



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Máirt, 1 Nollaig, 2020
Tuesday, 1st December, 2020

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

1. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Cabinet Committee on Government Co-ordination. — Alan Kelly. [36605/20]
2. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Cabinet Committee on Government Co-ordination. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [38635/20]
3. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Cabinet Committee on Government Co-ordination. — Mary Lou McDonald. [39895/20]
4. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Policing Reform Implementation Programme Office. — Alan Kelly. [36606/20]
5. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Social Affairs and Equality is next due to meet; and when it last met. — Alan Kelly. [38078/20]
6. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Social Affairs and Equality will next meet. — Mary Lou McDonald. [38622/20]
7. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Social Affairs and Equality is due to meet next. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [40167/20]
8. To ask the Taoiseach the status of plans to reopen society and the economy when level 5 Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. — Alan Kelly. [38080/20]
9. To ask the Taoiseach the status of plans for reopening after level 5 Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. — Paul Murphy. [38834/20]
10. To ask the Taoiseach the status of plans to reopen society and the economy when level 5 Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [40168/20]
11. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee dealing with foreign affairs will next meet. — Mick Barry. [38329/20]
12. To ask the Taoiseach the status in relation to the Global Ireland Strategy; and when the next progress report is due. — Seán Canney. [38206/20]
13. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee dealing with foreign affairs will next meet. — Alan Kelly. [38076/20]

14. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee that deals with foreign affairs will next meet. — Mary Lou McDonald. [38620/20]

15. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee dealing with foreign affairs will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [40064/20]

16. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee dealing with foreign affairs will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [40169/20]

17. To ask the Taoiseach if his Department plans to publish a statement of strategy. — Alan Kelly. [38075/20]

18. To ask the Taoiseach if his Department plans to publish a statement of strategy. — Paul Murphy. [40065/20]

19. To ask the Taoiseach if his Department plans to publish a statement of strategy. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [40486/20]

20. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Europe will next meet. — Mary Lou McDonald. [39896/20]

21. To ask the Taoiseach the engagements he has had with the First and Deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland in relation to lifting Covid-19 restrictions. — Neale Richmond. [39968/20]

22. To ask the Taoiseach if he plans to publish a review of the progress made in implementing the Programme for Government. — Paul Murphy. [40066/20]

23. To ask the Taoiseach the number of advisers appointed in his Department including press advisers; and the annual cost. — Alan Kelly. [40161/20]

24. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his plans for travel abroad in 2021. — Alan Kelly. [40162/20]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

25. To ask the Minister for Education if specific, revised guidance will be provided on ventilation in the winter months; and if she will be providing additional funding to schools for the purchase of air monitoring systems and to make up for additional heating costs. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [39970/20]

26. To ask the Minister for Education if the administration day currently allowed per week to teaching principals will be maintained into 2021; if there is a provision within the education service plan to support same going forward; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [40021/20]

27. To ask the Minister for Education her views on whether special educational units in mainstream schools are not suitable for all children with additional needs; and her plans to increase special educational places and to open new special schools. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [39971/20]

28. To ask the Minister for Education the provisions in place by her Department to police and address occurrences (details supplied); if students can be refused entry to school grounds; and if An Garda Síochána can be contacted to verify if the student in question has been overseas and take the necessary action with the child's parents. — Richard O'Donoghue. [40260/20]

29. To ask the Minister for Education the criteria which the school-specific contact tracing teams will work off, including a clear outline of who will be identified as a close contact in the school setting; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [39972/20]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

30. To ask the Minister for Education the measures in place to ensure adequate heating and ventilation in view of Covid-19 guidelines in schools temporarily accommodated in prefabs. — Francis Noel Duffy. [39982/20]

31. To ask the Minister for Education when approval will issue in respect of a building project for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [40010/20]

32. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding the Education of Persons with Special Education Needs Act 2004 which despite being a central pillar of the National Disability Strategy has never been fully commenced meaning that children with disabilities cannot access assessments with a right of appeal or individual education plans on a statutory basis; if she is satisfied with the lack of progress regarding the Act; the action she will take to fully commence the Act; the time frame for this action; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [40164/20]

33. To ask the Minister for Education if she is satisfied that her Department is working with parents to address the transportation needs of pupils with disabilities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [40092/20]

34. To ask the Minister for Education if a high-risk SNA can work from home during the lockdown restrictions if the management team of a school agrees to same. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [39977/20]

35. To ask the Minister for Education the steps being taken to ensure the delivery of the Traveller Education Strategy. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [35132/20]

36. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider initiating an investigation into allegations that females in a school (details supplied) were asked not to wear certain items of clothing due to it allegedly being revealing; if she will report on measures taken to counter sexist attitudes in schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [40068/20]

37. To ask the Minister for Education her views on whether cleaners are critical staff in the running of schools; her plans to provide pension rights to long-term service cleaners; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [40006/20]

38. To ask the Minister for Education her plans for autism specific schools and autism specific services within mainstream school; and the preference of her Department going forward. — Patrick Costello. [39666/20]

39. To ask the Minister for Education her plans for the provision of ASD services and units at primary and secondary level in existing school buildings; her further plans for identifying and addressing gaps at a regional level in the provision of ASD services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [40085/20]

40. To ask the Minister for Education the method used to decide the allocation of special education teachers for a school (details supplied) in the context of a current school population of 330 rather than the earlier 171 and the high number of children with special and additional needs including 12 children with complex needs in the ASD evergreen unit classes; if she will make a recommendation to the NCSE to review the number of special education teachers allocated to the school and to consider the request from parents for a minimum allocation of six special education teachers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [39981/20]

41. To ask the Minister for Education if she will address the capacity issues for secondary level education provision in County Wexford. — Johnny Mythen. [39960/20]

42. To ask the Minister for Education the monitoring and analysis she is undertaking to examine the quality of education leaving certificate 2020 students are receiving; and if it has been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. — Peadar Tóibín. [40075/20]

43. To ask the Minister for Education the capital projects in County Monaghan that will receive funding from her Department in 2021; and the capital projects in County Monaghan that are currently under consideration for future funding from her Department. — Matt Carthy. [39987/20]

44. To ask the Minister for Education the degree to which adequate forward planning continues to take place in order to identify the number and location of primary and post-primary schools throughout the greater Dublin area and nationwide having regard to population projections as identified by the local authorities through the core strategy figures; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40012/20]

45. To ask the Minister for Education when the review of the leaving certificate 2020 and the calculated grade model will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [40157/20]

46. To ask the Minister for Education if funding is available to tackle school capacity shortages (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [40143/20]

47. To ask the Minister for Education if a guarantee will be given that the intimate role of SNAs is acknowledged and that SNAs who require medical grade masks will be provided with same. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [39976/20]

48. To ask the Minister for Education the status of a new school build (details supplied); the stage the process is at; the time frame for same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [39978/20]

49. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the shortage of school places across north County Dublin; and if she will engage with school principals and parents regarding the provision of modular accommodation and additional teachers to address the problem. — Louise O'Reilly. [40003/20]

50. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the fact that some children with disabilities may not be able to access a place in schools due to competition from siblings of current pupils; her views on whether this is fair and equitable; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39845/20]

51. To ask the Minister for Education the measures that have been taken to allow for a safe resumption of inter-school sport; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39963/20]

52. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she expects to be in a position to improve pupil-teacher ratios over the next five years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40011/20]

53. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to increase the number of Gaelscoileanna to meet the demand around the country. — Peadar Tóibín. [40076/20]

54. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to commission long-term research on the impact of the school closures on educational outcomes for children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [40094/20]

55. To ask the Minister for Education the way in which she will prioritise schools in need of permanent buildings in County Donegal during 2021; the time-frame for phasing out of the use of temporary prefab buildings; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39851/20]

56. To ask the Minister for Education if she will report on her efforts to ensure that all students that have been deemed eligible for school transport including those that missed the original payment deadline will be facilitated with places on school buses. — Matt Carthy. [39986/20]

57. To ask the Minister for Education the active measures being taken to phase out single gender schools at primary level. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [40043/20]

58. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the levels of days lost by staff in primary and secondary schools as a result of Covid-19 related issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [40017/20]

59. To ask the Minister for Education the status of applications by schools (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39853/20]

60. To ask the Minister for Education the progress being made to agree a site location for building of a new school (details supplied); the engagement her Department has had to date with the school on their proposed site location; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [40045/20]

61. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to a situation in which a school (details supplied) is being forced to campaign again for additional SNA resources given its last campaign was in 2019. — Thomas Gould. [39725/20]

62. To ask the Minister for Education the method used in the new SNA allocations model (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [40041/20]

63. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the provision of ASD units in secondary schools in County Clare. — Cathal Crowe. [39900/20]

64. To ask the Minister for Education the data being collated by her Department on the infrastructural needs of primary and post-primary schools during the Covid-19 pandemic; if a report will be produced and provided early in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39852/20]

65. To ask the Minister for Education the status of engagements with representatives of school secretaries. — Jim O'Callaghan. [40089/20]

66. To ask the Minister for Education if there is a need to provide an individual workplace risk assessment for SNAs and teachers who are high-risk; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [40005/20]

67. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the new school building for a school (details supplied); if the site for the new school has been secured; if not, the stage at which it is at; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39854/20]

68. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the reason class size reductions were only committed to for DEIS band 1 senior schools in budget 2021; her plans to commit funding to reduce class sizes in DEIS band 1 junior and vertical schools; the way in which the investment of €5 million in the DEIS programme will be distributed; her further views on the importance of properly funded DEIS schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [40140/20]

69. To ask the Minister for Education if she will meet with members of a group (details supplied) in relation to issues regarding families with underlying conditions and Covid-19 safety in schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [40015/20]

70. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the recently published report by a person (details supplied) which details significant decline in arts involvement between 13 and 17 years and that DEIS schools are least likely to offer music or art classes at leaving certificate level; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [40153/20]

71. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to Health Protection Surveillance Centre guidance for an indoor air quality meter in each classroom that relies on natural ventilation; and if her Department will follow this guidance. — Gary Gannon. [40154/20]

72. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to school admissions in circumstances in which children who could walk from their home to the local school are unable to secure places while children requiring transport can secure places, in particular when the funding

for such schools was provided to address local population growth evidenced by population studies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [40152/20]

73. To ask the Minister for Education her views on sixth year classes in secondary schools having increased classroom based assessments in preparation for a potential repeat of the predictive grades; her views on this practice; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [40156/20]

74. To ask the Minister for Education if she will include JobBridge hours in the calculation of teachers' salary increments. — Pa Daly. [40151/20]

75. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the review of the ex-gratia scheme which was established on foot of the O'Keeffe judgment of the European Court of Human Rights; the timeline for the completion of the review and the publication of the report of the findings of the review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40078/20]

76. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to increase availability of school places for children with a disability; her views on whether her Department has adequate data available to it to forecast demand; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [40091/20]

77. To ask the Minister for Education if consideration is being given to expanding choice in the 2021 leaving certificate exams further; if she is considering additional measures to mitigate the difficult preparation that these students have had in the run up to their leaving certificate; and when students can expect the contingency plan for leaving certificate 2021 to be released. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [39973/20]

78. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the need to increase the amount of black and Traveller history in the school curriculum; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [40069/20]

79. To ask the Minister for Education the actions being taken to ensure that continued operation of schools at which inadequate ventilation has been identified; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [40088/20]

80. To ask the Minister for Education if she will report on the plan for an autism specific school (details supplied); and the roadmap and timeline for the establishment of such a school. — Patrick Costello. [39665/20]

81. To ask the Minister for Education the funding that exists for a school (details supplied) and other schools to install water fountains on their school grounds; the way in which an application can be made; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39798/20]

82. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to address issues regarding ventilation in schools in view of Covid-19 related concerns; the number of buildings her Department plans to upgrade with new ventilation systems; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [40018/20]

83. To ask the Minister for Education the steps her Department is taking in allowing broader choice in exam questions in leaving certificate 2021 to ensure gaps in curriculum coverage do not impinge on subsequent third-level course content; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [40084/20]

84. To ask the Minister for Education if all DEIS band 1 schools will be included in the one-point reduction in the pupil teacher ratio promised in budget 2021. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [39975/20]

85. To ask the Minister for Education the effect Brexit will have on the terms of registration for teachers who are trained and are fully qualified to teach in the UK returning to Ireland and registering with the Teaching Council; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [40063/20]

86. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to improve capitation funding for voluntary second level schools in view of the differential in the level of funding provided for such schools and other second level schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [40009/20]

87. To ask the Minister for Education the latest demographic information used including figures of projection population growth of school age children to analyse the projected need for future schools in Meakstown, Dublin 11; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [40061/20]

88. To ask the Minister for Education the actions which will be taken to ensure the continued operation of small schools in view of changing demographic trends in the years ahead; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [40093/20]

89. To ask the Minister for Education if the provision of appropriate PPE to school staff particularly in relation to SNAs who cannot adhere to social distancing with students will be clarified; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [40155/20]

90. To ask the Minister for Education the progress on the stage 1 and 2A application for a school (details supplied) given the chronic shortage of second-level school places for boys in the area for 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [40062/20]

91. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to address the inadequate number of special education teachers in schools; if her attention has been drawn to the fact that some schools are operating with at least twice the number of students per special education teacher than is recommended (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [39907/20]

92. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to build a new secondary school in Glanmire, County Cork due to the increasing population and the existing shortage of school places in the area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39846/20]

93. To ask the Minister for Education the actions she is taking to ensure gender balance in STEM education; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [40090/20]

94. To ask the Minister for Education when the independent evaluation of Caranua commenced; when it will be completed; when the report of the independent evaluation will be published; the details of the application and selection process regarding the appointment of a person (details supplied); the cost of undertaking the evaluation; if the cost of the evaluation is being met from the Caranua fund itself; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40077/20]

95. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the scarcity of second level places in north Dublin owing to schools reducing their intake to enable social distancing; the action she plans to take in relation to the matter; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [40042/20]

96. To ask the Minister for Education the way in which she will address the shortage of secondary school places in County Meath ahead of the 2021-2022 school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [38751/20]

97. To ask the Minister for Education if she will investigate the lack of ASD unit spaces for children starting primary schools in mid-Cork; if this matter will be reviewed urgently given that there is now a waiting list for children with diagnosed needs in all schools with ASD units in mid-Cork; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [40046/20]

98. To ask the Minister for Education the status of school bus transport; the number of children accommodated in 2020 compared to previous years; and the efforts to address unmet demand notwithstanding the challenge of Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [38750/20]

99. To ask the Minister for Education when a school (details supplied) will move to its permanent site; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39962/20]

100. To ask the Minister for Education if she will engage with school principals in Skerries, County Dublin and the parents of children affected in relation to delivering additional ASD capacity at schools in the town for September 2021. — Louise O'Reilly. [40004/20]

101. To ask the Minister for Education if she has considered the resources that may become available within primary education in the coming years due to the projection of declining pupil enrolment and the way in which they might best be deployed to improve education outcomes for pupils. — Richard Bruton. [39714/20]

102. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the way in which the education of a child with learning difficulties could be affected if that child's single parent is no longer able to afford to pay for a private school bus service due to there being no public school buses in their area serving a school which is just six kilometres away; her further views on the impact the lack of a suitable school bus services in areas of County Tipperary will have on families that cannot afford a private service; if she will consider providing a subvention for parents in this situation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [40141/20]

103. To ask the Minister for Education if the cap on a second level school (details supplied) in Dublin 13 will be lifted. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [40044/20]

