the Covid-19 pandemic to date will be refunded in circumstances in which customers were unaware of the fees being levied and were using cashless to reduce the risk of spread during the pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [36679/20]

132. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the uptake of the employer wage subsidy scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [38071/20]

133. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has considered the exclusion of travel agents from the CRSS scheme under level 3 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [37043/20]

134. To ask the Minister for Finance if the Covid restrictions support scheme will be expanded to include businesses such as travel agents which have seen significant reductions in turnover as a result of Covid-19 but which are currently only eligible for the Covid restrictions support scheme while under level 4 and 5 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [39151/20]

135. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on whether additional fees being imposed on current account holders of a bank (details supplied) from 28 November 2020 are justified in view

of recent reports from market analysts that suggest that the organisation has more than enough capital to cushion the Covid-19 crisis; his views on whether these new charges are regressive and will particularly effect lower income customers given that they remove the existing option of fee-free banking for those customers who keep at least €2,500 in their current account; if he plans to discuss this with the organisation and seek an indefinite suspension of these fees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [39156/20]

136. To ask the Minister for Finance if there is anything cited in the relationship framework agreement between the Minister and a bank (details supplied) that prohibits or in any way prevents him from meeting with the bank to discuss and negotiate on a change to that agreement; if he plans to do so given the unprecedented context of Covid-19 and the difficulties for personal and business customers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [39155/20]

137. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider regularising the temporary relief granted by the Revenue Commissioners to cross-Border workers in response to the Covid-19 pandemic with respect to section 825A of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997; if he will consider further tax measures to facilitate cross-Border workers in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39228/20]

138. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to review the stay and spend scheme in view of the current level 5 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [39192/20]

139. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps he is taking to reduce mortgage interest rates; his views on whether interest rates being charged here are reasonable compared to the rest of Europe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39118/20]

140. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in counties Sligo and Leitrim that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [39199/20]

141. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the implementation of the recommendations made in the report by the working group on reducing the cost of motor insurance; the number of outstanding recommendations yet to be implemented; the reason for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [38316/20]

142. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 267 of 11 November 2020, the basis of the claim that the framework cannot be changed by him unilaterally given the documents cited as the legal basis for the relationship framework (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [39154/20]

143. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of persons currently availing of the disabled drivers and passengers scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O’Connor. [39194/20]

144. To ask the Minister for Finance the outcome of his discussions with a bank (details supplied) in relation to the need to retain a bank, its network of branches and the protection of employment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [39166/20]

145. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason he has excluded sole traders and small businesses like taxi drivers, artists, musicians and live entertainment workers that do not have public facing

premises from accessing the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39231/20]

146. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on the engagement he made at a European Council level in the approval of Directive 2019/2235; if he opposed the reliefs for NATO and EU CSDP troops based outside their home state contained in that Directive; if he sought a derogation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [39216/20]

147. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps his Department and the Revenue Commissioners have taken to support businesses through Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [38072/20]

148. To ask the Minister for Finance the actions being taken to ensure that film production companies in receipt of section 481 tax relief are complying with the declaration on quality employment and training they are required to sign in order to access the relief; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39232/20]

149. To ask the Minister for Finance if State-owned banks are investing in or lending to companies directly involved in fossil fuel extraction; if so, the extent of such commercial activities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [38842/20]

150. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in County Clare that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [39202/20]

151. To ask the Minister for Finance the progress being made in ensuring that persons can once again access a primary medical certificate to access the disabled drivers and passengers scheme; when the amendment is likely to be passed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [37717/20]

152. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in Dublin that have qualified for the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [39191/20]

153. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to refresh the roadmap for tax policy in relation to the taxation of companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [36170/20]

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.

*154. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if copies of all correspondence to or from him or his advisers or his Department relating to the filling of the Supreme Court vacancy occasioned by the retirement of a person (details supplied) will be provided. — Alan Kelly. [39261/20]

*155. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will address a matter regarding holiday pay in a case (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [39329/20]

*156. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to businesses encountering difficulties contacting State agencies when seeking support information due to Covid-19 business closures; if he is satisfied sufficient staffing levels are in place to process such queries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39408/20]

*157. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the supports in place for sole traders that are the only employee of a limited company having closed their business due to Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39409/20]

*158. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is considering reopening the restart grants to new applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39411/20]

*159. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the remediation process that is being currently in process for a company (details supplied); if there is an update on the matter; if he will provide indications as to the owner of the plant at this time and will he make a statement on the matter.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [39545/20]

*160. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if consideration will be given to the suggestion by an organisation (details supplied) that small convenience stores and newsagents, due to not having click and collect facilities be permitted to sell all goods they have stocked during the past 12 months through levels 4 and 5 restrictions once their turnover does not exceed an agreed amount and or the retail space of their store is not greater than an agreed size; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [39451/20]

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

*161. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he plans extending the closing date for making claims under the trading online voucher scheme in view of the fact that some suppliers of these services are under pressure to complete all the required work by this date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [39443/20]

*162. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if copies of all correspondence to or from him or his advisers or his Department relating to the filling of the Supreme Court vacancy occasioned by the retirement of a person (details supplied) will be provided. — Alan Kelly. [39263/20]

*163. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will instruct Eircode to assign a number to a property (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [39324/20]

*164. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of the national broadband plan in counties Sligo and Leitrim including areas already covered and areas to be covered by the end of each of the years 2020, 2021 and 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [39377/20]

*165. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his attention has been drawn the delay with transferring new Eircode locations to an application (details supplied); the terms of the contracts in place to ensure the transfer happens in a timely manner; if he is satisfied that the terms of the contract are being met; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [39425/20]

*166. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps being considered by his Department to protect the post office network; if he will introduce new services to the post office network to increase footfall; and if a sustainability plan will be forthcoming from his Department with regard to the post office network. — Robert Troy. [39439/20]

*167. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the findings of the multi-agency group established to review the slide of Meenbog Bog, County Donegal as a result of the construction of wind turbines in the area will be made public; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [39456/20]

*168. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason procurement is proceeding by the ESB in relation to the proposed North-South Interconnector before a project agreement is in place with Eirgrid as specified in the European Union infrastructure agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [39520/20]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*169. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the planned Burtonport to Letterkenny greenway project; if his Department has allocated funding to same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39403/20]

*170. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of US troops and military personnel that have passed through Shannon Airport in each of the years 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020. — Paul Murphy. [39421/20]

*171. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount paid to Shannon Airport or to the Shannon Airport Authority in landing charges for US military aircraft or in landing charges for US-leased aircraft carrying non-civilian passengers or goods in each year from 1 January 2001 to date. — Paul Murphy. [39422/20]

*172. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding persons driving in Ireland with United Kingdom driving licences after 1 January 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [39492/20]

*173. To ask the Minister for Transport the waiting times for driving tests in Tullamore and Birr, County Offaly and Portlaoise, County Laois, respectively; and the efforts being made to address the waiting times. — Brian Stanley. [39314/20]

*174. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the terms of the IAA 1996 pension scheme were amended in 2012 without a collective agreement of the staff of the IAA when a mediated collective agreement was in place until 31 December 2018. — Niall Collins. [39337/20]

*175. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the IAA pension scheme changes did not reflect the collective agreements in place at the time; and the reason staff were not informed. — Niall Collins. [39338/20]

*176. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason pension payment increases have not been awarded given the exceptional profitability of the IAA since 2015; and the authority under which IAA management decide not to award them. — Niall Collins. [39339/20]

*177. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the IAA hybrid pension scheme is being operated without agreement and outside the requirements of the Irish Aviation Authority Act 1993. — Niall Collins. [39340/20]

*178. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the pension benefits of the IAA hybrid pension scheme were amended without the members of the scheme being informed. — Niall Collins. [39341/20]

*179. To ask the Minister for Transport if action will be taken to ensure that sufficient capacity will be provided on a Dublin Bus route (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [39344/20]

*180. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the challenges faced by long-standing skippers of Irish vessels by the proposed implementation of SI No. 673 of 2019 - Fishing Vessels (Certification of Deck Officers and Engineer Officers) (Amendment) Regulations 2019; and the acknowledgement and support that can be given to those fishers that purchased vessels and have licences on the basis of regulations that existed prior to the regulations being implemented. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [39346/20]

*181. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on a campaign (details supplied); and if he will make the objectives of this campaign Government policy and have it resourced accordingly. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [39347/20]

*182. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will extend the current round of public consultation on Bus Connects to January or February 2021 given the Covid-19 restrictions and the limitations they have brought. — Eoghan Murphy. [39363/20]

*183. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will include in the terms of reference for the metro south west feasibility study a requirement for the consultants to speak to groups that have already identified an interest including a group (details supplied) and relevant residents associations. — Eoghan Murphy. [39364/20]

*184. To ask the Minister for Transport if the metro south west feasibility study will examine the possibility of the line terminating at Firhouse, Dublin 24. — Eoghan Murphy. [39365/20]

*185. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the Clonskeagh to city centre cycle route; and if he expects delays due to Covid-19 restrictions. — Eoghan Murphy. [39366/20]

*186. To ask the Minister for Transport the point at which a person that has attained their certificate of professional competence as transport manager from the UK is required to take the relevant Irish examination in order to retain their certificate of professional competence post-Brexit; the legal position on this matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [39378/20]

*187. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the email address for urgent RSA driver tests provided by him in response to a recent Parliamentary Question is no longer monitored; if he will advise on an alternative email addresses through which

representations can be made for urgent appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39399/20]

*188. To ask the Minister for Transport if a driver test will be expedited in the case of a person (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39400/20]

*189. To ask the Minister for Transport when PSV tests will recommence; if his attention has been drawn to the impact that the suspension of such tests has on businesses requiring such licences; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39401/20]

*190. To ask the Minister for Transport the supports available to taxi drivers who are obliged to renew their cars in January 2021 under the ten year rule; if the ten year rule will be further postponed for a period given the impact of Covid-19 on the taxi industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [39424/20]

*191. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide additional resources for the RSA to enable it to expedite driver theory tests for which there are now excessively long waiting lists (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [39432/20]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*192. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to seek to state aid approval from the European Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [39009/20]

*193. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans for amendments to the spend and save scheme in view of the current level 3 status of the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [29974/20]

*194. To ask the Minister for Finance if the help-to-buy scheme will be extended to include the refurbishment cost in addition to the capital cost of the house; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [28420/20]

*195. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to amend the Disabled Drivers and Disabled Passengers (Tax Concessions) Regulations 1994; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [36130/20]

*196. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason the CRSS, in accordance with section 4.2.4, specifically excludes those wholesalers supplying goods to the hospitality and catering industry from the scheme given such wholesalers' business has dramatically decreased directly in line with those in the hospitality and catering industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [34977/20]

*197. To ask the Minister for Finance if a group (details supplied) is still chaired by the Secretary General of the Department of Taoiseach; and the reason it no longer publishes the minutes of its meetings. — Mairéad Farrell. [28276/20]