104. To ask the Minister for Education if the challenges faced by a school (details supplied) will be investigated; if the necessary assistance will be provided to the school for a school development; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [40059/20]

105. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to a situation in which a school on the northside of Cork city lost a teacher in October 2020 and was forced to amalgamate two classes. — Thomas Gould. [39724/20]

106. To ask the Minister for Education her views on whether many private bus operators are operating at 50% capacity on their school services in line with the recommendations of her Department; if her attention has been drawn to the fact that this has come at a significant cost that has been passed onto parents; and if her Department will intervene to provide these private operators with additional funding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [39974/20]

107. To ask the Minister for Education if the situation in relation to the provision of an ASD specific school in the Dublin 12 area will be clarified; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [40016/20]

108. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider closing schools early for the Christmas period in view of Covid-19 related concerns; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [40019/20]

109. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department has undertaken research into a centre (details supplied) as a response to tackling poor educational outcomes in areas of acute disadvantage; and if she has considered such an approach as appropriate in a small number of settings in Ireland. — Richard Bruton. [39715/20]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

*110. To ask the Taoiseach 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. [39260/20]

*111. To ask the Taoiseach if reports of the National Economic and Social Council are Government policy; and if not, the status of same. — Cian O’Callaghan. [39563/20]

*112. To ask the Taoiseach further to Parliamentary Question No. 31 of 11 November 2020, if he will publish the circular or detailed official guidance setting out the arrangements governing travel for office holders and officials who travel overseas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [39787/20]

*113. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40219/20]

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

*114. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will review a critical skills employment permit for a person (details supplied) which due to Covid-19 no longer

meets the original criteria; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard O'Donoghue. [39620/20]

*115. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if State redundancies will be available from 1 December 2020 when the bar on redundancies expires for workers particularly in the bar trade that do not have prospect of returning to their previous jobs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39657/20]

*116. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on measures to implement the Duffy Cahill report in relation to collective redundancies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [29993/20]

*117. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when the recommendations contained in the Duffy Cahill Report will be implemented; the reason the recommendations have not been implemented to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [25979/20]

*118. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the amount of the €2 billion Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme that has been approved and drawn down; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40393/20]

*119. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of redundancies registered in each month between October 2019 and October 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [40509/20]

*120. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a matter raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied) in relation to Covid-19 restrictions will receive a response; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39539/20]

*121. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a State body is investigating the issues related to the liquidation of a company (details supplied) such as the treatment of workers, the structures of the group of companies, the intragroup transactions and related accounting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39572/20]

*122. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the packages of support available for taxi drivers to assist and support them during Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39594/20]

*123. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the level of new investment arising from IDA sponsored enterprises in County Westmeath in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [39635/20]

*124. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he remains satisfied that the Covid-19 related supports provided are adequately addressing the negative aspects of Covid-19 on the economy and its ability to recover in the short to medium term; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39654/20]

*125. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will address a matter (details supplied) in relation to the work permit process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [39672/20]

*126. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of applicants for the restart grant plus that pay commercial rates in shared commercial spaces that had their application approved and later informed by their local authority there had been a misinterpretation of qualifying criteria and had their offer rescinded; the number of applicants that had their application approved, received payment and were then informed the grant had to be paid back afterwards due to the same circumstances; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [39687/20]

*127. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between the EU and Canada; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39729/20]

*128. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide a full sectoral breakdown on new jobs announcements supported by Enterprise Ireland in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39730/20]

*129. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide a full sectoral breakdown on new jobs announcements supported by the Industrial Development Authority in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39731/20]

*130. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will consider appointing a liaison person in the north-west to act as a single contact person for potential inward investment post-Brexit in assisting with information and guidance on business support services with specific agencies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [39765/20]

*131. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his office received correspondence (details supplied); and when a reply will issue. — Denise Mitchell. [39838/20]

*132. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the average interest rates across lenders providing loans to qualifying borrowers through the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39868/20]

*133. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the reason the wet pubs are one of the last remaining industries to be allowed to reopen (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39912/20]

*134. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the supports available for sole traders that are also PAYE employees that have not lost employment due to Covid-19 and that find themselves still covering the costs related to their self-employment but have lost all income related to that self-employment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [39953/20]

*135. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the supports in place to support second line supply businesses such as fish suppliers, florists and other food producers whose businesses have been decimated by level 5 closures and do not qualify for the CRSS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [40174/20]

*136. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020;

if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40208/20]

*137. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he personally received the registered post sent to him directly from persons (details supplied); if he plans to respond; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [40230/20]

*138. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will address the concerns raised in correspondence (details supplied) with the Companies Registration Office; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [40245/20]

*139. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has received correspondence from persons (details supplied) dated 13 November 2020; and if so, when his Department will be replying to same. — Louise O’Reilly. [40274/20]

*140. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on the provisions of SI No. 349 of 2020 on redundancy payments. — Alan Kelly. [28349/20]

*141. 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. [40340/20]

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

*142. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will ensure a full process of consultation with land owners, occupiers, famers and farm organisations prior to the commencement of a wetting programme in respect of Government and or State agency proposals to increase wetland areas across the midlands in furtherance of climate change measures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [39627/20]

*143. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of the north south interconnector project; if he is satisfied the project follows international best practice; if an independent review will be carried out as part of the forthcoming review of the National Development Plan 2018-2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39808/20]

*144. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the protections in place for those attending the post office, especially those in the vulnerable category; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39600/20]

*145. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps he will take to ensure the provision of high-speed broadband connection in the Foxrock area, County Dublin (details supplied); when high-speed connection will be available to residents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [39623/20]

*146. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when he plans to enact the private members’ motion passed in November 2016 by the previous Government

regarding the future of the post office network; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [39638/20]

*147. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the scheduled and planned enabling of broadband exchanges in County Clare under the national broadband plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [39686/20]

*148. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to bring forward a second round of the amnesty for the collection of old tyres dumped illegally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [39690/20]

*149. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of works to be done on the wall along the river in Ballylooby, Cahir, County Tipperary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [39699/20]

*150. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the amount of State investment planned for investment in offshore wind energy projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [39778/20]

*151. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans for State owned offshore wind farms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [39779/20]

*152. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the current level of energy produced from offshore windfarms; the projected level of energy that will be produced from offshore windfarms in each year from 2020 to 2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [39780/20]

*153. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has considered the introduction of a grants scheme for renewable energy systems for new builds to similar to the existing SEAI grants presently available for existing households; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [39796/20]

*154. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the position regarding the issue of Eircodes particularly to new housing developments will be clarified; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the delay in issuing such Eircodes to houses which are newly built and recently occupied is an impediment to the provision of broadband as all broadband providers have a requirement for an Eircode before they will provide a service; if arrangements will be made to expedite the issue of Eircodes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [39917/20]

*155. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to provide additional resources or statutory powers to the Commission for Communications Regulation to deal with telecommunications in particular in regard to a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [39926/20]

*156. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the 400 kv Celtic interconnector will be placed underground along public roads in its entirety when this connection from France reaches Ireland in the south-east; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [40099/20]

*157. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if there will be further calls for funding from the scheme following the recent funding announcements for the midlands counties including County Longford under the Just Transition Programme in 2021, 2022, 2023 through to at least 2025 as the region deserves sustained investment given that it will pay a heavy price in the move towards decarbonisation. — Joe Flaherty. [40176/20]

*158. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40209/20]

*159. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to combat fly tipping and illegal dumping; if he has allocated funding to local authorities to combat same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40311/20]

*160. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department has undertaken any research or investigation into the alleged use of fake social media accounts or robots by political parties in Ireland; if so, the findings of such investigations and research; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [40317/20]

*161. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if information regarding the increase in the cost of certification through the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland as recommended by the Commission on the Regulation of Utilities will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [40357/20]

*162. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when residents in Cluain Ard, Blarney will have broadband rolled out. — Thomas Gould. [40450/20]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*163. To ask the Minister for Transport if guidance will be provided on the use of aircraft detection lighting systems in the construction of wind turbines in the context of the development of new guidelines, the current guidance with regard to the use of such systems; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [40194/20]

*164. To ask the Minister for Transport if funding has been approved for traffic calming on Orerry Road, County Cork. — Thomas Gould. [39543/20]

*165. To ask the Minister for Transport if a second feasibility study into the western rail corridor has been commissioned; if so, the purpose of commissioning a second study; when he plans to publish the findings of the initial report and the independent review; when he expects to make a decision on the future of the western rail corridor; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [39573/20]

*166. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the 40 new VB buses received by Bus Éireann from the National Transport Authority earlier in 2020 cannot carry bicycles on board; if he plans to address the situation given that many of these buses service

popular cycleway routes nationwide; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [39574/20]

*167. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the new hybrid IAA superannuation pension scheme is being operated without agreement and outside the requirements of the Irish Aviation Authority Act 1993 (details supplied). — Michael McNamara. [39583/20]

*168. To ask the Minister for Transport if a minibus driver test will be expedited for a person (details supplied) which has a waiting list of six months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39595/20]

*169. To ask the Minister for Transport if arrangements will be in place for Irish residents to exchange their UK Northern Ireland driver license after the Brexit transition period comes to an end; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39609/20]

*170. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will direct the RSA to provide information in relation to learner permit holders and driving test applications (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [39646/20]

*171. To ask the Minister for Transport when the grants recently announced to enable taxi drivers to replace their vehicles with zero emissions vehicles will be made available; the procedure for applying; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39649/20]

*172. To ask the Minister for Transport when the review of the sustainable mobility policy launched in November 2019 is expected to be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [39674/20]

*173. To ask the Minister for Transport if provision will be made to reduce the six-month waiting rule for provisional driver licence holders to sit a test for a full licence on an emergency basis for those working in essential activities such as the health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [39792/20]

*174. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of motorhome campervans currently registered in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [39827/20]

*175. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of foreign registration motorhome and campervan vehicles that visited Ireland for holidays and subsequently left the State in 2019 and 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [39828/20]

*176. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason no driver theory test appointments are available to be booked in the next ten months (details supplied). — Emer Higgins. [39871/20]

*177. To ask the Minister for Transport the level of funding he had requested in budget 2021 to improve Dublin Bus services. — Denise Mitchell. [39888/20]

*178. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department has received a submission from Galway County Council in relation to the bridges and causeways into the islands area of south Connemara which connect the mainland at Béal an Daingin to the islands of Eanach Mheáin, Leitir Móir, Garumna and Leitir Meallain; the options being considered to improve access into the islands area; the process that would be involved in order to consider and approve a project or projects to replace one or more of the causeways and bridges into the islands; the criteria that would be used to

evaluate a project or projects such as this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [39905/20]

*179. To ask the Minister for Transport the estimated daily volume of demand for airport testing in Dublin, Cork and Shannon airports during December 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [39913/20]

*180. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of passengers that arrived in Dublin, Cork and Shannon airport in each week from 1 November to 22 November 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [39914/20]

*181. To ask the Minister for Transport if the NTA is extending or will extend the 90 day time limit to getting a suitability test for taxi vehicles after passing a NCT while licence renewals are being extended and during Covid-19 emergency extension measures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39918/20]

*182. To ask the Minister for Transport the consideration he is giving to changing the qualifying criteria for electric AM category vehicle licences (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [39930/20]

*183. To ask the Minister for Transport if TII has received an application for a roadside barrier at a location (details supplied) in County Louth; the length of time it will take for a decision on its installation to be made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [39956/20]

*184. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will accept the certificate of professional competence which was accredited in England as opposed to making drivers sit the same test again; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [39957/20]

*185. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to address the large number of taxi drivers who are over 66 years of age and are not included in the measures to help taxi drivers during Covid-19 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [40053/20]

*186. To ask the Minister for Transport the name of a company used to develop essential driver training on behalf of the Road Safety Authority in 2009; the fees paid to the company; if the company has conducted other work for the RSA since 2009; and if the RSA has a policy in relation to former staff engaging in consultancy work which it engages. — Catherine Murphy. [40128/20]

*187. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the Athy distributor route; the progress to date; his plans to bring this project to fruition; the target date for opening; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [40137/20]

*188. To ask the Minister for Transport if any of the four newly-appointed persons to the board of the RSA were known to him before he appointed them; if so, the capacity in which they were known to him; if any were members of the Green Party; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [40183/20]

*189. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they

were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40221/20]

*190. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are plans for an exchange programme for holders of TM CPC UK certificates to EU or Irish certificates following Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40358/20]

*191. To ask the Minister for Transport when a driver licence will issue to a person (details supplied) requiring evidence of a valid driver licence for car insurance purposes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40359/20]

*192. To ask the Minister for Transport if a full and final decision has been made in relation to exchanging international haulage certificates following Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40362/20]

*193. To ask the Minister for Transport the process to exchange UK driver licences for Irish licences for those that are not public services card holders while appointments are currently suspended for public services card applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40363/20]

*194. To ask the Minister for Transport if a process for online driver licence renewals that does not require a public services card is being considered during Covid-19 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40364/20]

*195. To ask the Minister for Transport if the continued recognition of UK driver licences in Ireland post-Brexit is included in current Brexit negotiations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40365/20]

*196. To ask the Minister for Transport if older defined benefit pension schemes operated by the Irish Aviation Authority require extra funding from air traffic control user costs to ensure the sustainability of such schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [40423/20]

*197. To ask the Minister for Transport if requirements under the Irish Aviation Authority Act 1993 to agree pension schemes with staff for the Minister to approve such pension schemes and for any scheme to be laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas have been complied with for all pension schemes operated by the Irish Aviation Authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [40424/20]

*198. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are new sponsors for the public bike scheme outside of Dublin. — Sean Sherlock. [40425/20]

*199. To ask the Minister for Transport the membership of the Taxi Advisory Council; the number of vacancies at present; the method and expected timeline by which they will be filled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [40437/20]

*200. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on a matter (details supplied) regarding a UK haulage licence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [40449/20]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*201. To ask the Minister for Finance the list of projects funded by the Irish Strategic Investment Fund and a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [39557/20]

*202. To ask the Minister for Finance if a business whose business activity is not carried out at their business premises will be eligible to receive the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [39691/20]

*203. To ask the Minister for Finance the current provisions in place to prevent the import of novel psychoactive substances. — Thomas Gould. [40227/20]

*204. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review section 127B of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 to ensure the fair taxation of the affected workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [39562/20]

*205. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated amount owed to the State by tax head in relation to the liquidation of a company (details supplied); and the amount that is expected to be recovered. — Cian O’Callaghan. [39571/20]

*206. To ask the Minister for Finance the remedies available for complainants that issue a complaint to the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman regarding a joint account in the name of more than one person, in which the FSPO complaint form requires the signature of both account holders, but the complainant cannot secure the signature of the other account holder; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39619/20]

*207. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to a matter (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [39621/20]

*208. To ask the Minister for Finance if fee-paying third-level students and their families in cases of more than one third-level student per family will receive the full €250 reduction or credit note per student as part of the once-off Covid-19 payment scheme; if the net tax reduction will be less in certain cases (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [39624/20]

*209. To ask the Minister for Finance if he plans to lower the threshold on tax free sales by non-EU tourists; and if so, the proposed lowest threshold; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [39668/20]

*210. To ask the Minister for Finance if the funding students receive from the student assistance fund will be regarded as taxable income for those students that are not eligible or in receipt of a SUSI grant; and if so, if he will consider exempting all payments from the student assistance fund from being regarded as taxable income. — Paul Murphy. [39685/20]

*211. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount of corporation tax paid by a company (details supplied) on its profits from the sale of loans previously purchased from a bank in 2018; the manner in which the company avoided tax liability through debt transactions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [39777/20]

*212. To ask the Minister for Finance if beauty salons are covered by the recent reduction to the VAT rate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39806/20]

*213. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason the Covid restrictions support scheme omits the business event industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39807/20]

*214. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason the Covid restrictions support scheme omits the Irish circus industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39814/20]

*215. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the case of a person (details supplied); the reason an employer was allowed to submit an application for the temporary wage subsidy scheme and have it accepted and nine months later reverse the decision; if the matter will be investigated and the decision reconsidered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39815/20]

*216. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the case of a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39832/20]

*217. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review correspondence (details supplied); his views on the campaign to retain rural services; if his Department has engaged with the bank on the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39857/20]

*218. To ask the Minister for Finance if professional drivers in receipt of the pandemic unemployment payment will have issues with insurance cover directly relating to the period they were off work due to the gap in insurance coverage addressed (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dessie Ellis. [39892/20]

*219. To ask the Minister for Finance the regulations in place with regard to a crowdfunding platform (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [39928/20]

*220. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of EU Regulation 2019/2088 on sustainability related disclosures in the financial services sector; if it has been transposed into law; if so, the legislation under which; if not, the legislative and other plans to do so; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [39943/20]

*221. To ask the Minister for Finance when NAMA will start construction on the glass bottle site, Ringsend, Dublin 4 in order to provide much needed social and affordable housing. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39949/20]

*222. To ask the Minister for Finance if physiotherapists qualify under the Covid restriction support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [40054/20]

*223. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason the Central Bank is not a member of the Basel Committee; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [40056/20]

*224. To ask the Minister for Finance the appeals process for exclusion or refusal on eligibility criteria from the CRSS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [40109/20]

*225. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on changes to bank charges at banks (details supplied); if his attention has been drawn to the fact that this may lead to substantial increase for some customers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [40185/20]

*226. To ask the Minister for Finance the measures being considered to broaden Ireland's tax base beyond over-reliance on income tax revenues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [40195/20]

*227. To ask the Minister for Finance the size of Ireland's national debt; and the annual repayment and servicing of the debt costs. — Peadar Tóibín. [40196/20]

*228. To ask the Minister for Finance when he expect Ireland's national debt to be reduced at least by 50%. — Peadar Tóibín. [40197/20]

*229. To ask the Minister for Finance the cost to the Exchequer of the VAT exemption on white and cylindrical candles per annum. — Peadar Tóibín. [40198/20]

*230. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40210/20]

*231. To ask the Minister for Finance the research he has undertaken as to the effect on the Irish bank market by the proposed exit of a bank (details supplied) from the Irish market; the effect this will have on retail interests rates, customer access to physical banking facilities, banks' likelihood to lends and so on. — Peadar Tóibín. [40237/20]

*232. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps he has taken to tackle the damage that will be created by the increased concentration of the banking market with the leaving of a bank (details supplied) from the Irish Market. — Peadar Tóibín. [40238/20]

*233. To ask the Minister for Finance the plans he has to create competition within the Irish market given the proposed exit of a bank (details supplied) from the Irish market; and if will he undertake the development of a public banking system to increase competition. — Peadar Tóibín. [40239/20]

*234. To ask the Minister for Finance the research his Department is undertaking on the level of sales of property by receivers which are the subject of impaired loans; the analysis that is being carried out by his Department on whether receivers are fulfilling their duties to borrowers in terms of achieving the best price for their property; and if the research and analysis will be made available. — Peadar Tóibín. [40259/20]

*235. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will address a matter in relation to the help to buy scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Collins. [40267/20]

*236. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to concerns following changes to credit union lodgement limits; if he will address concerns (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [40275/20]

*237. To ask the Minister for Finance the options available to a person (details supplied) facing a large benefit-in-kind bill due to Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [40325/20]

*238. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of businesses in County Cork that have qualified for support under the Covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40391/20]

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

*239. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if the OPW liaised with Dublin City Council ahead of the decision to close many of the gates in the Phoenix Park in response to the Covid-19; and if the OPW will now liaise with the council to ensure that vehicular traffic can exit the park speedily by changing traffic sequence, allowing right turns and so on especially at the Chesterfield Avenue, Conyngham Road. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39742/20]

*240. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the amount the OPW spent on the refurbishment of Malahide Garda station in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Denise Mitchell. [39889/20]

*241. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40216/20]

*242. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the date of the most recent meeting with the landlord of a location (details supplied); the outcome of the meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [40432/20]

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

*243. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the Covid-19 guidance that is given to basketball clubs; and if she will consider an exemption for juvenile training in which no outdoor courts exist under the appropriate level of restrictions. — Pa Daly. [39875/20]

*244. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the reason the circus sector has been excluded from the Covid restrictions support scheme despite the statement she made that the sector may qualify for same (details supplied); the grant scheme the circus sector is eligible for; if none, if a financial support package will be put in place for the sector; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [39927/20]

*245. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when the 2021 sports capital application programme will open; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [40232/20]

*246. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media further to Parliamentary Question No. 27 of 19 November 2020, the Department responsible for oversight of the commercial provision of Irish dancing. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40253/20]

*247. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will ensure Irish dancing is specifically included in any further announcement of lockdown restrictions or easing of restrictions made. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40254/20]

*248. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media her views on a matter regarding the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40288/20]

*249. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the reason a Christmas festival (details supplied) was not awarded a grant under the live performance support scheme despite being a ready to go project as opposed to many of those awarded the grant were only at concept stage; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39544/20]

*250. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if grants and supports will be provided to the self-employed and sole traders that work in the arts, entertainment, music and event industry that continue to have work related overheads despite having little or no work; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [39651/20]

*251. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the pathway in place to allow for the resumption of basketball for children when level 5 restrictions end; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39706/20]

*252. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the actions being taken to save the Irish circus industry during Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39811/20]

*253. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she has received the 2019 annual report for the National Concert Hall; and if so, when it will be published. — Denise Mitchell. [39886/20]

*254. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the reason she has stated that the circus sector may qualify for the Covid restrictions support scheme when the eligibility criteria for the scheme expressly excludes the circus sector; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [39921/20]

*255. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media her views on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40101/20]

*256. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if funding previously awarded under the Sports Capital Programme in the case of a club (details supplied) is secure given delays to ongoing projects due to Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40129/20]

*257. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if venues will be allowed to host live music sessions under level 2 restrictions provided enhanced physical

distancing and proper hygiene protocols are in place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [40139/20]

*258. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will consider whether swimming lessons can be allowed under level 3 restrictions provided enhanced hygiene protocols are in place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [40172/20]

*259. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms her Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if she will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40220/20]

*260. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the status of an application (details supplied). — Dara Calleary. [40246/20]

*261. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán conas a rinne an rialtas fáil réidh leis an gCoimisiún Logainmneacha sa bhliain 2013, agus cóip de chibé barántas nó ordú faoina fuarthas réidh leis an gCoimisiún sin a chur ar aghaidh chugam. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40255/20]

*262. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media further to Parliamentary Question No. 27 of 19 November 2020, if she will confirm that no State support is available for commercial providers of Irish dancing, including tutors that do not have possession of a business premises, and the reason no support is being provided to same. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40256/20]

*263. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the supports she is providing to save a facility (details supplied) in view of the importance of same to the tourism and culture sectors. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40257/20]

*264. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the current position on a new round of sports capital funding; when it will be announced that it is opening; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40313/20]

*265. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the breakdown of the €1.7 million music industry stimulus package grant scheme in terms of the amount spent on administrative costs and the amount that went directly to applicants through grants in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [40366/20]

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

*266. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the actions he has taken to rectify violations of the EU Habitats Directive by Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [39555/20]

*267. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding plans in place to assist Dublin Zoo and Fota Wildlife Park which have suffered an income loss due Covid-19 restrictions. — Eoin Ó Broin. [40030/20]

*268. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the technical update of the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2018 document in relation to co-living will be issued as Ministerial guidance under section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). — Eoin Ó Broin. [40661/20]

*269. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of planning applications that have been refused based on the provisions of section 35 of the Planning and Development Act 2000; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39548/20]

*270. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of staff that have been assigned to work on preparations for the right to housing referendum from his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39550/20]

*271. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has sought legal advice on the proposed wording of the right to housing referendum; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39551/20]

*272. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has considered the proposed wording for the right to housing referendum put forward by an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39552/20]

*273. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount borrowed by approved housing bodies to fund the purchase of turnkey homes in 2019 and to date in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39558/20]

*274. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 75 of 15 January 2019, the current status of the 1,400 affordable units; the expected completion dates and prices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39559/20]

*275. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of persons that fall into the category of the hidden homeless (details supplied); the number of those that have a disability; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39568/20]

*276. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of persons with disabilities that are in receipt of HAP; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39569/20]

*277. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of HAP units that have been assessed for accessibility; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39570/20]

*278. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if an approved housing body has applied to the Housing Finance Agency or his Department or an entity operating under the aegis of his Department for purchasing or operating residential units from the developer of

an estate (details supplied) to deliver cost-rental units; if he, the Housing Finance Agency or his Department or an entity operating under the aegis of his Department has approved funding to an approved housing body for this purpose; if not, if it will approve funding for this purpose; the amount of funding that is sought or approved or will be allocated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39575/20]

*279. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he or his Department have been notified by Dublin City Council if companies (details supplied) were informed that the procurement procedure has ended and that no contract will be awarded as a consequence of the decision adopted by the elected members of Dublin City Council on 16 November 2020 not to assent the proposal outlined in Report 310/2020 on its agenda of the same date; if in circumstances in which the companies have not been notified that no contract shall be awarded arising from the procurement process and that the procurement remains live if it is expected that Dublin City Council will place a new report on the agenda of the council to enable the companies to develop and construct the approximately 853 residential units together with all associated infrastructure works, commercial units and parks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39576/20]

*280. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the impact on current co-living development applications to planning authorities arising from the issuance of a de facto ban; if these applications can be considered for approval or be approved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39577/20]

*281. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if allegations raised regarding balcony defects in an estate (details supplied) in Dublin 24 will be examined; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39593/20]

*282. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide a regional breakdown of the inspections carried out to date under the National Quality Standards Framework on Homeless services in private and voluntary emergency accommodation in tabular form; and his plans for local authorities to publish these reports detailing compliance levels within the framework. — John Brady. [39617/20]

*283. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the details on the level of training given to persons conducting inspections in private and voluntary emergency accommodation under the National Quality Standards Framework on Homeless services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [39618/20]

*284. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the strategic housing developments which have been granted permission since 2017; the number that have been refused; the number of these developments that have commenced; the number of these permissions that have been completed; the number of judicial reviews of An Bord Pleanála decisions on strategic housing developments; the outcome of these proceedings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [39645/20]

*285. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the stakeholders that will be participating to review the status of funding for the National Parks and Wildlife Service in view of the commitment in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [39655/20]

*286. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 636 of 3 November 2020, if the current tenant (incremental) purchase scheme 2016 permits council tenants in homes classed as a duplex to avail of tenant purchase; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [39678/20]

*287. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to the fact that PPS numbers are being required of persons seeking emergency accommodation; the steps he is taking to ensure that all privacy rights afforded to persons under GDPR are being upheld within homelessness services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [39695/20]

*288. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to the fact that since the cessation of one-night only emergency accommodation by DRHE there is an increase in rough sleepers that are deemed ineligible to access longer term emergency accommodation in Dublin; the measures he is putting in place to ensure humanitarian aid and shelter is provided to all that need it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [39696/20]

*289. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on whether public funding allocated through local authorities in the form of a housing adaptation grant should only be awarded once the local authority is satisfied with and signed off on the standard of work carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [39745/20]

*290. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he will sign and publish the updated guidance document that includes a specific planning policy requirement on co-living; if this will effect an outright ban on co-living; and if planning authorities will have to have regard to this guidance when deciding on a co-living application submitted prior to the issuing of the guidance. — Eoin Ó Broin. [39752/20]

*291. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of houses in County Donegal that have been approved to date under the Mica scheme; the number of applications are currently under assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [39759/20]

*292. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures he is taking to alleviate the chronic shortage of long-term rental properties in cities and towns across the country due to competition from the short-term rental market (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39812/20]

*293. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to the recently launched regeneration plan Project Carlow 2040: A vision for Regeneration launched by Carlow County Council, the local enterprise office and is supported by local business groups in Carlow town; and if he will engage with and agree to meet local TDs and business representatives, remotely to discuss this vision for the town centre. — Kathleen Funchion. [39826/20]

*294. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 94 of 11 November 2020, the stage the process between Limerick City and County Council and his Department is at; when the approved process will be completed; when the last interaction occurred with Limerick City and County Council; the locations in County Limerick that

were identified as the five locations referred to in his response; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick O'Donovan. [39830/20]

*295. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the report of by a person (details supplied) in relation to marine protected areas as part of the broader development of a marine planning framework will be published. — Eoin Ó Broin. [39831/20]

*296. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the housing developments in Fingal and in Dublin city which made up the estimated cost of council direct construction of social housing in 2019 published by the Social Housing Capital Investment Programme; and the land cost, professional fees, utility costs, abnormal costs and construction contract costs per unit built, respectively in each case. — Richard Bruton. [39934/20]

*297. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of approved units in Fingal and Dublin city since 1 January 2019 to date; and the estimated cost per unit by the land cost, professional fees, utility costs, abnormal costs and construction contract costs per unit, respectively. — Richard Bruton. [39935/20]

*298. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a property (details supplied) can be included in the pyrite remediation scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [39950/20]

*299. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will publish the circular issued to local authorities and An Bord Pleanála on the issue of co-living following his announcement of a ban on such developments. — Eoin Ó Broin. [40033/20]

*300. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he will fully commence the Local Government Rates and other Matters Act 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [40132/20]

*301. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will meet residents of homes built in conjunction with housing associations (details supplied) to discuss their concerns in which the promise of their right to purchase their own homes has been denied to them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [40135/20]

*302. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a Ministerial order or regulation to allow approved housing bodies to sell homes to tenants will be introduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [40136/20]

*303. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40214/20]

*304. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ban on hare coursing will be extended until at least the end of March 2020 in a context in which any extension of the current coursing season into March 2021 would be to allow coursing during the height of

the breeding season and potentially disrupt the reproduction of the Irish hare population. — Paul Murphy. [40240/20]

*305. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on a housing development project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [40264/20]

*306. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the progress on the investigation his Department is conducting into the rise in deaths among homeless persons in Dublin in 2020 (details supplied). — Peadar Tóibín. [40276/20]

*307. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider introducing a system whereby the number of homeless deaths in each county are documented and published monthly given that statistics on deaths are currently only available for Dublin. — Peadar Tóibín. [40277/20]

*308. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to the practice whereby homeless persons that seek assistance in Dublin are being told to return to their home counties and seek help there which is resulting in many sleeping on the streets due the travel restrictions during Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [40278/20]

*309. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of houses in County Longford connected with index linked shared ownership loans or leases; the number that are lease only and have no loan component; the number of households that took over these lease only arrangements by year and property; and the likely cost of redeeming the lease and attaining full ownership in tabular form. — Joe Flaherty. [40282/20]

*310. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if funding has been allocated for the development or redevelopment of dedicated Defence Forces housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40309/20]

*311. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider changing the planning guidelines to ensure that all new public buildings are required to have changing place toilet facilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40312/20]

*312. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the projected timeline for the issuance of updated development plan guidelines to local authorities; if he will be inviting public consultation on the draft guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [40390/20]