*198. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason he did not apply for the extension of Covid-19 payment breaks for borrowers by the deadline of 23 September 2020. — Mairéad Farrell. [28277/20]

*199. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses to date in County Louth that have been allocated an EORI number; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [30600/20]

*200. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to amend the qualifying criteria for the stay and spend scheme; if non-taxpayers that have been excluded can be included in the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [28044/20]

*201. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider regularising the temporary relief granted by the Revenue Commissioners to cross-border workers in response to the Covid-19 pandemic with respect to Section 825A of the Taxes Consolidation Act 2005; if he will consider further tax measures to facilitate cross-Border workers in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [39236/20]

*202. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on the latest meeting of the Eurogroup; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [36652/20]

*203. To ask the Minister for Finance if Ireland has availed of or applied to the SURE scheme to help support the economy through the Covid-19 crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [36653/20]

*204. To ask the Minister for Finance if advice will be provided on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39256/20]

*205. To ask the Minister for Finance the position on the review being carried out of the primary medical certificate; when it will be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [39279/20]

*206. To ask the Minister for Finance the advice he can provide on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39316/20]

*207. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will address the limitation of the Covid restrictions support scheme which requires companies to have a fixed premises and which as a direct result excludes many businesses in the events industry, artists, taxi drivers and others from availing of the scheme; the options available to these companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [39325/20]

*208. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will amend the Covid restrictions support scheme to include destination management companies for inbound travel (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [39342/20]

*209. To ask the Minister for Finance if a 2020 registration plate will be allowed (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [39348/20]

*210. To ask the Minister for Finance if special provisions will be made by the Office of Revenue Commissioners for self-employed or sole traders that are not currently in a position to pay their full 2019 tax return due to the impact of Covid-19 on their business; if a facility such as paying in instalments can be accommodated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [39362/20]

*211. To ask the Minister for Finance the method through which a person (details supplied) in County Donegal can revalue their residential property for the purposes of the local property tax in circumstances in which the value of the property has potentially decreased since the date of initial valuation on 1 May 2013; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39402/20]

*212. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount forgone and or not collected by the Revenue Commissioners in local property tax by exempted property types in respect of properties purchased in 2013 to 2019 and to date in 2020. — Catherine Murphy. [39459/20]

*213. To ask the Minister for Finance the degree to which he foresees a return to good economic performance if and when the Covid-19 crisis is brought under control; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39462/20]

*214. To ask the Minister for Finance if specific economic interventions might be needed in the economy if and when Covid-19 is brought under control; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39463/20]

*215. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he remains satisfied regarding the adequacy of actions to date to combat the economic impact of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39464/20]

*216. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans for further Brexit related economic interventions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39465/20]

*217. To ask the Minister for Finance if Ireland is adequately protected from the worst aspects of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39466/20]

*218. To ask the Minister for Finance if, in the context of Brexit, the full extent of its negative impact on Ireland is fully recognised and appreciated and provided for in the short and medium term; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39467/20]

*219. To ask the Minister for Finance the degree to which he remains satisfied regarding the stability of the economy in the face of the twin challenges of Brexit and Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39468/20]

*220. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is satisfied that all countries throughout the European Union realise the degree to which Ireland's economy is likely to be more affected than most others by Brexit; if extra supportive measures might be forthcoming in the event of a greater than expected negative impact; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39469/20]

*221. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he expects the financial services sector here to benefit from Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39470/20]

*222. To ask the Minister for Finance when mortgage interest rates here are likely to come into line with those applicable in other EU economies having particular regard to the impact of changes in trade patterns in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39472/20]

*223. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which inflationary tendencies have been identified in the economy which might ultimately pose a threat such as inflation in house prices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39473/20]

*224. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department continues to monitor development in the insurance industry with particular reference to the need to provide insurance cover for all types of insurance at viable rates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39474/20]

*225. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he and the Central Bank along with his Department continue to monitor the activities of investment funds that have bought up distressed or semi-distressed mortgages with particular reference to the manner they continue to go about a resolution process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39475/20]

*226. To ask the Minister for Finance if legislation will be considered to set down regulations to protect the consumer in cases in which lending institutions have sold off their distressed loans to third parties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39476/20]

*227. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of distressed mortgages in respect of family homes that have been resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned without enforced sale, repossession or liquidation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39477/20]

*228. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he sees the formation of a new or alternative lender to replace a bank (details supplied) given its indication to withdraw from Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39478/20]

*229. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to ensure the availability of a reliable banking systems for customers of a bank (details supplied) following the announcement of its intention to withdraw from Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39479/20]

*230. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of employees of a bank (details supplied) likely to be affected by the proposal of the bank to withdraw from Ireland; the way in which it will be planned to provide for these employees in the future and at the same time provide for the bank's customers throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39480/20]

*231. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he remains confident in the ability of Ireland to remain competitive in the services and manufacturing sectors in the future given the various challenges affecting it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39481/20]

*232. To ask the Minister for Finance if the €25,000 limit that credit unions are being required to impose on deposits will be reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39501/20]

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

*233. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the way in which Ireland plans to access the recently agreed €47.5 billion REACT-EU fund in response to Covid-19; the Departments,

local authorities and agencies that can avail of the fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [39388/20]

*234. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the timeframe for the full restoration of pensions to those public sector workers still having their pensions abated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [39272/20]

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

*235. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if there are financial supports available for business owners that have ceased renting out their self-catering properties due to Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39407/20]

*236. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the supports available for community theatres that have been closed due to Covid-19 restrictions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [39286/20]

*237. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will provide further information on the recent proposal for the universal basic income for the arts and live performance and events sector; when it is likely that this income support will be made available; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [39352/20]