*313. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is satisfied that the 2016 population figures for County Meath are an appropriate population estimate to base the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027 on; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that this could cause significant issues given the demographic changes in the county since 2016; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [40416/20]

*314. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider granting permission to Galway County Council to extend the retirement date for fire service staff who are scheduled to retire in January 2021 until the end of June 2021 as per similar permissions

previously granted in Cork and Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [40488/20]

*315. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when it is expected to publish the report of the independent advisory group on the issue of a directly elected mayor for Limerick city; when it is expected that the heads of a Bill to legislate for this will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [40489/20]

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

*316. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if steps have been taken by his Department to secure the return of a person (details supplied). — Jim O'Callaghan. [39597/20]

*317. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the efforts being made on behalf of the Irish Government to further highlight and end the EndSARS campaign; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [39616/20]

*318. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if action has been taken regarding the arrest of a person (details supplied) in Egypt as part of a crackdown on human rights; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39784/20]

*319. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the interactions he has had with the Irish Embassy in Egypt regarding the arrest of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39785/20]

*320. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on suggestions that the Iranian regime is involved in international terrorism; if his attention has or had been drawn to plans to launch a major terrorist attack against the Free Iran Grand Gathering in Paris on 30 June 2018; if his attention has been further drawn to allegations that the Iranian regime were involved in this plot; the actions he proposes to take regarding these events; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [39947/20]

*321. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the current expected cost of the European Peace Facility to Ireland for each of the years 2021-2027 noting that that the Athena Mechanism and the African Peace Facility are funded through his Department and the Department of Defence, respectively; the Department that will have primary policy responsibility for the European Peace Facility; the expected timetable for bringing the European Peace Facility before the Houses of the Oireachtas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [40035/20]

*322. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will raise the case of a person (details supplied) facing deportation from Canada with the authorities there. — Pa Daly. [40173/20]

*323. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40211/20]

*324. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of permits granted for military aircraft to land at Shannon Airport and to pass through Irish airspace to date in 2020; the number of permits

refused for military aircraft to land at Shannon Airport and to pass through Irish airspace to date in 2020; the countries the requests were made by; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40229/20]

*325. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the reason haulage companies have to send transport managers and employees to do a course (details supplied). — Niamh Smyth. [40279/20]

*326. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if his attention has been drawn to the concerns expressed by human rights and civil society groups throughout the island of Ireland that the UK Internal Market Bill will threaten the ability of the Northern Ireland Assembly to implement the obligation in Article 2 of the Ireland-Northern Ireland Protocol that Northern Ireland continue to align with all new EU equality directives after the transition period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [40321/20]

*327. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has expressed his unease to the UK Government concerning the effect of part 1 of the UK Internal Market Bill on the ability of the Northern Ireland Assembly to implement the obligation in Article 2 of the Ireland-Northern Ireland Protocol that Northern Ireland continue to align with all new EU equality directives after the transition period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [40322/20]

*328. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has sought to have the effect of part 1 of the UK Internal Market Bill on the ability of the Northern Ireland Assembly to implement the obligation in Article 2 of the Ireland-Northern Ireland Protocol that Northern Ireland continue to align with all new EU equality directives after the transition period discussed in the context of the Joint Committee's assessment of the implementation of the Protocol by the United Kingdom; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [40323/20]

*329. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the representations he has made to the Egyptian authorities and or his European counterparts on the arrest and arbitrary detention of persons (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40324/20]

*330. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps that will be taken to ensure that the EU develops a legal analysis of the UN treaty and acquires a negotiation mandate given that the EU attended the sixth annual session to negotiate a UN treaty to regulation transnational corporations and other business enterprises without a negotiation mandate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [40378/20]

*331. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if a national consultation on the UN treaty as recommended by the Chair of the UN Intergovernmental Working Group in the Draft report of the Sixth Session will be held; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [40379/20]

*332. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the plans Ireland has put in place to input and shape the proposed legislative initiative given the commitment to a legislative initiative on human rights due diligence throughout the supply chain by the European Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [40380/20]

*333. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he is supportive of the legislative initiative that given the commitment to a legislative initiative on human rights due diligence throughout the supply chain by the European Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [40381/20]

*334. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the responsible Minister for the EU legislative initiative given the commitment to a legislative initiative on human rights due diligence throughout the supply chain by the European Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [40382/20]

*335. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the way in which he will ensure that the action plan is developed with regard to mandatory due diligence as per the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [40384/20]

Chun an Aire Cosanta: To the Minister for Defence.

*336. To ask the Minister for Defence if on the job training of an apprenticeship can be carried out with the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40301/20]

*337. To ask the Minister for Defence if funding has been provided to the Defence Forces to improve and upgrade defence infrastructure to achieve higher environmental standards. — Duncan Smith. [40306/20]

*338. To ask the Minister for Defence if he will provide a full report on the involvement of the Defence Forces in PESCO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39738/20]

*339. To ask the Minister for Defence if a person (details supplied) will be awarded a medal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [39794/20]

*340. To ask the Minister for Defence the number of additional Naval Service personnel that will be required in the event of a no-deal Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39799/20]

*341. To ask the Minister for Defence the breakdown of annual operations by the Defence Forces; the percentage that are day patrols and so on; and the level of personnel and resources needed for each operation. — Peadar Tóibín. [40189/20]

*342. To ask the Minister for Defence the obstacle to the implementation of the technical pay agreement agreed over a year ago with the Defence Forces. — Peadar Tóibín. [40190/20]

*343. To ask the Minister for Defence if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40206/20]

*344. To ask the Minister for Defence the resources required to be available to improve recruitment into the Reserve Defence Forces in the coming years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40290/20]

*345. To ask the Minister for Defence the estimated number of recruits expected into the Army, Naval Service, Air Corps and Reserve in the 2021 recruitment competitions based on previous competitions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40291/20]

*346. To ask the Minister for Defence the number of applications and number commissioned under the Naval Service direct entry scheme for each year from 2017 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40292/20]

*347. To ask the Minister for Defence if funding that was unspent under Vote 36 was subsequently used from 2017 to 2019 and to date in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40293/20]

*348. To ask the Minister for Defence the reason Permanent and Reserve Defence Forces general service recruitment cannot be undertaken simultaneously in view of the same eligibility criteria under the Single Force Concept; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40294/20]

*349. To ask the Minister for Defence the breakdown of personnel undertaking career breaks for the army, navy and air corps by rank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40295/20]

*350. To ask the Minister for Defence the way in which career breaks are promoted within the Defence Forces; if same are offered prior to a voluntary discharge; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40296/20]

*351. To ask the Minister for Defence if changes to increase the age limit for joining the Permanent or Reserves Defence Forces is being examined to improve the numbers eligible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40297/20]

*352. To ask the Minister for Defence the estimated cost of paying personnel the living wage for undertaking a 24-hour duty; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40298/20]

*353. To ask the Minister for Defence the allocation and expenditure for supporting mental health within the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40299/20]

*354. To ask the Minister for Defence the external advice or expertise that has been sought to assess the security of cyber infrastructure; the areas in which improvements can be made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40302/20]

*355. To ask the Minister for Defence if additional funding has been requested from the EU for the Naval Service to support patrolling Irish territorial waters in view of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40303/20]

*356. To ask the Minister for Defence if he has considered the establishment of a reserve unit for the Air Corps with the necessary skills; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40304/20]

*357. To ask the Minister for Defence the number of permanent defence forces personnel that have availed of paternity leave in 2020; the way same is being promoted amongst personnel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40305/20]

*358. To ask the Minister for Defence the estimated length of time it takes to fully train an Air Corps pilot; the number of pilots; and the number that are currently in training. — Duncan Smith. [40307/20]

*359. To ask the Minister for Defence if an external provider has been considered to assist with the challenges experienced in recruiting for the Permanent and Reserve Defence Force; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40308/20]

*360. To ask the Minister for Defence if he will report on the European Peace Facility proposed off-budget €5 billion that would fund EU military operations and maintain a contingency fund for emergency defence force deployments; the details of Ireland's contributions to same; the parameters of this fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40400/20]

*361. To ask the Minister for Defence if he will report on the PESCO projects in which Ireland has observer status; his plans to participate in further PESCO projects; the criteria that will be used; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40401/20]

*362. To ask the Minister for Defence the meaning of deployable and interoperable forces that can be used by participating member states within the EU framework for national needs relating to PESCO; if German and other troops could be used in Ireland in the event of civil disturbance, strikes and so on and would be under EU control; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40402/20]

*363. To ask the Minister for Defence if Irish troops are being trained in NATO facilities to NATO standards and Defence Forces equipment being aligned to NATO standards; if it is intended that they will be; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40403/20]

*364. To ask the Minister for Defence the planned increase in budgets and investments under policy goals for the implementation of the commitments and projects in the next PESCO phase 2021-2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40404/20]

*365. To ask the Minister for Defence the position on the commitment to explore the possibility of common strategic planning, training and exercises of member states' armed forces, built on and supported by existing EU military tools, for example, the EU battlegroups, and also other multinational structures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40405/20]

*366. To ask the Minister for Defence if Ireland will be submitting PESCO project proposals with an operational focus in order to facilitate joint deployment in the field; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40406/20]

*367. To ask the Minister for Defence the current and planned defence spending commitments to the progress of PESCO implementation focusing in particular on the areas in which efforts have to be maintained or enhanced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40407/20]

*368. To ask the Minister for Defence the meaning of deployment of critical capabilities when looking to explore ways to improve the financing of military missions and operations in the context of the EPF Council Decision, in particular regarding the deployment of EU battlegroups and, in due course of the deployment of critical capabilities based on lessons learned from ongoing missions and operations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40408/20]

*369. To ask the Minister for Defence if he will report on Ireland's participation in PESCO's new commitments around embarking on a new stage towards European security and defence integration; if he will report on the EU's level of ambition in military terms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40409/20]

*370. To ask the Minister for Defence if he will report on the outcomes from the expert level workshop held by the PESCO secretariat after the Foreign Affairs Council meeting of 20 November 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40410/20]

*371. To ask the Minister for Defence the responsibilities the Defence Forces, in particular the Air Corps, have in defending Ireland against potential air threats in Irish-controlled airspace; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [40504/20]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*372. To ask the Minister for Education the reason teachers that are 28 weeks plus pregnant are being denied Covid-19 based health and safety leave by medmark occupational health care for teachers on HSE advice despite the recommendations of their doctors, and the relevant medical bodies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [39634/20]

*373. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the shortage of maths and physics teachers in secondary education; the measures he is taking to deal with this problem; if she will consider reducing the current professional master's in education course from two years to one year given that a two year course involves a big investment of time and money for the students; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [39936/20]

*374. To ask the Minister for Education her views on whether the bar on bus drivers over the age of 70 who are medically fit for work is discriminatory on age grounds; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [40285/20]

*375. To ask the Minister for Education if teachers who were recruited between 2014 and 2017 on lower pay contracts will have their salaries adjusted to match those of their peers; if funding has been allotted for same within the education service plan; if so, when the pay disparity will cease; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [40022/20]

*376. To ask the Minister for Education the way in which regulations were policed in view of the fact that many of these families were attending schools (details supplied); if in such cases the schools are informed of the practice; and the way in which this regulation is managed. — Richard O'Donoghue. [40261/20]

*377. To ask the Minister for Education if schools monitor CO2 levels in classrooms; the advice that has been issued to schools on air purification and ventilation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39553/20]

*378. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the need for a new post-primary school building in an area (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [39578/20]

*379. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department is considering the introduction of a universal secondary school application process for pupils in towns and cities in order to alleviate

the issue of a pupil making multiple applications to numerous schools in their catchment areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [39580/20]

*380. To ask the Minister for Education if she will review salaries of communication support that are assigned to children in both primary and secondary school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39599/20]

*381. To ask the Minister for Education the status of transport for a child (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [39697/20]

*382. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will consider carrying out a feasibility study for a new secondary school in an area (details supplied) that would take into account the growing population and series of new housing developments in the area. — Steven Matthews. [39700/20]

*383. To ask the Minister for Education the number of students in Ireland sat the International Baccalaureate from 2015 to 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39732/20]

*384. To ask the Minister for Education the number of students in Ireland that undertook French for the leaving certificate from 2015 to 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39733/20]

*385. To ask the Minister for Education the number of students in Ireland that undertook a foreign language for the leaving certificate from 2015 to 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39734/20]

*386. To ask the Minister for Education the number of new special classes that will be established in secondary schools in the 2020-2021 school year; and the number of these new classes that are ASD special classes. — Joe O'Brien. [39744/20]

*387. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will increase the number of language units given that there has been no resource increase since 2001; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [39757/20]

*388. To ask the Minister for Education if the deferred payment of the leaving certificate examination fees announced by her Department in early 2020 also applies to cases in which students are repeating the leaving certificate. — Cathal Crowe. [39766/20]

*389. To ask the Minister for Education the funding allocation for her Department by project for 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39772/20]

*390. To ask the Minister for Education the number of appeals by schools to retain their staffing levels and not lose a teacher in the 2020-2021 academic year which were successful; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39773/20]

*391. To ask the Minister for Education if Covid-19 is taken into consideration by the Board of Appeals when considering appeals of a reduction of staffing levels in a school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39774/20]

*392. To ask the Minister for Education the way in which the €5 million investment for DEIS schools as announced in budget 2021 will be allocated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [39775/20]

*393. To ask the Minister for Education the number of additional ASD places made available in Dublin 1, 7 and 9 respectively, in the 2020-2021 academic year. — Neasa Hourigan. [39781/20]

*394. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the development of a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39810/20]

*395. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39816/20]

*396. To ask the Minister for Education the status of a building project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [39840/20]

*397. To ask the Minister for Education the status of discussions to bring school secretaries pay and conditions on a par with all other public servants; her views on this matter; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39858/20]

*398. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the difficult situation that pregnant teachers are experiencing due to differing advice from organisations (details supplied); the steps she will take to rectify the situation these teachers are in; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [39859/20]

*399. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the review of the ex-gratia scheme for survivors of sexual abuse in day schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [39872/20]

*400. To ask the Minister for Education if there will be a need for further extensions to the deadline for the submission of the report to the Council of Europe on the implementation of the European Court of Human Rights judgement in view of the granting of an extension to the deadline for submission and the report of 8 December 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [39873/20]

*401. To ask the Minister for Education if the review of the ex-gratia scheme will be published and made available to the impacted survivors of sexual abuse in day schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [39874/20]

*402. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the provision of an ASD class in a school (details supplied) in County Meath which was awarded funding in February 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39898/20]

*403. To ask the Minister for Education the plans in place to address the increased enrolment applications for a school (details supplied) in County Meath in which a large number of students from the catchment area were refused admission for the 2021-2022 academic year due to capacity issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39899/20]

*404. To ask the Minister for Education if she will direct school principals and teachers to allow students to wear additional layers of clothing including coats, hats and scarves to offset the effects

of windows being opened to improve ventilation in classrooms; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [39904/20]

*405. To ask the Minister for Education the reason for the lack of engagement at a technical level by her Department with a school (details supplied) in County Cork regarding a greenfield site for a new school; if she received further recent correspondence requesting such a meeting; the steps she will take to immediately confirm a time and date for such a meeting prior to the end of 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [39916/20]

*406. To ask the Minister for Education if those who are studying in the UK for a postgraduate certificate in education, but have not yet completed the course, have any option of returning to Ireland and completing their qualification here; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [39922/20]

*407. To ask the Minister for Education if she will investigate the ongoing dispute between Bus Éireann and the family of a child (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39958/20]

*408. To ask the Minister for Education when parents can expect to receive payments under the school transport grant. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [40026/20]

*409. To ask the Minister for Education if schools are assigned leaving certificate exam numbers that retain the same prefix numbers each year which may affect the anonymous nature of the exam; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [40032/20]

*410. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the need to enhance and facilitate further participation in the classroom for children with disabilities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [40096/20]

*411. To ask the Minister for Education if she is in discussion with the management of a school (details supplied) regarding the need for a new building programme at the school; her views on whether this matter now requires immediate attention; if she will provide assurances in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [40102/20]

*412. To ask the Minister for Education the degree to which provision has been made for extra accommodation required at a school (details supplied); if cognisance is taken as to whether extra places need to be made in the short-term; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40112/20]

*413. To ask the Minister for Education the current position in regard to accommodation requirements at a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40113/20]

*414. To ask the Minister for Education the current position in regard to the provision of the new school at Newtown, Enfield, County Kildare; the degree to which the project has been impeded by Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40114/20]

*415. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which all required extra facilities at a school (details supplied) have been provided to date or are in course thereof; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40115/20]

*416. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which facilities required at a school (details supplied) are being provided for in line with requirements as set out by the school authorities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40116/20]

*417. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which the facilities required at a school (details supplied) have been provided in line with the wishes of the school authorities to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40117/20]

*418. To ask the Minister for Education the current position in regard to outstanding requirements at a school (details supplied) in line with the proposals set out by the school authorities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40118/20]

*419. To ask the Minister for Education the degree to which primary, post-primary and Gaelscoil requirements and or additional facilities required are provided for in Leixlip, County Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40119/20]

*420. 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 Straffan, 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. [40125/20]

*421. To ask the Minister for Education if the difficulties facing the school transport system under the current circumstances will be acknowledged; if she is satisfied that the public school transport system is running as planned and that all Covid-19 protocols required of transport providers are being adhered to; if the additional payments sought by bus operators for cleaning and sanitising have been agreed and sanctioned by her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [40126/20]

*422. To ask the Minister for Education the placement numbers for special needs assistants and SENOs prior to and following the announcement of the recently announced investment in new placement numbers in schools (details supplied) by county in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [40127/20]

*423. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to address long waiting lists for school places in Monasterevin and Kildare town; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [40138/20]

*424. To ask the Minister for Education the status of and her position regarding the leaving cert results appeals process; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31358/20]

*425. To ask the Minister for Education the status of school bus transport both in terms of ensuring all students have access to the services in addition to meeting the 50% capacity level advised by NPHE; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [35806/20]

*426. To ask the Minister for Education when an application for additional permanent accommodation at a school (details supplied) will proceed to the next stage in view of the urgent need to upgrade existing accommodation and provide new accommodation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [40178/20]

*427. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms her Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if she will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40207/20]

*428. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 704 of 3 November 2020, if she will respond to correspondence in relation to the urgent need for emergency funding on behalf of a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [40226/20]

*429. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to address the lack of ASD units in Limerick schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [40231/20]

*430. To ask the Minister for Education the reason for the delay in building new schools (details supplied) in Dublin 15; the plans in place to cope with increased need for school places in 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [40262/20]

*431. To ask the Minister for Education if there are funds which schools can avail of to allow participation in digital initiatives in partnership with private enterprise over and above standard funding lines so that opportunities for innovation can be seized. — Richard Bruton. [40314/20]

*432. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to ensure schools are complying with section 62.7(n) of the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018 obliging schools to publish an admission policy outlining arrangements for students who do not want to attend religious instruction; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [40371/20]

*433. 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. [40372/20]

*434. To ask the Minister for Education the reason some special needs assistants are not performing catheterisation at some schools as per Circular 30/2014 being supported by their union and contrary to the Department of Health which says the procedure does not need to be carried out by trained medical personnel (details supplied); the provisions in place in schools in which SNAs are not currently performing the procedure in circumstances in which a legal basis exists for them to do so as per the circular and a Labour Court ruling; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [40376/20]

*435. To ask the Minister for Education the circular under which special needs assistants can insist on a two to one ratio of two SNAs per one child to assist with toileting in schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [40377/20]

*436. To ask the Minister for Education the number of school transport scheme routes servicing the second level education sector in County Donegal that are operating at 50% capacity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40387/20]

*437. To ask the Minister for Education the number of school transport scheme routes servicing the second level education sector in County Donegal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40388/20]

*438. To ask the Minister for Education when the 50% capacity will be implemented for the outstanding school transport scheme routes servicing the second level education sector in County Donegal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40389/20]

*439. To ask the Minister for Education the procedure involved in circumstances in which school inspectorate reports been challenged by a schools management; if the initial report can be accessed by the public; if the report is the subject of a legal challenge by the schools management; if this is funded by the State via central funding; if there is a time frame for such reports to be published within; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [40426/20]

*440. To ask the Minister for Education if advice will be provided on a matter (details supplied) in relation to the dual pay scale in teaching; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40451/20]

*441. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the implementation of the 50% school transport capacity rule in County Donegal particularly in the Milford catchment area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [40452/20]

*442. To ask the Minister for Education the reason persons who were employed part-time as Covid-19 supervisors in schools are not paid for mid-term and school holidays given their status as employed they cannot apply for unemployment payments leaving them without any income for two weeks over Christmas. — Robert Troy. [40456/20]

*443. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date in review of the school transport system in an effort to bring about a resolution of the issues that have arisen in the system over the past number of years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40464/20]

*444. To ask the Minister for Education the school replacement, extension or upgrade requests submitted by each of the various school authorities throughout north County Kildare at primary and second level in respect of which construction progress is in hand, is planned for an early date or is awaiting attention; when it is expected that each of the projects will be concluded; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40465/20]

*445. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which adequate classroom accommodation remains available at primary and second-level schools nationally with reference to those areas of concentrated population and high pupil-teacher ratios; if she is satisfied that deficiencies in space can be adequately provided for in the short-term; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40466/20]

*446. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she remains satisfied that adequate plans are in place to ensure that all schools at primary and post-primary level throughout northern areas of County Kildare are adequately equipped to deal with the extra measures now required due to Covid-19; if adequate adaptation of buildings to meet social distancing requirements has been or is being provided; if emergency buildings are in place or remain to be put in place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40467/20]

*447. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which extra buildings are being availed of to facilitate extra measures required in primary and second-level schools arising from Covid-19 nationwide; if there are further plans in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40468/20]

*448. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which patronage changes in respect of various primary and post-primary schools throughout County Kildare have been advanced in line with expectations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40469/20]

*449. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which the school curriculum at primary and secondary-level has been or can be extended to incorporate particular emphasis on basic life skills, sex education and health and safety issues with a view to addressing issues arising and the prevention of bullying in and out of the classroom; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40470/20]

*450. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she continues to make provision of sufficient places for children with autism throughout mainstream education at both primary and secondary level; the extent to which the needs of students are being met to the fullest extent possible in line with projections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40471/20]

*451. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which the special needs teacher requirement continues to be met nationally and in particular in north County Kildare; if sufficient provision continues to be made in line with requirements and requests from the various primary and second-level schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40472/20]

*452. To ask the Minister for Education the number of career guidance teachers available to students in all secondary schools throughout north County Kildare; the extent to which these number have fluctuated over the past ten years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40473/20]

*453. To ask the Minister for Education the secondary schools available to the community of Ashtown, Dublin 15; if there is sufficient choice in ethos or capacity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [40494/20]

*454. To ask the Minister for Education if a response will issue to an application submitted to her Department by a school (details supplied) to separate the junior and senior schools, a position brought about by the lack of Department support and engagement on a better alternative: if she will engage directly with the schools to bring about the best outcome for the school community; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [40495/20]

*455. To ask the Minister for Education when official recognition will be given to a centre (details supplied) as an alternative education setting meeting a specific and proven need. — Thomas Gould. [40496/20]

*456. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide funding to a centre (details supplied) per student at a level equal to that provided to mainstream schools with same access to resources such as school equipment and transport. — Thomas Gould. [40497/20]

*457. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide funding to a centre (details supplied) for 12 full-time staff. — Thomas Gould. [40498/20]

*458. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide a guaranteed €50,000 per annum for running costs of a centre (details supplied). — Thomas Gould. [40499/20]

*459. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide a progress report on the future of a school (details supplied) as an ASD specific school for children aged five years of age plus. — Joan Collins. [40513/20]

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

*460. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if persons in receipt of carer's allowance are subject to Garda vetting as part of the application process for same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [39642/20]

*461. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if persons in receipt of carers allowance are subject to Garda vetting; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [39643/20]

*462. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the number of employees availing of the short-term working week will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39653/20]

*463. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a fuel allowance application by a person (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [39610/20]

*464. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the community employment scheme will be extended for a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39611/20]

*465. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the suitability of the rates and eligibility criteria attached to the widow's, widower's or surviving civil partner's (contributory) pension; the date that the latest review of same was carried out; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [39612/20]

*466. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a review of the suitability of the rates and the eligibility criteria attached to the widow's, widower's or surviving civil partner's (contributory) pension will be included in the work programme of the newly established Commission on Pensions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [39614/20]

*467. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a PPS number for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39615/20]

*468. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when phone lines (details supplied) will be reopened for queries; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [39629/20]

*469. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a review of eligibility for an invalidity pension will be facilitated in the case of a person (details supplied); the progress to date in the determination of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39632/20]

*470. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when supplementary welfare will issue to a person (details supplied) who has appealed the decision to refuse their application for disability allowance and has no other income; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39648/20]

*471. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a community employment scheme placement in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry will be extended; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39673/20]

*472. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if pandemic unemployment payment recipients will receive all arrears in 2020; if assurances will be provided that if arrears are delayed until 2021 that it will not have an impact on the tax liability; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [39683/20]

*473. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason persons over 66 years of age are not considered for the Covid-19 crisis payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [39688/20]

*474. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if and when a person (details supplied) will qualify for an invalidity pension given that their existing payment is due to expire and they are unable to work due to a heart condition; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39692/20]

*475. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the meals provided for in each school meals programme meets the requirements set out in Healthy Ireland guides and the Obesity Policy and Action Plan; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39704/20]

*476. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if those who are currently in receipt of the pandemic unemployment payment as a result of their employment being closed due to level 5 restrictions will still have an entitlement to the payment if they return to the workforce as the country exits level 5 on 1 December 2020 and the business is forced to close again in the New Year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [39771/20]

*477. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason Intreo will not provide a statement of the record of payments to a jobseeker (details supplied) in order to provide this statement to SUSI for the purpose of ensuring their child gains access to a grant for a third-level college; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [39782/20]

*478. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will report on changes to the community employment scheme over the past three years; the improvements being made to the scheme; the number of participants on community employment schemes in 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39863/20]

*479. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the provision of pensions for community employment supervisors will be facilitated as per the recommendations of the 2008 Labour Court ruling; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [26410/20]

*480. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the guidelines that Intreo offices have been issued in relation to the sanitisation of electronic signing equipment used by the public. — Seán Crowe. [39884/20]

*481. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the outcome of an application made for a contributory old age pension by a person (details supplied); when the person can expect to receive their first payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [39893/20]

*482. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a person (details supplied) will receive a decision on a disability allowance review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [39923/20]

*483. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the regions which will be prioritised for funding in relation additional funding for new services in local employment services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39937/20]

*484. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the time frame for the establishment for the recently announced new local employment services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39938/20]

*485. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the process for choosing the providers of the recently announced new local employment services. — Paul McAuliffe. [39939/20]

*486. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the four new additional local employment services to be established will have the same operational basis as the existing community-led local employment services providers across the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39940/20]

*487. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will backdate the award of an increase in qualified children benefit to March 2018 in the case of a person (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [39954/20]

*488. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will re-examine an application for guardianship payment which was refused in the case of a person (details supplied) with a view to allowing the claim; and if she will take into account that the grandparents were under extreme pressure at the time and had no assistance to deal with the issues even though Tusla were aware of the circumstances and the hardships being experienced. — John McGuinness. [39955/20]

*489. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of pandemic unemployment payment arrears due to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [40036/20]

*490. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a community employment scheme placement will be extended in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40097/20]

*491. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review correspondence (details supplied); the reason those on incapacity payments are being refused the wage subsidy scheme by her Department having previously been in receipt of it during lockdown in March 2020 due to Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [40130/20]

*492. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the policy measures being taken by her Department to help young people secure employment particularly in areas of high unemployment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [35105/20]

*493. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of childcare and early years education workers who are availing of the enhanced illness benefit. — Sean Sherlock. [31347/20]

*494. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the mechanisms of support available to a person that is unemployed as a result of the pandemic. — Matt Carthy. [29980/20]

*495. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms her Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if she will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40218/20]

*496. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the qualifying criteria for recipients of the pandemic unemployment payment to qualify for the Christmas bonus for social welfare recipients; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40265/20]

*497. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of an application for a PPSN by a person (details supplied); when the application will be processed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [40268/20]

*498. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will pay a working family payment to a person (details supplied); when the application was first received by her Department; if there has been a delay by an inspector completing an investigation into the case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [40272/20]

*499. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a disability allowance payment review will be finalised with arrears due paid to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40355/20]

*500. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an increased pandemic unemployment payment benefit will be paid to a person (details supplied); and the reason their claim was rerated given they have not worked since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. — John McGuinness. [40418/20]

*501. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if community employment workers are permitted to work in primary schools as cleaners, maintenance and so on; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [40420/20]

*502. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her attention has been drawn to persons being denied carer's benefit as they do not meet the requirement of having worked the necessary number of weeks in the last 26 weeks due to their employment being impacted by Covid-19; if allowances will be made in order that Covid-19 does not impact persons applying for a carer's payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [40427/20]

*503. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if paternity leave for the first child has increased from two weeks to five weeks; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Collins. [40430/20]

*504. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a living alone allowance application by a person (details supplied); if the allowance will be backdated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [40441/20]

*505. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a Covid payment will be backdated for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [40443/20]

*506. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of applications for the fuel allowance allowed and disallowed in each of the past eight years to date; the main reason for refusal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40474/20]

*507. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the average waiting times for various appeals in respect of schemes or payments run by her Department; her plans to reduce such waiting times thereby easing the stress on families; her plans to introduce online appeal hearings to help deal with any backlogs that have arisen due to Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40475/20]

*508. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which she remains satisfied regarding the adequacy of the budget for her Department to meet increased demand arising from Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40476/20]

*509. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which backlogs in respect of various headings and payments which may have arisen due to Covid-19 are being addressed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40477/20]

*510. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which women or men who have insufficient contributions to meet the requirements for qualification for the old age pension are being accommodated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40478/20]

*511. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which due process and natural justice remains paramount in the context of dealing with social welfare recipients whose cases come under review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40479/20]

*512. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which she continues to ensure that undue hardship is not caused to recipients of social welfare payments in cases in which payments have been suspended while under review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40480/20]

*513. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of old age pensioners in receipt of a pension in each of the past five years to date in 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40481/20]

*514. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which the number of persons in receipt of working family payment has fluctuated in each of the past five years to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40482/20]

*515. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the Christmas bonus will be paid; the categories of social welfare recipients which will receive same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40483/20]

*516. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a representative of an organisation (details supplied) can be invited to join the Pensions Commission in order to ensure that a person who is currently living on the State pension will be on the Commission; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [40490/20]

*517. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration has been given to extend further jobseeker's benefit due to the Covid-19 pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [40492/20]

*518. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration has been given to relax the jobseeker's allowance means testing process due to the Covid-19 pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [40493/20]

*519. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department is considering new supports for enterprise start-ups such as through the back to work enterprise scheme as Ireland commences exiting the Covid-19 setbacks to employment. — Richard Bruton. [40500/20]