*238. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will clarify an issue with regard to Covid-19 restrictions for a sport (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [39427/20]

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

*239. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding supports available to a business (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39315/20]

*240. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will introduce a cull on feral mink in view of concerns regarding mink carrying a mutated Covid-19 strain and their detrimental effect on the ecosystem. — Michael McNamara. [39319/20]

*241. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the provision of an affordable housing scheme; when legislation for such a scheme will be brought to the Houses of the Oireachtas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [39313/20]

*242. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average turnaround for refurbishing vacant houses owned by local authorities in counties Cavan, Monaghan, Meath, Louth, Longford and Westmeath on an annual basis since January 2018 to October 2020; the annual budget available from January 2018 to October 2020 made available to these counties for restoring council-owned vacant properties; and the percentage of that budget spent during that same period on making council-owned properties habitable in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [39326/20]

*243. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount requested from counties Cavan, Monaghan, Meath, Louth, Longford and Westmeath from the repair and lease scheme and buy and renew scheme since January 2018 to date in 2020; and the number of private properties that have been bought by local authorities to rehouse persons in these counties through the repair and lease and the buy and renew schemes in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [39327/20]

*244. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the annual budget allocated to counties Cavan, Monaghan, Meath, Louth, Longford and Westmeath in each of the years 2018 to 2020 to provide for Traveller housing accommodation; the percentage of that funding spent annually in each of these counties on the provision of accommodation for members of the Travelling community; and the amount of unspent funding returned during that same period in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [39328/20]

*245. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of inspections of private rented accommodation carried out by Louth, Meath, Limerick, Kildare, Cavan, Monaghan, Donegal county councils, Cork City Council, Fingal County Council and South Dublin County Council in 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form; the findings of the inspections; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39371/20]

*246. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of improvement notices, prohibition notices and prosecutions arising from inspections of private rented accommodation carried out by local authorities in 2019 and to date in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39380/20]

*247. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of dwellings which were deemed to be overcrowded under the Housing Act 1966 or other legislation by local authorities in 2019 and to date in 2020; if action was taken in relation to the properties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39382/20]

*248. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department will consider carrying out an examination of the adequacy and accuracy of environmental impact assessments being undertaken on behalf of wind farm developments in sensitive areas. — Cathal Crowe. [39415/20]

*249. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the Electoral Register as it is compiled at the moment; his views on the archaic manner in which access to the register is devised; his views on the public consultation process that took place in 2019 on modernising same; his plans to modernise the register as outlined in the Programme for Government; the progress made in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [39423/20]

*250. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he plans to publish the report of his Department into alleged planning irregularities in County Donegal; and the action he plans to take on foot of its findings. — Eoin Ó Broin. [39452/20]

*251. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding the single income threshold for social housing in 2021; his plans to amend the current single income thresholds for social housing in advance of 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [39507/20]

*252. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the time frame for the publication of the heads of bill of the emergency management and fire and public safety Bill 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [39519/20]

*253. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the stakeholder engagement planned for the drafting of the emergency management and fire and public safety Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [39521/20]

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

*254. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of an application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [39278/20]

*255. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on the right of appeal on grounds of disability in election observation competitions; if he will report on the provision for disability and equality monitoring his Department undertakes for these public competitions; the way in which information on disability is sought in the application form for the competition; the way in which his Department has responded to requests for disability accommodation from observers in the past; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39330/20]

*256. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of persons with disabilities as observers on the roster of election observation competitions; if he will confirm the commitment to support the inclusion of persons with disabilities as observers on the roster; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39331/20]

*257. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will examine the two year wait before applying for a passport with a new name; if it is possible to change the name on a passport ahead of this time by using a Ministerial observation on the passport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [39385/20]

*258. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the illegal evictions from Sheikh Jarrah in the West Bank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe O'Brien. [39389/20]

*259. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs when a foreign birth registration certificate will be processed for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39412/20]

*260. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will request the Iranian authorities to show good-will by letting young Baha'is have full access to higher level education and training (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [39426/20]

*261. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the efforts being made to assist a person (details supplied) in China; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39447/20]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*262. To ask the Minister for Education the requirements for new schools to provide special education units; if a similar requirement applies to existing schools seeking to extend their current building; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [39282/20]

*263. To ask the Minister for Education the options available to students with additional needs in the event that the sole school to which they are eligible to apply and which provides a special education unit is oversubscribed and the child is not suited to full-time mainstream education; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [39283/20]

*264. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the decision by an organisation to deny health and safety leave to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sorca Clarke. [39307/20]

*265. To ask the Minister for Education the progress of a building project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [39311/20]

*266. To ask the Minister for Education if there are plans to improve water supply to a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [39356/20]

*267. To ask the Minister for Education if a new ASD unit in a school (details supplied) is on track to open for September 2021; and if so, if the new unit will operate at full capacity in its first year. — Steven Matthews. [39372/20]

*268. To ask the Minister for Education if the new ASD unit in a school (details supplied) will be offering places exclusively to children already in the school; and if applications will be accepted for new students. — Steven Matthews. [39373/20]

*269. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding the number of students currently on waiting lists for an ASD unit place in an area (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [39374/20]

*270. To ask the Minister for Education the reason incorrect information was provided in response to Parliamentary Question No. 79 of 4 November 2020, in view of the fact that this payment has not been made to date in this case (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [39376/20]

*271. To ask the Minister for Education if a Teaching Council registration will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39413/20]

*272. To ask the Minister for Education the reason improvements in staffing were provided to DEIS band 1 senior schools but not to junior schools or integrated schools in the same category; and if it has been decided the way in which the planned €5 million for such schools will be allocated. — Richard Bruton. [39428/20]