*520. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will increase the number of places on the rural social scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [40514/20]

*521. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will reintroduce the mortgage interest supplement; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [40515/20]

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

*522. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the circumstances under which the Child and Family Agency refer an allegation of child sexual abuse to the St. Clare's unit in Temple Street Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39560/20]

*523. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason the extension of paid parental leave from two weeks to five weeks will not take effect until April 2021 rather than from January 2021 (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [39748/20]

*524. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the percentage of the actions in the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021 that are complete; the percentage that are pending completion; the percentage that have yet to be actioned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39566/20]

*525. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of staff within his Department have been assigned to work on the implementation of the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021; the total full-time equivalent of these staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39567/20]

*526. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason the ECCE programme 2020 will not run to coincide with the local school calendar (details supplied). — Emer Higgins. [39622/20]

*527. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the steps his Department has taken to tackle the problem of cockroaches in a direct provision centre (details supplied). — Peadar Tóibín. [39818/20]

*528. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to an instance in which an asylum seeker is reportedly sleeping at the gates of a centre (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [39819/20]

*529. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to a cockroach and mice infestation in a centre (details supplied); the engagement he has had with the management of the centre on this topic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [39820/20]

*530. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of persons that died while residing in direct provision for each of the past five years; and the breakdown by cause of death, age, nationality and geographical location. — Peadar Tóibín. [39821/20]

*531. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children that have applied for an ECCE overage exemption; the number of children whose applications have been successful; and the number of children that have been unsuccessful for the overage exemption by county in tabular form. — Kathleen Funchion. [39823/20]

*532. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the innovations he plans for the upcoming statement of strategy of his Department. — Richard Bruton. [40110/20]

*533. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his Department has recorded a significant drop-off in children in early childhood settings or in the number of providers offering service during Covid-19. — Richard Bruton. [40111/20]

*534. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40205/20]

*535. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will clarify the guidelines in relation to donations such as food, toiletries and toys to direct provision centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [40243/20]

*536. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the findings of the Covid-19 return on school absenteeism recently completed by Tusla. — Mary Lou McDonald. [40394/20]

*537. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of home school applications received between August and November 2020 that have not yet been placed on the home education register. — Mary Lou McDonald. [40395/20]

*538. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the progress made in the past month in relation to making information available from the evidence collected in the preparation of the mother and baby home report to persons seeking to find out about their children that were in the homes or children born in the homes trying to trace their parents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [40444/20]

*539. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the report into the mother and baby homes is expected to be published; the preparations being made for this in terms of support for victims and the provision of information under GDPR to persons affected; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [40445/20]

*540. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the Gender Pay Gap Information Bill 2019 will be brought forward; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Lou McDonald. [40459/20]

*541. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if advice will be provided on a matter regarding a facility (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40460/20]

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

*542. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if there has been collaboration between his Department and the Defence Forces to promote the Defence Forces as a career for apprentices. — Duncan Smith. [40300/20]

*543. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the exclusion of part-time postgraduate students from the one time student grant will be reconsidered in view of the fact that Covid-19 restrictions have prevented these students from being able to find or retain work to allow them to earn the money they need to pay for their studies, accommodation, fees and living expenses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [39526/20]

*544. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason the €250 support scheme for students has not been extended to part-time students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [39527/20]

*545. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason the €250 support scheme for students has not been extended to Irish students studying abroad; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [39528/20]

*546. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the €250 support scheme will be extended to students who travel to Northern Ireland to attend third-level education; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [39529/20]

*547. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if there are tax implication related to the €250 student rebate in terms of reducing the tax relief persons receive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [39579/20]

*548. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if fee-paying third-level students and their families in cases of more than one third-level student per family will receive the full €250 reduction or credit note per student as part of the once-off Covid-19 payment scheme; if the net tax reduction will be less in certain cases (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [39625/20]

*549. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a student living in a direct provision centre awaiting a decision on a residency application and at present attending second level is entitled to apply through the CAO for a course in further or higher education; if successful, if the student is entitled to apply for a SUSI grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [39676/20]

*550. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if Irish students will be considered as international students from January 2021 if they apply to UK colleges for postgraduate courses resulting in much higher fees; if agreements are being discussed to ensure Irish students can continue to study in the UK without international student fees applying (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [39705/20]

*551. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider a review of the admissions process for International Baccalaureate applying to Irish third level institutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39735/20]

*552. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of students in Ireland that undertook degree studies in a foreign language from 2015 to 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39736/20]

*553. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of students from Northern Ireland admitted to third level institutions between 2015 to 2020; the breakdown for each year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39737/20]

*554. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the €250 support payment to students will be made to those who had to return to college in order to carry out placements (details supplied) which were delayed due to Covid-19 in which they have returned but have not had to pay fees; if this payment will cover those students who had to return to college due to Covid-19 disrupting their placement this year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [39740/20]

*555. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on whether a scenario in relation to a person (details supplied) is fair and equitable; if he will request the university to cease demanding such charges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [39743/20]

*556. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if students who have had their fees paid through SUSI and in receipt of the back to education allowance will be eligible for the €250 grant. — Joe Flaherty. [39750/20]

*557. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of the Connaught Ulster Alliance application which is due to be submitted before the end of 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [39760/20]

*558. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the once-off €250 payment will be extended to students pursuing a course in a private college (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39768/20]

*559. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the projects that were funded under Horizon in each of the years 2016 to 2019 and to date in 2020; the amount awarded to each project; and the geographical location of each. — Marian Harkin. [39770/20]

*560. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if SUSI has access to records of payments for persons on qualifying payments such as jobseeker's

allowance and so on; if there is an issue with SUSI receiving such records and statements of payments from Intreo offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [39783/20]

*561. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will engage with third-level institutes regarding the possibility of offering partial refunds or reduced rates for master's students due to the impact of Covid-19 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [39795/20]

*562. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his attention has been drawn to the intentions of institutions (details supplied) to address the concerns of students in both college-provided and private accommodation in view of current circumstances further to his request to higher education institutions to show flexibility with regard to student accommodation cancellations and refunds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [39880/20]

*563. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his attention has been drawn to the fact that persons who have been receiving their lectures online from the University of Limerick are being charged full fee; his plans to change same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [39920/20]

*564. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a student studying advanced business level six at their local ETB and in receipt of the back to education allowance qualifies for the €250 grant. — Joe Flaherty. [40020/20]

*565. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40212/20]

*566. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way in which students in their final year of third-level education that paid their fees in full upfront can avail of the €250 student support; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [40283/20]

*567. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will review the scope of the July stimulus funding in higher education to include assistance to the students undertaking courses that started in this academic year given the significant financial hardship and disruption to studies that have taken place for this cohort; if he will examine extending funding to those that started in the postgraduate diploma in youth work in UCC this academic year given the significant loss in ability to undertake work placement hours; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [40328/20]

*568. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if an anomaly in the SUSI scheme will be addressed (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [40461/20]

*569. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if additional details will be provided on the revised estimates for his Department (details supplied); and the areas in which the remainder is being spent. — Peadar Tóibín. [40491/20]

*570. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the absence of systematic data for persons with disabilities or from minority or ethnic backgrounds working in academic and research roles in Irish higher education institutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [40506/20]

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

*571. To ask the Minister for Justice when the current vacancy on the Supreme Court will be filled; if a transparent process will be used to fill the vacancy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [40134/20]

*572. To ask the Minister for Justice if he will provide details of the accuracy of the equipment that is used for speeding checks; the frequency of gardaí pulling over the wrong car for speeding; the way this information is collected and reported; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39556/20]

*573. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of the hate crime review and proposed legislation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39565/20]

*574. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of the State commemoration for the RIC which was previously proposed by her Department. — Pa Daly. [39586/20]

*575. To ask the Minister for Justice if a person going through the asylum process can apply for a work permit; if so, the criteria for same. — Robert Troy. [39601/20]

*576. To ask the Minister for Justice when a GNIB card will issue in the case of a person (details supplied) who is a stamp 4 holder; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39631/20]

*577. To ask the Minister for Justice when the recommendations of the report of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Reform of the Family Law System published 25 October 2019, will be considered and or implemented; the time-scale for same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [39637/20]

*578. To ask the Minister for Justice the current length of time it is taking to deal with traffic offences in district courts in Dublin; if there are undue delays in such cases being heard due to the Covid-19 emergency period restriction; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [39641/20]

*579. To ask the Minister for Justice the steps she is taking 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. [39656/20]

*580. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of fines handed out by An Garda Síochána and the monetary value of the fines, pursuant to the new Health (Amendment) Act 2020 which amended

the Health Act 1947; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [39677/20]

*581. To ask the Minister for Justice the options available to regularise residency in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39689/20]

*582. To ask the Minister for Justice when new travel documents will issue in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39693/20]

*583. To ask the Minister for Justice if consideration has been given to introducing a nationwide weapons amnesty; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39707/20]

*584. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide a full report on the 2006 weapons amnesty; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39708/20]

*585. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons extradited back to Ireland in each of the years 2001 to 2015; the number subsequently convicted; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39709/20]

*586. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons that are currently in custody waiting to be extradited from Ireland but whose extradition has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39710/20]

*587. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons that are currently in custody waiting to be extradited back to Ireland but whose extradition has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39711/20]

*588. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will intervene in the case of a person (details supplied). — Kathleen Funchion. [39824/20]

*589. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of court summonses outstanding on a monthly basis by Garda division since January 2019, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [39829/20]

*590. To ask the Minister for Justice the organisations in receipt of youth diversionary project funding; the funding each received in 2018, 2019 and to 1 November 2020, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39835/20]

*591. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of citizenship certificates granted by the State in each of the past 20 years. — Peadar Tóibín. [39877/20]

*592. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of citizenship certificates granted by the State to persons on the grounds that they were born in Ireland in each of the years between 2000 and 2010. — Peadar Tóibín. [39878/20]

*593. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of citizenship certificates granted by the State to children in each of the years between 2000 and 2010. — Peadar Tóibín. [39879/20]

*594. To ask the Minister for Justice the action she is planning to take with regard to the introduction of laws on parental alienation; if the recommendations of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Justice and Equality report on family law will be fully implemented; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [39882/20]

*595. To ask the Minister for Justice the average time it takes for a naturalisation applicant's passport to be returned after receipt by the INIS. — Seán Crowe. [39883/20]

*596. To ask the Minister for Justice if matters raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied) will receive a response; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [39925/20]

*597. To ask the Minister for Justice if an internal audit of Muintir na Tíre (details supplied) has now been finalised to her and her Department's satisfaction; if the contents of the audit will be made available to the public; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [40031/20]

*598. To ask the Minister for Justice the provisions being made in County Wexford to provide a women's homeless shelter for single females with the purpose of providing services similar to the men's hostel in Wexford; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [40108/20]

*599. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in the determination of an application for naturalisation in the case of a person (details supplied); when the application will conclude; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40199/20]

*600. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of notifications regarding early releases or temporary releases made each year; and the proportion of these notifications to the total number of early releases or temporary releases. — Peadar Tóibín. [40200/20]

*601. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of victims of crime that have registered with the victim liaison service for updates on offenders; and the proportion of these victims to the total number of eligible victims to register for the service. — Peadar Tóibín. [40201/20]

*602. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of those offenders released temporarily or released early that go on to repeat offend; and the number of these repeat offences that involve prior victims of their crime. — Peadar Tóibín. [40202/20]

*603. To ask the Minister for Justice if repeat offences have been linked to failure to adequately notify prior victims of the offenders; and if so, the number. — Peadar Tóibín. [40203/20]

*604. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms her Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if she will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40215/20]

*605. To ask the Minister for Justice if consideration will be given to utilising the 430 members of the Garda Reserve to assist gardaí during the implementation of changing Covid-19 restriction levels and beyond; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [40224/20]

*606. To ask the Minister for Justice the procedure to be followed to update residency in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40249/20]

*607. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to reopen the Irish Refugee Protection Programme Humanitarian Admission Programme 2; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [40250/20]

*608. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to reassess the family reunification programmes here to provide for a refugee or a person eligible for subsidiary protection to apply for members of their family to enter and reside in the State; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [40251/20]

*609. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of convictions that took place in 2019 to date in 2020, under section 80(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 2006 (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [40316/20]

*610. To ask the Minister for Justice the process of transferring the old Bray Courthouse, Boghall Road, Bray to Wicklow County Council; the expected time-frame; and the engagement that has taken place with the local authority on the issue. — John Brady. [40326/20]

*611. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to adopt the European Public Prosecutor's Office Regulation; if so, the criteria that would apply in making the decision; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [40399/20]

*612. To ask the Minister for Justice if a copy of the current An Garda Síochána policy in relation to community policing will be provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [40434/20]

*613. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 214 of 21 October 2020, when she expects to take Committee stage of the Perjury and Related Offences Bill 2018 as agreed following the PMB motion on 29 July 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [40442/20]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*614. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter (details supplied) regarding a replacement cheque; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39839/20]

*615. To ask the Minister for Health the advice he can provide in relation to a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40287/20]

*616. To ask the Minister for Health the number of occasions on which babies have survived abortions here and have been born alive (details supplied); the number of occasions on which doctors have requested palliative care in relation to same; and if it will be ensured that palliative care will be provided to babies who have survived abortions and have been born alive in each case in the future. — Peadar Tóibín. [39531/20]

*617. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he has taken by to address the gap in clinical genetic services at the National Maternity Hospital in the period between receipt of a protected

disclosure (details supplied) and the mistaken abortion at the hospital; and when the necessary clinical genetic services will be put in place. — Peadar Tóibín. [39532/20]

*618. To ask the Minister for Health the number of abortions performed after 12 weeks here in which pain relief is being given and not given to the child, respectively. — Peadar Tóibín. [39533/20]

*619. To ask the Minister for Health the research being carried out by his Department in relation to the trauma, stress and psychological distress on doctors and nurses of delivering early-term and late-term abortions in Ireland (details supplied). — Peadar Tóibín. [39534/20]

*620. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to introduce changes to abortion procedures here to provide for pain relief in late term abortions, medical treatment for abortion survivors and palliative care for abortion survivors; and if he will seek to make the procedure somewhat humane. — Peadar Tóibín. [39535/20]

*621. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the delay in replacing the mobility allowance and mobility transport grant which were abolished in 2013 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [39536/20]

*622. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons availing of private health insurance by age group (details supplied). — John Lahart. [39538/20]

*623. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses who have been redeployed due to the Covid-19 pandemic by county in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [39540/20]

*624. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses who were employed by county in February 2020, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [39541/20]

*625. To ask the Minister for Health the reason developmental checks on babies have been postponed due to Covid-19. — Thomas Gould. [39542/20]

*626. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated amount spent by his Department on social media monitoring to date in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39549/20]

*627. To ask the Minister for Health when public health doctors can apply to become consultants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39554/20]

*628. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 481 of 13 October 2020, the detail of the six broad categories mentioned; the percentage of outcomes that were designated per category in each year since 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39561/20]

*629. To ask the Minister for Health if tenants can avail of the free HSE pest control service or if it is limited to landlords; if not, the reason; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [39564/20]

*630. 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 guidelines of the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [39587/20]

*631. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an operation for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [39596/20]

*632. To ask the Minister for Health if massage treatment to be included in the list of essential services that can remain open during level 5 in view of the proven benefits for pain management and positive mental health and the fact that it can contribute to a reduction in the number of persons requiring medical appointments for such issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [39598/20]

*633. To ask the Minister for Health if the €100 INMB registration fee could be waived for nurses during the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39602/20]

*634. To ask the Minister for Health the status of plans to move the Coombe Women's Hospital onto the grounds of James's Hospital, Dublin 8; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39603/20]

*635. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for Crumlin Children's Hospital when the hospital moves to the new Children's Hospital complex in James's Hospital, Dublin 8; and the person or body that is overseeing the planning for the old site and buildings. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39604/20]

*636. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for the HSE owned construction depot on Davitt Road, Dublin 12 when the construction of the new Children's Hospital in James's Hospital is completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39605/20]

*637. To ask the Minister for Health if he has considered naming the new Children's Hospital in James's Hospital after the pioneering doctor Kathleen Lynn in recognition of her role in the delivery of the first children's hospital in Ireland. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39606/20]

*638. To ask the Minister for Health the status of and completion date for the planned Community Care Primary Health Centre in Drimnagh, Dublin 12; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39607/20]

*639. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for procedures list for scoliosis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [39608/20]

*640. To ask the Minister for Health the number of doctors and nurses, respectively, employed in Navan and Mullingar Regional hospitals in January 2020 pre-Covid and in September and October 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [39633/20]

*641. To ask the Minister for Health if the client registration unit will accept a late review request on a medical card application by a person (details supplied) due to their difficulties in gathering supporting documentation as a result of the exceptional circumstances surrounding Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [39639/20]

*642. To ask the Minister for Health the policy that governs the requirement for women to see their general practitioner in order to get a refill on a prescription for contraception; if it is

within his remit to waive the requirement to see a general practitioner for a contraception refill for the remainder of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [39640/20]

*643. To ask the Minister for Health if all health facilities have been surveyed to examine whether they contain asbestos hazards; the facilities and buildings that are known to contain asbestos in the building fabric; the timeline to remove these building materials safely from health facilities; the projected cost of this work by building; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [39650/20]

*644. To ask the Minister for Health the number of Irish persons that hold WHO vaccine handbooks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39658/20]

*645. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department holds records of holders of the WHO vaccine handbook; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39659/20]

*646. To ask the Minister for Health if the WHO vaccine handbook will be utilised in the roll out of the Covid-19 vaccine when the time arises; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39660/20]

*647. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department has assessed the negative impact of long-term mask wearing in secondary schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [39661/20]

*648. To ask the Minister for Health the steps that have been taken to provide additional services at the Ennis Hospital, County Clare in view of confirmation received from the HSE that a business case which was submitted for further expansion of the level of services provided at the hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [39669/20]

*649. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the excessive delay in assessing children under the genetics team in Temple Street and Crumlin Hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [39670/20]

*650. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 814 of 24 November 2020, when a person will be facilitated with surgery (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [39675/20]

*651. To ask the Minister for Health the number of complaints received by the HSE regarding SouthDoc in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [39679/20]

*652. To ask the Minister for Health the overall funding provided to SouthDoc in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [39680/20]

*653. To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of funding provided to SouthDoc by category of funding in each of the years 2018, 2019 and 2020, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [39681/20]

*654. To ask the Minister for Health the remit of responsibility for investigation of complaints made to the HSE regarding SouthDoc. — Thomas Gould. [39682/20]

*655. To ask the Minister for Health the plans the HSE has to reopen its rolling nurse recruitment campaign; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [39684/20]

*656. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons reissued a medical card as a result of changes in household income related to the pandemic unemployment payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [39698/20]

*657. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a campaign seeking to have a drug (details supplied) permitted for use in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [39701/20]

*658. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that international advice from an institution (details supplied) recommends stronger protections for women over 28 weeks pregnant that is being applied by the HSE in its advice for the public service; and if he will assess whether that advice should be amended. — Richard Bruton. [39741/20]

*659. To ask the Minister for Health the current take up rate of the flu vaccine for under 12s; his plans to encourage increased vaccination in this age group; his further plans to extend the nasal vaccine to a wider age group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [39746/20]

*660. To ask the Minister for Health when the vacant dedicated diabetes nurse position will be filled at Mullingar General Hospital (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [39749/20]

*661. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that a person (details supplied) will be relocated to a private dementia facility in County Cavan as there is no public facility in County Donegal that will provide services for them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [39756/20]

*662. To ask the Minister for Health the funding that has been allocated to the roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccine to ensure significant vaccination is achieved early in 2021. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39761/20]

*663. To ask the Minister for Health the logistics experts that have been placed on the group responsible for rolling out the Covid-19 vaccine. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39762/20]

*664. To ask the Minister for Health the distribution experts that have been placed on the group responsible for rolling out the Covid-19 vaccine. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39763/20]

*665. To ask the Minister for Health if the group responsible for rolling out the Covid-19 vaccine will hold a daily press conference to report on progress. — Jim O'Callaghan. [39764/20]

*666. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter (details supplied) in relation to the appointment of a rheumatologist at University Hospital Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39767/20]

*667. To ask the Minister for Health the progress of the development of respite care facilities (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [39769/20]

*668. To ask the Minister for Health if a matter raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied) in relation to staff pay from the HSE for a practice will be examined and expedited. — Brendan Griffin. [39786/20]

*669. To ask the Minister for Health if homeopathic therapy treatment can continue to operate as an essential service during the level 5 public health measures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [39797/20]

*670. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the expert advisory group to NPHEAT was dissolved following its last meeting on 2 September 2020; the rationale for this decision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39800/20]

*671. To ask the Minister for Health the details of any and all new advisory groups to NPHEAT; the makeup of these groups including the names and qualifications of the members, the terms of reference and the minutes of their meetings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39801/20]

*672. To ask the Minister for Health if all healthcare workers are being tested for Covid-19 on a routine and regular basis; if so, the details of the testing regime; if the testing regime differs for different categories of healthcare workers; the rationale for different regimes or for no regime; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39802/20]

*673. To ask the Minister for Health the definition of a close contact in healthcare settings; if the definition changes for different categories of healthcare workers; the way in which the definition might differ from the definition of a close contact for cases in the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39803/20]

*674. To ask the Minister for Health the quarantining and self-isolation protocols for a close contact in healthcare settings; if the definition changes for different categories of healthcare workers; the way in which the definition might differ from the quarantining and self-isolation protocols for a close contact of cases in the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39804/20]

*675. To ask the Minister for Health the reason he is unwilling to concede to the demands of student nurses and midwives to be paid at the healthcare assistant rate they were given earlier in 2020 for their work on the frontlines of the Covid-19 pandemic which has since been withdrawn while they continue to play an important and crucial role as they played in March and April 2020 especially in view of the Taoiseach stating in Dáil Éireann on 20 October 2020 that these students should be paid like they were in the spring; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [39805/20]

*676. To ask the Minister for Health if developmental checks on babies by public health nurses are proceeding under current Covid-19 restrictions in counties Carlow and Kilkenny. — Kathleen Funchion. [39822/20]

*677. To ask the Minister for Health the number of women that have had to have a repeat cervical check due to the fact their samples were out of date by the time they were presented at labs in the USA for testing by county in tabular form. — Kathleen Funchion. [39825/20]

*678. To ask the Minister for Health the number of primary care psychologists and primary care staff seconded to testing and tracing as a result of Covid-19; when these clinicians will resume their role; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39833/20]

*679. To ask the Minister for Health the status of preparations for the Covid-19 vaccine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [39834/20]

*680. To ask the Minister for Health the body that will be carrying out the inquiry into the use of the epilepsy drug sodium valproate; and if he will provide the terms of reference for that enquiry. — Peadar Tóibín. [39836/20]

*681. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which evidence exists in regard to the safety of vaping as an alternative to tobacco smoking; if the practice is deemed to be a gateway by way of introduction to other abuses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39841/20]

*682. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of persons by age group who are known to practising vaping at present; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [39842/20]

*683. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the HSE is advising that women who are 28 weeks pregnant continue to work as teachers in situations in which they cannot socially distance when organisations (details supplied) advise against doing so; if the HSE has updated its guidelines to take into account recent research on the subject; if his attention has been drawn to the quandary that this is placing teachers in at the end of their pregnancy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [39860/20]

*684. To ask the Minister for Health the counties which have the greatest shortage of access to the flu vaccine; the way in which he will ensure that all vulnerable persons receive their vaccinations before the end of 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39861/20]

*685. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on health and safety risks for pregnant women and Covid-19; the guidelines in Ireland for workplaces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [39862/20]

*686. To ask the Minister for Health if he is satisfied that there is sufficient personal protective equipment in stock and currently available to the HSE; the amount of stock available at present; the amount ordered and delivered each month to the end of July 2020; the further amounts ordered and delivered since; the associated costs involved; the procurement and tendering methods used in each case; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [39869/20]

*687. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the Women's Health Taskforce; the steps being taken to improve the diagnosis, management and treatment of endometriosis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [39870/20]

*688. To ask the Minister for Health the consideration which he has given to concerns raised by nursing and midwifery third-level students in relation to lack of pay; the steps his Department plans to take to urgently address the concerns; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [39876/20]

*689. To ask the Minister for Health the efforts that have and are being made to ensure that visitation rights as set out by HPSC guidance for visiting long-term residential care facilities are being upheld; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [39881/20]

*690. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter regarding the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39885/20]

*691. To ask the Minister for Health when a vacant position for a dentist for the school dentistry service based in Tuam, County Galway will be filled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [39890/20]

*692. To ask the Minister for Health the assistance and advice he can provide on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39891/20]

*693. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the wait time of nine months for a person (details supplied) to be seen at the breast clinic in University Hospital Limerick having originally been advised that it would be a six week wait period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [39897/20]

*694. To ask the Minister for Health the downstream and overall cost-benefit analysis conducted by the corporate pharmaceutical unit when assessing reimbursement applications for novel and generic drug applications; his views on whether the full system savings are being considered in such applications; if evidence of same in action can be demonstrated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [39906/20]

*695. To ask the Minister for Health the percentage of PCR tests that have been false positives; the number of cycles of amplification used; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39908/20]

*696. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the statistics of his Department on the cause of death in Ireland in the time period March to November 2020 are different to that of the CSO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39909/20]

*697. To ask the Minister for Health the criteria the death of a person must meet for the cause of death to be recorded as Covid-19 despite them having other underlying health issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39910/20]

*698. To ask the Minister for Health the number outbreaks of Covid-19 that have been identified as a direct result of gatherings in wet pubs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39911/20]

*699. To ask the Minister for Health if he will examine the circumstances in which a person (details supplied) has had their transport stopped since the resumption of services to a facility post-Covid-19. — Kathleen Funchion. [39915/20]

*700. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the rate of pay for intern nurses has reduced from €14.00 per hour to €9.48 per hour which is under the minimum wage of €10.10 hourly rate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [39929/20]

*701. To ask the Minister for Health the policy in place in relation to home help services administrating medication and instilling eye drops to those availing of home help services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [39941/20]

*702. To ask the Minister for Health the plans in place for the distribution of a Covid-19 vaccine when available; the categories of persons it is intended to prioritise; the number of doses of the vaccine secured to date; the companies from which they have been secured; the estimated cost per unit; the anticipated number of units required; if the vaccine will be administered to all persons free of charge; the persons or bodies by which the vaccine will be administered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [39944/20]

*703. To ask the Minister for Health the membership of the Covid-19 Immunisation Strategy Group; the remit of the group; the number of times the group has met to date; the reports published to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [39945/20]

*704. To ask the Minister for Health when a third paediatric rheumatologist is due to start; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [39951/20]

*705. To ask the Minister for Health if he will arrange a waiver of the annual registration fee of €100 for nurses and midwives as a gesture of thanks for their efforts during Covid-19. — John McGuinness. [39959/20]

*706. To ask the Minister for Health if there is a clinical psychologist currently working at Mounthamilton House, Dundalk, County Louth; the current average waiting time for psychological assessment at the centre; his plans to put additional personnel in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [39961/20]

*707. To ask the Minister for Health the number of whole-time equivalent paramedic emergency medical technicians assigned to Merlin Park; and the date staff were assigned. — Claire Kerrane. [40027/20]

*708. To ask the Minister for Health the number of whole-time equivalent paramedic emergency medical technicians assigned to counties Roscommon and Galway; and the date staff were assigned. — Claire Kerrane. [40028/20]

*709. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the staff changing facilities at a hospital (details supplied); the size of the area; the number of lockers in use in the area; the facilities available such as toilets, handwashing basins and rubbish bins; the number of staff using the area on a daily basis; the sanitising protocols employed in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [40029/20]

*710. To ask the Minister for Health the status of applications for financial assistance under section 39 funding for an organisation (details supplied); if the HSE will engage directly with the care home to assist with the shortfall in its finances of €50,000 due to the inability of the organisation to fund raise due to Covid-19; and if he will expedite the assistance from the HSE that is urgently required. — John McGuinness. [40024/20]

*711. To ask the Minister for Health the additional funding that the South/Southwest Hospital group will be making available to University Hospital Waterford to support additional administration and nursing staff to support new consultant activities in view of approval for 12 new consultant posts at the hospital; the number and skillsets pertaining to the new activity; the recruitment plan

in place to fill the positions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [40048/20]

*712. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated completion schedule including all commissioning for the mortuary build ongoing at University Hospital Waterford; the expected handover date of the building to the hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [40049/20]

*713. To ask the Minister for Health if any trial run of a future Covid-19 vaccine inoculation programme will be road tested or implemented in advance of the receipt of actual vaccines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [40050/20]

*714. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department has considered public health readiness to deliver a Covid-19 vaccine inoculation programme; the quantity of syringes the HSE has secured in advance of such a programme given that individual vaccine shots may have to be drawn from a liquid vial; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [40051/20]

*715. To ask the Minister for Health the length of the waiting list for audiology appointments at present in the CHO2 region, Galway; and the measures being taken to reduce the waiting times. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [40052/20]

*716. To ask the Minister for Health if additional funding will be provided to persons on waiting lists for residential care placements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [40103/20]

*717. To ask the Minister for Health the amount paid in legal costs to each of the top ten named legal firms representing plaintiffs in medical negligence cases in 2019; the number of cases the payments relate to in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [40104/20]

*718. To ask the Minister for Health the number of claims ongoing by the State Claims Agency in relation to late diagnosis and missed diagnosis in relation to failings in the CervicalCheck screening programme; the number of cases settled; the amount paid out in claims to date; and the legal costs of the cases to date. — Catherine Murphy. [40105/20]

*719. To ask the Minister for Health the amount paid out by the State Claims Agency in respect of medical negligence claims for the first nine months of 2020; and the amount the agency has paid out in legal costs in respect of the pay-outs. — Catherine Murphy. [40106/20]

*720. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nurses and midwives who qualified outside of Ireland that applied for registration in each of the respective divisions G1, G2 and G3 of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland for each month of 2020 to date; the number of these applications that have been registered; the average time taken from initial application to final decision for each division; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [40107/20]

*721. To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether vaping is habit forming; the consequences of same which have been identified by the health authorities from a public health perspective; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40120/20]

*722. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which vaping is deemed safe or otherwise; if specific safety standards exist in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40121/20]

*723. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which regulations apply or are likely to be made in relation to vaping with particular reference to maintaining safety standards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40122/20]

*724. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which the Healthy Ireland report deals with standards in vaping; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40123/20]

*725. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which vaping is proven to assist in the reduction of tobacco smoking; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [40124/20]

*726. To ask the Minister for Health the current projected cost of the national children's hospital; the expected completion date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [40133/20]