*273. To ask the Minister for Education the progress made to date in providing a new school building for a school (details supplied) that has been in inadequate accommodation for a long time; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [39442/20]

*274. To ask the Minister for Education if the payroll division will give the choice to employees and retired teachers to receive their payslips electronically; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [39455/20]

*275. To ask the Minister for Education if cleaners are considered as critical staff in the running of schools; her plans to provide pension rights to long service cleaners; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [39457/20]

*276. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date or in hand in meeting the school place, replacement of facilities, new school requirements and special needs provision at primary and post-primary level in Maynooth, County Kildare; the extent to which each project is on target in line with projections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39482/20]

*277. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date or in hand in meeting the school place, replacement of facilities, new school requirements and special needs provision at primary and post-primary level in Kilcock, County Kildare; the extent to which each project is on target in line with projections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39483/20]

*278. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date or in hand in meeting the school place, replacement of facilities, new school requirements and special needs provision at primary and post-primary level in Celbridge, County Kildare; the extent to which each project is on target in line with projections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39484/20]

*279. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date or in hand in meeting the school place, replacement of facilities, new school requirements and special needs provision at primary and post-primary level in Prosperous, County Kildare; the extent to which each project is on target in line with projections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39485/20]

*280. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date or in hand in meeting the school place, replacement of facilities, new school requirements and special needs provision at primary and post-primary level in Naas, County Kildare; the extent to which each project is on target in line with projections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39486/20]

*281. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date or in hand in meeting the school place, replacement of facilities, new school requirements and special needs provision at primary and post-primary level in Clane, County Kildare; the extent to which each project is on target in line with projections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39487/20]

*282. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to offer streamed remote and blended learning options to high-risk families that wish to avail of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [39493/20]

*283. To ask the Minister for Education the number of students on the waiting list for a secondary school place in secondary schools in Bandon, County Cork for the 2021-2022 school year; and the steps she is taking as a result. — Holly Cairns. [39505/20]

*284. To ask the Minister for Education the reason a student (details supplied) is being refused a place in three schools; the assurance she can provide to allay the fears and upset of their parents that they will have a place in a local school for the next school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [39508/20]

*285. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding accommodation for a secondary school (details supplied) in January 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [39509/20]

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

*286. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person (details supplied) was refused the enterprise support grant; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39410/20]

*287. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the grants, funding or compensation for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [39270/20]

*288. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a matter in relation to an employee who is taken off the pandemic unemployment payment and placed on the employment wage subsidy scheme by their employer will be clarified (details supplied). — Bríd Smith. [39274/20]

*289. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the financial supports that will be put in place for persons experiencing long Covid; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [39289/20]

*290. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if State pension (contributory) payments due to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry will be paid to their nominated agent; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39317/20]

*291. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a decision will be made on an application for the working family payment by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39321/20]

*292. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to relax the rules regarding extensions to community employment schemes during Covid-19 such as in the case of a person (details supplied); if this is considered on a case by case basis; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [39351/20]

*293. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider introducing a measure by which older persons are provided with a weekly allowance towards the cost of broadband similar to the allowance they are granted towards the cost of a telephone in view of the cost of broadband; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [39354/20]

*294. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the working family payment unit will reassess a claim for a person (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39404/20]

*295. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a PPS number will issue to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39405/20]

*296. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a PPS number will issue to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39406/20]

*297. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a foodbank in Waterford operated by an organisation (details supplied) is entitled to impose a charge on recipients of the food; and if her Department has provided funding for the initiative. — Bríd Smith. [39430/20]

*298. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her attention has been drawn to issues in relation to governance, accounting and financial issues in an organisation (details supplied); if so, if these issues are being investigated by her Department or other appropriate bodies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [39431/20]

*299. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a PPS number will be assigned to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39434/20]

*300. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an application for the training support grant by a person (details supplied) will be reviewed; and the additional financial supports which the applicant would be eligible for to support their studies. — Róisín Shortall. [39441/20]

*301. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of an application for the living alone allowance by a person (details supplied); if the application will be backdated to 22 June 2017; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [39446/20]

*302. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on an invalidity pension application by a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39458/20]

*303. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of women that currently share a PPSN with their spouse; and the efforts being made to proactively issue these women with new PPS numbers before there is a need for them to apply for one in the case of death of a partner or divorce from a partner. — Mark Ward. [39523/20]

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

*304. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the grants, funding or compensation available for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [39267/20]

*305. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the additional three week parental leave applies to those who had babies in 2020; if it has to be taken after 1 January 2021 and before the child is one or two years of age; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [39384/20]

*306. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to expand apprenticeships to childcare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [39391/20]

*307. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will address a matter (details supplied) in relation to the COVID-19 Nursing Homes Expert Panel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39497/20]

*308. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the proposed date for the publication date of the assisted decision-making (capacity) amendment Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39498/20]

*309. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the proposed date for the publication of the disability (miscellaneous provisions) Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39499/20]

*310. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the budget has been confirmed for the decision support service to the amount of €5.8 million for 2021; the timeline for the full commencement of the Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act 2015 in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39500/20]

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

*311. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the interpretation by SUSI of the requirement for a 391-day continuous period on a qualifying social protection payment; if this interpretation is the same as other Departments and agencies, that is, 56 weeks; if SUSI interprets this as 65 weeks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [39318/20]

*312. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the effect Covid-19 pandemic unemployment payments will have on the entitlement of third-level students to student grants; if it is planned to make changes to the income assessment process for such students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39414/20]

*313. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of part-time students currently enrolled or the most current figures available; the number of part-time third-level students by county in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [39335/20]

*314. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding funding for a postgraduate diploma; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [39336/20]

*315. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will allow for the recently announced €250 payment for undergraduate and postgraduate students to be made available to all recipients as a once-off payment rather than a credit note regardless of whether they are in receipt of SUSI or not; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [39345/20]

*316. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the amount drawn down to date from the student device fund worth €15 million; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39368/20]

*317. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the amount drawn down to date from the €168 million package for further and higher education sectors to deal with the impacts of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39369/20]

*318. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to make the Covid-19 once-off emergency grant of €250 payment payable in cash to all third level students given the exceptional circumstances experienced by all students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39435/20]

*319. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the recently announced €250 payment for undergraduate and postgraduate students in Ireland to all Irish citizens currently undertaking undergraduate or postgraduate studies in other EU countries will be extended; the details of the cost analysis of same carried out by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [39449/20]

*320. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the SUSI grant to graduate entry medical students will be extended given the considerable financial obstacles for many in pursuing this course of study; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [39453/20]

*321. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way in which the €250 once-off payment to students will be paid out to students who are not in receipt of a SUSI grant that have already fully paid their student contribution fees and are in their final year of study in order that they will not require a credit with their institution for a following year of student contribution fees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [39454/20]

*322. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his attention has been drawn to the low levels of persons with disabilities employed in third-level education institutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [39503/20]

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

*323. To ask the Minister for Justice the work her Department is conducting to create new pathways for long-term undocumented persons and their dependents that meet specified criteria to regularise their status within 18 months of the formation of the Government bearing in mind EU and Common Travel Area commitments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39496/20]

*324. To ask the Minister for Justice if copies of all correspondence to or from her or her advisers or her Department relating to the filling of the Supreme Court vacancy occasioned by the retirement of a person (details supplied) will be provided. — Alan Kelly. [39262/20]

*325. To ask the Minister for Justice her views on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39277/20]

*326. To ask the Minister for Justice when sections of the Parole Act 2019 will be commenced; the reason there has been a delay in commencing sections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [39312/20]

*327. To ask the Minister for Justice if the expressions of interest by three sitting members of the superior courts in a vacancy on the Supreme Court was conveyed to her Department by the Office of the Attorney General prior to the most recent appointment to the Supreme Court. — Michael McNamara. [39322/20]

*328. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of GSOC investigations relating to deaths in custody and deaths after a period of detention in each of the years 2016 to 2019 and to date 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39332/20]

*329. To ask the Minister for Justice the policies in relation to the investigations relating to deaths after a period of detention or custody; the time frame in which such investigations take place; the criteria that must be met to refer to GSOC; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39333/20]

*330. To ask the Minister for Justice the timeline for the drafting and issuing of a statutory instrument under the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1956 to allow citizenship applicants to sign an affidavit of loyalty under temporary Covid-19 measures; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe O'Brien. [39355/20]

*331. To ask the Minister for Justice her views on whether parental alienation is a growing problem in Ireland; and her plans to address the matter. — Martin Browne. [39370/20]

*332. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will make enquiries regarding CCTV grant aid applications to Kerry County Council (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [39383/20]

*333. To ask the Minister for Justice the efforts that have been made to secure an extradition treaty with the United Arab Emirates; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39419/20]

*334. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of the progress of an application for a Presidential Pardon in respect of a person (details supplied); the anticipated timeline for future developments regarding their case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39437/20]

*335. To ask the Minister for Justice the timeline for replacing the Garda PULSE system; the progress to date on the installation and roll out of a computer-aided-dispatch system in respect of the additional €22 million that was provided for the An Garda Síochána ICT in Budget 2021; the progress to date on sources and allocating additional mobile devices to Garda personnel; and the way in which she monitors the use of funding in order to ensure true value for money is achieved. — Catherine Murphy. [39502/20]

*336. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of the progress of the Family Courts Bill, including its expected passage through the Houses of the Oireachtas. — Holly Cairns. [39504/20]

*337. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí by rank attached to the regional support unit in DMR North in each of the years 2009 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Denise Mitchell. [39512/20]

*338. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí by rank attached to the operational support unit in DMR North in each of the years 2009 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Denise Mitchell. [39515/20]

*339. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí by rank attached to the traffic corps unit in DMR North in each of the years 2009 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Denise Mitchell. [39516/20]

*340. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí by rank attached to the public order unit in DMR North in each of the years 2009 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Denise Mitchell. [39517/20]

*341. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí by rank attached to the community relations unit in DMR North in each of the years 2009 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Denise Mitchell. [39518/20]

*342. To ask the Minister for Justice the specific provisions to be made in the forthcoming sex offenders (amendment) Bill to provide protection for victims post the release of the offender from prison; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [39522/20]

*343. To ask the Minister for Justice if the Judicial Appointments Advisory Board which recommended the appointment of a person (details supplied) to the Supreme Court included the Chief Justice who was the chairperson of the Board, the President of the Court of Appeal, the President of the High Court, the President of the Circuit Court, the President of the District Court, the Attorney General, a practising barrister nominated by the Chairman of the Council of the Bar of Ireland, a practising solicitor nominated by the President of the Law Society of Ireland and persons appointed by the Minister to be members of the Board whose term had not expired; if not, if a list will be provided of the persons who did not participate in the Board which made the recommendation; and the reason received from each for their non-participation. — Michael McNamara. [39537/20]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*344. To ask the Minister for Health the colleges and universities from which graduates were considered for jobs in contact tracing; the reason an exhaustive list was provided; if this limited those shortlisted for interview; the reason notable universities such as TU Dublin were excluded from the list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39255/20]