*727. To ask the Minister for Health if he has considered introducing rapid Covid-19 testing at elder care facilities in order that families and loved ones of residents in nursing homes can be accommodated for visits over Christmas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [40175/20]

*728. To ask the Minister for Health if advice will be provided regarding section 39 funding for SouthDoc (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40177/20]

*729. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to plans to record a new series of the Rotunda in 2021; if this is considered sensitive to the ongoing restrictions in maternity hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [40184/20]

*730. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter (details supplied) regarding payment of student nurses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40188/20]

*731. To ask the Minister for Health the number of miscarriages recorded in Ireland in each of the years 2015 to 2019; and if the number or rate of miscarriages is an outlier in terms of other EU or European countries. — Peadar Tóibín. [40191/20]

*732. To ask the Minister for Health if an investigation into the number of miscarriages in Ireland has taken place; if these investigations have taken place on a purely case by case basis; and if a review of underlying factors across a number of cases has taken place. — Peadar Tóibín. [40192/20]

*733. To ask the Minister for Health if responses, policies or initiatives have been implemented by his Department to reduce the number of miscarriages by Irish women; if so, the details of same; and the success of same. — Peadar Tóibín. [40193/20]

*734. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they

were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40213/20]

*735. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the HPV vaccine is not available to all young women free of charge, considering that it is freely available to first year students and there would be no additional cost to make it available at any other point in secondary school as it is administered annually and the costs would be offset by the savings accrued in the year it was not availed of; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [40222/20]

*736. To ask the Minister for Health the arrangements that have been made to ensure a seamless transition for those patients from the State availing of the health treatments under the Cross Border Directive in Northern Ireland from 1 January 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Collins. [40223/20]

*737. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to pay student nurses for their work in hospitals during the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [40225/20]

*738. To ask the Minister for Health the agenda for his last three bi-weekly meetings with the Minister of State for Public Health, Well Being and National Drugs Strategy. — Thomas Gould. [40228/20]

*739. To ask the Minister for Health the policies in place and the further measures he has considered to tackle period poverty; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [40235/20]

*740. To ask the Minister for Health if he has considered following the example of Scotland and provide free period products to all who require them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [40236/20]

*741. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for a delay in accessing urgent residential care for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [40244/20]

*742. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a matter in relation to the ongoing health care needs of persons that contracted Covid-19 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40258/20]

*743. To ask the Minister for Health the number of new staff have been taken on in the childrens occupational therapy sector to deal with the backlog in County Mayo in the past two years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [40266/20]

*744. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to introduce free access to sanitary products such as tampons and sanitary pads in schools, colleges, universities and other public buildings; the timeline for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [40280/20]

*745. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to provide free contraception to all women; the timeline for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [40281/20]

*746. To ask the Minister for Health if a reply will issue to correspondence regarding a care home (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [40289/20]

*747. To ask the Minister for Health if funding has been requested from his Department for supporting or improving military healthcare facilities or for training Defence Forces personnel in medical areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40310/20]

*748. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for moving the outpatient services at Mullingar Midland Regional Hospital to a private facility; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [40318/20]

*749. To ask the Minister for Health if he, Ministers of State within his Department or other officials in his Department have met with third-party groups in relation to promoting breastfeeding in Ireland; if so, the persons or bodies in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [40319/20]

*750. To ask the Minister for Health if there are internal working groups, committees or other relevant bodies in his Department examining the issue of low breastfeeding rates in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [40320/20]

*751. To ask the Minister for Health when a decision will be announced regarding the funding of a project (details supplied). — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40331/20]

*752. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the work done by a project (details supplied) and the central role it has played in protecting vulnerable persons from the impacts of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40332/20]

*753. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that existing Sláintecare innovative fund projects are nearing the end of their 12 month grant agreement in December 2020 and have received no indication as to when they will receive their 2021 funding and grant aid agreement; and if he will clarify the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40333/20]

*754. 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. [40342/20]

*755. 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. [40346/20]

*756. 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. [40347/20]

*757. To ask the Minister for Health if it is considered necessary to travel to the UK under the cross border directive for consultations during the Covid-19 crisis; if it is permitted during the Covid-19 crisis to accept an offer of an online video consultation by a UK consultant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40349/20]

*758. To ask the Minister for Health if he will engage with religious leaders in relation to putting plans in place regarding the way in which worship can take place safely and securely during the Christmas period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40350/20]

*759. To ask the Minister for Health if the standards for assessments of needs for persons with disabilities has been updated; and if not, the timeline for the finalisation of the standards. — Jennifer Whitmore. [40351/20]

*760. To ask the Minister for Health if he will engage with religious leaders in relation to the way in which baptisms can take place safely and securely during varying levels of Covid-19 guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40352/20]

*761. To ask the Minister for Health if there are grants available to a person that has to get hearing aids (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [40354/20]

*762. To ask the Minister for Health the actions taken to investigate the death of a person (details supplied) by his Department or the organisations that report to his Department. — Peadar Tóibín. [40374/20]

*763. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the release of the findings of the review of the FreeStyle Libre glucose monitoring system undertaken by his Department in 2019; and if he will consider extending the availability of the FreeStyle Libre to all persons with type 1 diabetes. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [40375/20]

*764. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration would be given to paying student nurses €14 as opposed to €10.70; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [40392/20]

*765. To ask the Minister for Health the number of passenger locator forms completed to date in November 2020; the number of follow-up phone calls made to persons that completed a passenger locator form in the same period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [40415/20]

*766. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 201 of 25 November 2020, if all 100 of the Ministerial notifications received by his Department of terminations carried out here under section 11 of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 in the year 2019 contained signatures from two medics as required by the Act (details supplied). — Peadar Tóibín. [40422/20]

*767. To ask the Minister for Health if a person (details supplied) will be assessed by the National Rehabilitation Hospital; the date by which the person will be assessed; the further actions that will be taken to ensure the person receives the necessary care and treatment to meet their needs; the interim measures that are being taken; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [40429/20]

*768. To ask the Minister for Health the status of talks with a group (details supplied) in relation to the CervicalCheck Tribunal; the reason for the breakdown of talks; the steps he is taking to resume talks and address the concerns of the group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [40431/20]

*769. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 803 of 24 November 2020, if vitamin D is available free of charge to medical card patients over 65 years of age in view of advice from his Department on same; if it will be covered under the drugs payment scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [40433/20]

*770. To ask the Minister for Health the measures he is taking to address the existing limitations on the Covid-19 follow-up of passengers from Northern Ireland landing at Dublin Airport in terms of the passenger locator form or other; the correspondence he has received from his Ministerial counterpart in the Northern Ireland Assembly and his response to same; if issues of data sharing have been resolved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [40435/20]

*771. To ask the Minister for Health the details of all the campuses, public sector buildings and offices that have adopted the tobacco free campus policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [40446/20]

*772. To ask the Minister for Health the timeline for reopening of the Keltoi facility in the Phoenix park. — Thomas Gould. [40447/20]

*773. To ask the Minister for Health the number of publicly run rehabilitation treatment beds that were open in January 2020; and the number currently open. — Thomas Gould. [40448/20]

*774. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for the opening of a dedicated long Covid clinic in Galway and other such clinics around the country for persons suffering from Covid-19 symptoms and other debilitating health issues months after their initial infection; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40453/20]

*775. To ask the Minister for Health the proportion of his Department's budget allocated to mental health from 2010 to 2019 and to date in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [40455/20]

*776. To ask the Minister for Health the reason mental illness is listed as only for those under 16 years of age to qualify for the long-term illness scheme; if he will consider removing the age limit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [40457/20]

*777. To ask the Minister for Health if a medicinal cannabis licence will be granted to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [40505/20]

*778. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE has informed him if all retailers met the 12 November 2020 deadline for the structural separation of alcohol under the public health legislation. — Gary Gannon. [40507/20]

*779. To ask the Minister for Health if retailers that have failed to meet the 12 November 2020 deadline for the structural separation of alcohol under the public health legislation have been contacted regarding their failure to meet the deadline; the steps he now plans to take; and if he plans to instruct the HSE to take prosecutions under the legislation. — Gary Gannon. [40508/20]

*780. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention been drawn to the petition from an organisation (details supplied) to pay nursing interns the same rate as healthcare assistants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [40510/20]

*781. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention been drawn to the petition from an organisation (details supplied) to provide full health and safety protection to students including payment if they contract Covid-19 and have to go on leave; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [40511/20]

*782. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nursing students who contracted Covid-19 since the outbreak in March 2020, by month in tabular form. — Gary Gannon. [40512/20]

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

*783. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the 5% reduction of bovine livestock manure nitrogen under the BEAM scheme will be waived for participants in view of the Covid-19 pandemic and the difficulties it has led to regarding the movement of livestock for farmers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39590/20]

*784. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the supports that will be put in place if the 5% reduction of bovine livestock manure nitrogen under the BEAM scheme is retained in order to help farmers meet this target; if the online system will be updated monthly to show current figures; the supports that will be made available for farmers who struggle with IT literacy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [39591/20]

*785. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his contribution to the informal EU Council meeting of 16 November 2020; if he highlighted the risks of importing third country beef to the EU; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [39630/20]

*786. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a decision has been made on a GLAS appeal by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39671/20]

*787. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of young farmers that received grant aid under the TAMS scheme by county from 1 January 2019 to date in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [39703/20]

*788. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide a full report on beef exports to China; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39712/20]

*789. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of the diversification of food exports taken in view of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [39713/20]

*790. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide the complete list of institutes, centres and premises that are approved for EU trade in animals under EU Directive 92/65 laying down animal health requirements governing trade in and imports into the community of animals, semen, ova and embryos; if the list is publicly available on the website of his Department; and if not, the reason. — Eoin Ó Broin. [39739/20]

*791. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the steps that are being taken to tackle falling beef prices in view of the fact that beef prices have fallen far behind UK beef prices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39776/20]

*792. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of sheep welfare scheme recipients by county in 2021; and the average payment by county in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [39788/20]

*793. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the breeds of niche animals such as goats and horses which are required to be registered in herd books in the UK even though the animals are based in Ireland; if his Department is providing contingency support to the owners of such animals in advance of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [39789/20]

*794. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans for urgent and substantial financial supports for the inshore fishing sector following recent correspondence from organisations (details supplied) to him to compensate them for their serious financial losses due to the global pandemic crisis. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [39817/20]

*795. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will review a report (details supplied); the actions he is taking on the issue to reassure farmers and to combat the problem; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [39837/20]

*796. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a sheep welfare payment for 2020 will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [39864/20]

*797. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of forestry inspector grade 1 posts that were recruited into his Department in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Denise Mitchell. [39887/20]

*798. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if plans and guidelines are being drafted regarding the selling of Christmas trees in an outdoor setting under the different public health restriction levels; if his Department is supportive of tree growers selling their output in order for their business to survive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [39942/20]

*799. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a portion of the 10% set aside for the greyhound care fund is in fact being ring-fenced to develop and maintain a traceability system for greyhounds given that traceability is an operational cost for any industry; the reason care funds that are specifically for animal welfare purposes are being used to for operational matters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [40037/20]

*800. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the inspection procedures that have been set out for greyhound breeders to ensure they are in compliance with the Greyhound Act 2011; and if the new greyhound racing industry code of practice will give clear guidance on inspection procedures and record keeping. — Eoin Ó Broin. [40038/20]

*801. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if there is criteria set out for the operation of greyhound care centres under the greyhound welfare fund; if inspections are carried out on the care centres, if not, the reason; the vetting process in place for those awarded contracts to operate care centres and greyhound retirement centres; and if there is a requirement for those operating and employed by the centre to be in compliance with the Greyhound Racing Ireland code of conduct including the code pertaining to the exportation of greyhounds only to destinations that provide the expected levels of care as set out in the code. — Eoin Ó Broin. [40039/20]

*802. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of greyhound breeders with less than five bitches; if there is no information on these breeders to date, if they will be included in the new traceability scheme; and if not, the reason. — Eoin Ó Broin. [40040/20]

*803. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to the fact that brown crab from Ireland is currently being exported to China through Holland rather than directly to China from Ireland at a financial loss to Irish inshore fishermen; and if he will engage with his European Union counterparts to negotiate with the Chinese Government and Chinese food health authorities to agree a uniform approach that addresses their concerns across the European Union when exporting to China. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [40055/20]

*804. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his views on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40131/20]

*805. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the percentage of the barley used to make Irish whiskey that is Irish-grown barley; if genetically modified barley grown outside Ireland is used in the production of Irish whiskey; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [40180/20]

*806. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the steps his Department is taking to encourage Irish whiskey producers to source the barley for their produce from farmers within the island of Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [40181/20]

*807. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will consider requesting to amend the Irish whiskey PGI technical file to state barley for Irish whiskey must be sourced on the island of Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [40182/20]

*808. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms his Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if he will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40204/20]

*809. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when certification will issue to a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [40252/20]

*810. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the TAMS will be extended into 2021 for new applications; when details will be available to applicants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [40263/20]

*811. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a person (details supplied) in County Cork will receive a beef finisher payment. — Michael Creed. [40284/20]

*812. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a person (details supplied) in County Cork will receive payment under the 2018 areas of natural constraints scheme. — Michael Creed. [40286/20]

*813. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the general Brexit preparations for the forest and timber sector ahead of 1 January 2020, with specific reference to registration procedures, import procedures, export procedures, phytosanitary checks and wood packaging material; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [40348/20]

*814. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of farmers that were ruled out of the ANC scheme due to the fact they did not meet the stocking density criteria in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [40360/20]

*815. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of active herd numbers that were eligible under the ANC in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date in 2020; the number of active herd numbers that received payments in those years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [40361/20]

*816. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the progress made on the issuing of forestry licences in his Department; the situation regarding the key performance indicators in the project plan; the efforts he is taking to ensure that these key performance indicators are being met and even exceeded; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [40398/20]

*817. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to restructure the Forestry Service in view of the implementation of the Forestry (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [40414/20]

*818. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of forestry licences currently awaiting processing by his Department by licence type; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [40417/20]

*819. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to the difficulties facing forest owners with ash dieback disease (details supplied); his plans to introduce a scheme by which persons replacing diseased ash plantations with other tree species can get a new long-term lease from his Department to ensure that they have ongoing income from the forestry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [40419/20]

*820. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of instances of artificial insemination of greyhounds that has been investigated in the past ten years to date by vets employed by his Department and or persons appointed by Greyhound Racing Ireland; the sanctions that were imposed; and the controls that are in place to ensure this practice does not happen. — Catherine Murphy. [40421/20]

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

*821. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of applications for financial assistance under the Covid stability fund and Pobal for an organisation (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [40024/20]

*822. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if there is specific funding available for community halls (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Collins. [40233/20]

*823. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will report on the ongoing progress with regard to the establishment of county volunteer corps; the way in which it will be recruited, operate and be resourced; and the objectives for such a corps. — John Lahart. [40454/20]

*824. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide a schedule of all consultancy firms, accountancy firms, legal firms, project management firms and IT firms her Department has engaged to carry out work its behalf in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020; if she will summarise the work they were engaged to do and the full costs of the engagements; if disputes over costs ensued; if they were resolved with or without sanctions and or financial penalties and or withholding of funds; and if contracts are subject to legal challenge or mediation. — Catherine Murphy. [40217/20]

*825. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the financial supports in place for small community groups dependent on fundraising activities that can no longer do so due to Covid-19 guidelines to aid with utility bills including Irish Water; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [40367/20]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH,
I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉ CÉADAOIN, 2 NOLLAIG, 2020
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER, 2020**

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

1. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee that deals with the economy last met. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [40487/20]