*345. To ask the Minister for Health if phenolic foam insulation materials of Euroclass B, s1, d0 will be used in the ventilated façade of the national children's hospital. — Neasa Hourigan. [39258/20]

*346. To ask the Minister for Health if any member of NPHE is involved in a company connected with the provision of testing kits for the coronavirus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [39259/20]

*347. To ask the Minister for Health if there are plans to increase pay for healthcare assistants and other health and social care workers; if there has been any engagement from or with trade unions on the matter; the changes in rates of pay there have been for these workers over the past decade; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39265/20]

*348. To ask the Minister for Health the reason it is taking so long for a child (details supplied) to be seen by the early intervention team. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39275/20]

*349. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the case of a child (details supplied) who has not yet been seen by the early intervention team. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39276/20]

*350. To ask the Minister for Health the supports in place or planned to be in place for aftercare of Covid-19 patients who are suffering from one or more of the post-Covid-19 syndromes commonly

referred to as long Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39280/20]

*351. To ask the Minister for Health his understanding of long Covid and associated syndromes and symptoms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39281/20]

*352. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to extend the remit of HIQA to psychiatric units; if so, the timeline involved; if not, if he will consider extending the remit of HIQA; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [39284/20]

*353. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for the expansion of the psychiatric unit, Lakeview in Naas; the timelines involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [39287/20]

*354. To ask the Minister for Health the reason there is no public health nurse at a location (details supplied); if a nurse will be put in place urgently; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39288/20]

*355. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE will recognise long Covid as an illness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [39290/20]

*356. To ask the Minister for Health the supports in places for those experiencing long-term effects of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [39291/20]

*357. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons suffering from one or more syndromes commonly referred to as long Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39292/20]

*358. To ask the Minister for Health the efforts being made to raise awareness of the combination of syndromes known as long Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39293/20]

*359. To ask the Minister for Health the changes or supplements being made to advice on persistent or long-term illness relating to long Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39294/20]

*360. To ask the Minister for Health the current understanding of long Covid; the symptoms or syndromes associated with the condition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39295/20]

*361. To ask the Minister for Health if clinics or similar services will open to support and treat those suffering from long Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39296/20]

*362. To ask the Minister for Health the supports, treatments and rehabilitative services that have been identified for sufferers of long Covid to address the physical, cognitive and psychological consequences of the condition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39297/20]

*363. To ask the Minister for Health if he has or will establish a taskforce for developing a greater understanding of long Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39298/20]

*364. To ask the Minister for Health the learning or borrowing there has been from other health services for developing and deepening the understanding of long Covid and necessary post hoc supports and treatments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39299/20]

*365. To ask the Minister for Health the efforts being made to raise awareness of the combination of syndromes and persistent symptoms known as long Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39300/20]

*366. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nurses that applied for the diabetic nurse vacancy in Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar when advertised earlier in 2020. — Sorca Clarke. [39301/20]

*367. To ask the Minister for Health if there are nursing staff employed in Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar who can work with children with a diagnosis of diabetes; and if any of those staff members applied for the recently advertised vacancy. — Sorca Clarke. [39302/20]

*368. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients under 18 years of age being treated at the diabetic clinic in the Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar. — Sorca Clarke. [39303/20]

*369. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients over 18 years of age being treated at the diabetic clinic in the Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar. — Sorca Clarke. [39304/20]

*370. To ask the Minister for Health the number of staff employed in the paediatric diabetes clinic in the Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar. — Sorca Clarke. [39305/20]

*371. To ask the Minister for Health the HSE evidence an organisation is basing its decision to deny health and safety leave to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sorca Clarke. [39306/20]

*372. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) is awaiting for an assessment of needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39308/20]

*373. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be transferred to Cork University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [39320/20]

*374. To ask the Minister for Health the number of high dependency units operating in the State based on population; and the location of each. — Sean Sherlock. [39323/20]

*375. To ask the Minister for Health the waiting times, age group and geographic location for those awaiting orthopaedic surgery in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [39334/20]

*376. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter (details supplied) regarding coursing restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39343/20]

*377. To ask the Minister for Health the measures that will be put in place for UK senior contributory pensioners that are currently entitled to a non-means tested medical card by EU agreement after Brexit. — Dara Calleary. [39350/20]

*378. To ask the Minister for Health if an appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [39353/20]

*379. To ask the Minister for Health if he will advise on a matter raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39379/20]

*380. To ask the Minister for Health the approach taken by the Health Protection Surveillance Centre to the classification of deaths as Covid-19 related or not, subject to a coroner's report, in circumstances in which a patient dies from the trauma injuries subsequent to having been admitted to hospital but tested positive for Covid-19 upon admission to hospital. — Michael McNamara. [39381/20]

*381. To ask the Minister for Health if HSE staff in Kenmare Community Hospital and other locations in County Kerry that are dealing with Covid-19 cases will only be rostered on to assist with these patients and will not be rostered to work on other wards or with other patients that have not contracted Covid-19 as per the HSE guidelines.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [39386/20]

*382. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to expand apprenticeships to healthcare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [39390/20]

*383. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) in County Donegal can expect an appointment for a procedure in Galway University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39392/20]

*384. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) in County Donegal was refused home help support for personal care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39393/20]

*385. To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting times for dental treatment in the dental department, Letterkenny University Hospital, County Donegal; the number of patients waiting for routine and emergency treatment in each of the years 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39394/20]

*386. To ask the Minister for Health if emergency dental treatment is available at the dental department, Letterkenny University Hospital, County Donegal for cancer patients undergoing cancer treatment; if so, the process in place to access such treatment; the time frames involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39395/20]

*387. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an appointment at Letterkenny University Hospital; if their referral is routine or urgent; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39396/20]

*388. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) was refused a cross border directive reimbursement having received written confirmation of prior approval; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39397/20]

*389. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be called for follow-up cancer treatment and procedures in Letterkenny University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39398/20]

*390. To ask the Minister for Health when Jigsaw services will commence in Thurles, County Tipperary. — Alan Kelly. [39416/20]

*391. To ask the Minister for Health the assistance available to help facilitate a remote visit between a person (details supplied) based in County Dublin and their family member currently resident in a long-term care facility. — Mary Lou McDonald. [39417/20]

*392. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address queries raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39418/20]

*393. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter (details supplied) regarding birthing pools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39420/20]

*394. To ask the Minister for Health the advice the HSE is providing in relation to women who are 28 weeks or more pregnant and are working in schools as in the case of a teacher (details supplied) but who are being denied health and safety leave on grounds of the advice that an organisation is receiving from the HSE; if the HSE will amend its advice to the organisation and in general regarding women who are 28 weeks or more pregnant in accordance with the advice of the professional colleges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [39429/20]

*395. To ask the Minister for Health the reason persons who are getting the Covid-19 test not being asked if they have had the flu jab yet. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39438/20]

*396. To ask the Minister for Health if an appointment for hip replacement surgery will be expedited for a person (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [39440/20]

*397. To ask the Minister for Health if the requested level of funding will be approved to secure the future of a nursing home (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [39444/20]

*398. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to the suggestion by an organisation (details supplied) that small convenience stores and newsagents, due to not having click and collect facilities be permitted to sell all goods they have stocked during the past 12 months through levels 4 and 5 restrictions once their turnover does not exceed an agreed amount and or the retail space of their store is not greater than an agreed size; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [39450/20]

*399. To ask the Minister for Health his plans and timelines to fulfil the Programme for Government commitment to examine the inclusion of chickenpox vaccine in the children's immunisation schedule in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [39460/20]

*400. To ask the Minister for Health if the €20 million budget allocation for Healthy Ireland initiatives under the Programme for Government includes funding for the inclusion of chickenpox vaccine in the children's immunisation programme pending recommendation from the National Immunisation Advisory Committee; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [39461/20]

*401. To ask the Minister for Health if he has given consideration to approving neuromuscular therapists, acupuncture therapists and other complementary therapists as essential service providers under the Health Act 1947 (Section 31A - Temporary Restrictions) (COVID-19) (No. 8) Regulations 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [39494/20]

*402. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding neurology services in the south-east; if his attention has been drawn to reports that the neurology service in UHW is the second most understaffed service in the country; if he is satisfied that the current level of service is adequate; his plans to recruit additional consultant neurologists, specialist neurology nurses and neurophysiologists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [39495/20]

*403. To ask the Minister for Health the consideration given to the risk of image based sexual abuse occurring when the HSE issued advice for persons not living together to have sex online to stop the spread of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [39506/20]

*404. To ask the Minister for Health if the regulations for part 8 on advance healthcare directives have been drafted; if so, when they will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39510/20]

*405. To ask the Minister for Health when he plans to publish the protection of liberty safeguard Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39511/20]

*406. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a report (details supplied) commissioned by the Rotunda Hospital which details chronic lack of space which increases risks of infection; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [39524/20]

*407. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to support the Rotunda Hospital in relation to its chronic lack of space and aging infrastructure. — Gary Gannon. [39525/20]

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

*408. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a decision has been made on a GLAS penalty appeal by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39264/20]

*409. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a farmer can retain their single farm payment if they install solar panels on the farm land; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [39266/20]

*410. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason a person (details supplied) in County Kerry received a GLAS penalty for gorse burning on commonage which they had no hand, act or part in; if the penalty will be withdrawn; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39268/20]

*411. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status on an objection to afforestation by a person (details supplied) in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [39273/20]

*412. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of dedicated staff deployed in the protected geographical indication sector; the breakdown of grade structure of staff in the sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39357/20]

*413. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of protected geographical indication applications being dealt with by the sector; the breakdown of the starting dates of each of these applications; the number of PGI applications submitted to this section over the past five years and which have not been brought to national consultation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39358/20]

*414. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the length of time the Bord Bia protected geographical indication application took to be processed to national consultation level; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39359/20]

*415. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the competent authority with regard to protected geographical indication application submissions; if the comments made by his officials after reviewing the single and specification documents of these applications are to be considered as instructions that must be followed or just as recommendations that, if followed, will increase the likelihood of a successful PGI application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39360/20]

*416. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason beef scheme payments for 2018 and 2019 did not issue to farmers (details supplied) when a herd number was amended to include a second name; the reason payments under BPS, ANC and so on did not issue when the herd number was amended to be held under joint names; if these missing BDGP payments will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39361/20]

*417. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 1019 of 29 September 2020 and other Parliamentary Questions on the same issue, the progress in completing DNA tests and registration of animals under herd number (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [39445/20]

*418. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if it is planned that the new Agri-Food Strategy to 2030 which has recently been the subject of public consultation will replace the current Food Wise 2025 strategy; if so, the reason the Food Wise 2025 strategy is being withdrawn five years early; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [39448/20]

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

*419. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if a follow-up round of the Covid-19 Stability Fund for Community and Voluntary, Charity and Social Enterprises will be introduced; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39436/20]

*420. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if there are further plans to provide funding for volunteer community groups that have seen their fundraising efforts largely cease as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. — Steven Matthews. [39375/20]

