



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 17 Nollaig, 2020
Thursday, 17th December, 2020

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if a commitment will be given to ensure that future funding and commissioning models fully support the community-based, non-profit approach in view of the significant concern in the community and voluntary sector that the commissioning process is leading to creeping privatisation of services in the sector. — Paul Donnelly. [44375/20]

2. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she is engaging with the Minister for Transport on the provision of sustainable transport infrastructure such as segregated cycle lanes and greenways. — Sean Sherlock. [44385/20]

3. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will examine providing a scheme to improve town centres in rural Ireland to tackle high levels of vacancy and dereliction in rural towns; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [44386/20]

4. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her plans to put in place transitional funding to allow the Leader programme to continue to support community projects and rural enterprise in 2021 and 2022 in the absence of a new programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [43154/20]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

5. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points in counties Offaly and Laois; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [43602/20]

6. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the national islands policy; if the consultation process has been completed to date; when the new policy will be finalised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [43332/20]

7. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if research is being undertaken by her Department on the impact of remote working in towns and villages since the beginning of the public health restrictions. — Sean Sherlock. [43980/20]

8. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if Charleville, County Cork will receive funding for local developments under the rural development fund; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [43810/20]

9. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the steps she has taken to implement action 127 of the National Disability Inclusion Strategy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [43212/20]

10. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the way in which her Department is facilitating remote working to encourage more persons to live in rural areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [43592/20]

11. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her plans for town and village renewal in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44130/20]

12. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the extent to which she has been in the position to address issues of rural and or community deprivation with particular reference to the impact of Covid-19 on both urban and rural communities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43200/20]

13. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the steps her Department will take to implement the National Volunteering Strategy and the measures to support volunteering given its importance to communities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [43687/20]

14. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the developments in the past year in relation to rural recreation; the work carried out by Comhairle na Tuaithe in that period; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [43079/20]

15. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of ORIS applications for funding assistance for walking infrastructure in County Kerry and nationwide; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44129/20]

16. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the roll out of broadband connection points in rural communities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [43656/20]

17. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the engagement she has had on the National Broadband Plan in the last quarter. — Sean Sherlock. [43979/20]

18. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her views on the need for rural communities to have an appropriate range of services of all kinds available locally to ensure their needs can be met in their local communities; her views on whether communities that can provide for themselves are happier communities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [44157/20]

19. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the resources that have been allocated to support a programme (details supplied) throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [43167/20]

20. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the level of funding allocated to each local authority for the local improvement scheme in 2020; the proposed allocation by county for 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [43973/20]

21. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the timescale for the commencement of an Interim Leader programme in 2021; if this programme will be funded through the national Exchequer; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [43926/20]

22. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if consideration will be given to creating an online one stop shop for community groups and organisations in which all available grants and criteria are laid out in one place for the numerous organisations that seek funding to make the process easier; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [43915/20]

23. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the resources that have been allocated to support an organisation (details supplied) throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [43166/20]

24. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that will be provided in County Kilkenny under the local improvement scheme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [43601/20]

25. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points in counties Sligo and Leitrim; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [43606/20]

26. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points in County Carlow; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [43598/20]

27. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of funding for organisations (details supplied); if transitional funding is coming from her Department as previously outlined to allow applications proceed ahead of their respective EU allocations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [43722/20]

28. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the development of Caladh Mór pier on Inis Meáin; the status of the preparation of a simulation model of the harbour by the National Maritime College of Ireland which was stalled during Covid-19 restrictions; the engagement her Department has had with the National Maritime College of Ireland with regard to the preparation of the model; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [43334/20]

29. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points nationwide; the number that will be provided in each county in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [43972/20]

30. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the work her Department is doing to promote and support remote working; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Cannon. [43946/20]

31. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points in County Tipperary; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [43604/20]

32. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when it is envisaged that the successful projects under the latest round of the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund will be announced; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [43611/20]

33. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her plans regarding the Tidy Towns Competition; if the competition will be held in 2021; if so, the supports her Department will provide to the local groups; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [43953/20]

34. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the initial total allocation made available to Ireland from pillar II of the CAP under the LEADER heading 2014 to 2020; the amount drawn down to date from the EU of this allocation; and if outstanding EU funds which may remain can be used in the transition period to the next programme in 2023. — Sean Sherlock. [43981/20]

35. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding programmes available to urban communities to help communities with the impact of Covid-19 and tackle other societal problems; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [43655/20]

36. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points in east County Cork; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [43974/20]

37. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that will be provided in County Carlow under the local improvement scheme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [43599/20]

38. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the restrictions and regulations being imposed on puppy farmers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [43590/20]

39. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that will be provided in counties Offaly and Laois under the local improvement scheme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [43603/20]

40. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points in County Kilkenny; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [43600/20]

41. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the roll out of the broadband connection points; the number of publicly accessible broadband points that are now live by county; the number of these that are on offshore islands; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [43333/20]

42. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if new policy tools are being considered to address the double impact on the rural economy of difficulties in the food and the tourism sectors, which hanging over 2021. — Richard Bruton. [43185/20]

43. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she has explored the role that Leader companies can play in supporting small rural business to overcome the challenges posed by Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42231/20]

44. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the level and type of support that has been provided in 2020 to community and voluntary organisations on account of the impact of Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [43654/20]

45. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the number of organisations supported under the Covid stability fund to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Cannon. [43947/20]

46. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the supports that have been provided to community and voluntary organisations in 2020 in response to the impact of Covid-19; the number of organisations based in County Cork that have received support; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [43657/20]

47. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when the new action plan for rural development will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [43916/20]

48. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when she expects to announce successful applications under the town and village renewal scheme; her views on the scheme; and her plans for the future of the scheme. — Alan Dillon. [44118/20]

49. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that will be provided in counties Longford and Westmeath under the local improvement scheme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [43609/20]

50. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the organisations in Dublin that have benefited in 2020 from the Community Enhancement Programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [43811/20]

51. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her views on the operation of the Public Participation Networks; her plans for further developing this structure; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [43688/20]

52. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her views on adding a requirement that all funding from her Department includes provisions to meet and further rights of persons with disabilities. — Holly Cairns. [43580/20]

53. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her plans to bring forward an enhanced town and village renewal scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [43975/20]

54. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding opportunities available to a centre (details supplied) which is a non-profit organisation providing community, family and employment support in the Finglas, Dublin 11; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [43931/20]

55. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the timeframe for the planned remaining broadband connection points in south western areas of County Cork to be completed. — Holly Cairns. [43578/20]

56. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the engagement she has had with other Departments regarding issues relating to rural Ireland and specifically regarding public transport in rural areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [43918/20]

57. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the amount of the €45 million Covid-19 stability fund for community and voluntary organisations, charities and social enterprises that has been paid out to date. — Peadar Tóibín. [43933/20]

58. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the local improvement scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [43589/20]

59. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that will be provided in County Tipperary under the local improvement scheme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [43605/20]

60. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when she expects to announce successful applications under the outdoor recreation scheme; her plans to operate the scheme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [44119/20]

61. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the reason larger counties with larger CLÁR areas are limited to making the same number of CLÁR applications as much smaller counties with smaller CLÁR areas; if an imbalance against CLÁR area residents in the larger counties is recognised; her plans to review the matter; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43920/20]

62. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the projects supported by her Department in counties Meath and Louth in 2020 under the Community Enhancement Programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [43610/20]

63. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the interdepartmental group set up within her Department to examine the remote working hubs and co-working spaces; when the group is due to report; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [43917/20]

64. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will consider expanding schemes such as the rural recreation scheme, the walks scheme, the outdoor recreation infrastructure scheme and other similar schemes in view of the vital services and benefits they provide to local economies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [44159/20]

65. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the extent to which she expects the Leader programme to address the multi-various issues affecting urban and rural communities throughout the country in the coming years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43201/20]

66. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the islands' action plan and her engagement with island communities in relation to the plan since taking office. — Holly Cairns. [43576/20]

67. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points in counties Longford and Westmeath; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [43608/20]

68. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she has held discussions with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the topic of one-off housing planning; her views on whether banning one-off housing in rural Ireland will have a detrimental impact on rural community development; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [43977/20]

69. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will report on the new volunteering strategy; her plans to implement same; the level of engagement with communities in its development; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [43812/20]

70. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development further to Parliamentary Question No. 13 of 5 November 2020, the way in which the additional €2 million in funding for the development of master plans for up to 50 towns will be administered; the criteria for a town to be chosen as one of the 50 towns that will develop master plans; when the decision will be made as to the towns which are included on the list of 50 towns; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [43331/20]

71. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the steps she is taking to highlight and prioritise rural transport needs to the Department of Transport including the integration of local link services and the subsidised hackney scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [43327/20]

72. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the current EU MFF budgetary proposals for the period 2021 to 2027 allocated to Ireland under the LEADER heading of pillar II of the CAP notwithstanding the possibility of potential changes to the proposed EU and CAP budget. — Sean Sherlock. [43982/20]

73. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she has considered working with local authorities to establish hubs for remote working in towns and cities to facilitate new ways of working into the future. — Louise O'Reilly. [34915/20]

74. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points in County Clare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [43596/20]

75. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the date of the last meeting of the Mobile Phone and Broadband Taskforce; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42232/20]

76. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her plans to fund the delivery and administration of the Leader programme 2021; the interim funding for 2021 to 2023 to be

delivered directly by local development companies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [41628/20]

77. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that will be provided in counties Sligo and Leitrim under the local improvement scheme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [43607/20]

78. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the support she is putting in place to help voluntary community groups meet operating costs during the pandemic when their usual means of fundraising cannot take place. — Holly Cairns. [43577/20]

79. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding provision for an extension in 2021 of the existing Leader programme and the proposals to fund the work of Local Development Companies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [43925/20]

80. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the Programme for Government commitment for an expanded town and village renewal scheme to bring vacant and derelict buildings back into use and promote residential occupancy; when communities can start applying for this funding; and the estimated amount available to each local authority. — Holly Cairns. [43579/20]

81. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the National Volunteering Strategy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [43954/20]

82. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her plans to develop and diversify the CLÁR programme in 2021 which focuses on the areas of highest population decrease since 1926; the measures approved under the CLÁR programme in 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [43080/20]

83. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the actions her Department is taking to stymie rural decline in County Clare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [43813/20]

84. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if consideration will be given to extending the local improvement scheme for the new areas of Cork city which were areas of Cork County and should not be disadvantaged as a result of boundary changes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [43591/20]

85. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her progress to date in introducing on a phased basis a number of projects similar in approach to community development projects as outlined in the Programme for Government; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [43932/20]

86. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the steps she has taken to implement action 128 of the National Disability Inclusion Strategy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [43213/20]

87. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the development of the new rural policy; when she expects the policy to be finalised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [43330/20]

88. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her views on the way in which the operators of community services centres are facing considerable fees for water at a time when their ability to generate income has been limited; if she will consider addressing the issue; her further views on the supports that are needed for community councils and organisations given the impact of Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [43335/20]

89. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the supports in place for community halls and centres nationwide that have lost the ability to generate revenue during Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [43785/20]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

90. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to the fact that provisional liquidators have been appointed to a group (details supplied); and if he will engage with the workers and their trade union to ensure that regardless of what happens the company will honour the workers collective agreement. — Louise O'Reilly. [44124/20]

91. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to the Organisation of Working Time (Amendment) (Carryover of Annual Leave) (Covid-19) Bill 2020 which was introduced on 26 November 2020, which seeks to allow workers to carry over untaken annual leave which they could not take due to the impact of Covid-19; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that similar legislation has been passed for workers in the UK and Northern Ireland; and if he will support similar legislation here. — Louise O'Reilly. [44125/20]

92. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will introduce an enterprise and trade support scheme similar to and or the equivalent of the Covid-19 restrictions support scheme for businesses that are not subject to business rates and or conduct trading activities from a business premises located in a region subject to restrictions in view of the fact that the Covid pandemic unemployment payment and the employment wage subsidy scheme are not particularly appropriate to certain business models within the tourism and live entertainment sectors. — Catherine Murphy. [43719/20]

93. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on the interactions he has had with the Director of Corporate Enforcement regarding the Companies (Corporate Enforcement Authority) Bill 2018. — Louise O'Reilly. [44126/20]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

94. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Clare that have received support under the restart grant and the restart grant plus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [43793/20]

95. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the priorities of his Department in the context of the forthcoming National Development Plan review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [43682/20]

96. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the IDA will consider the feasibility of Clare Technology Park , Gort Road, Ennis, County Clare as a location in the next phase of planning and development of technological buildings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [39254/20]

97. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the analysis his Department has carried out into the low uptake of the Brexit loan scheme compared to the uptake of the future growth loan scheme; if unexpended Brexit loan scheme funding will be available for repurposing through bespoke supports for micro and small enterprises; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [43941/20]

98. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the progress that has been made in developing a cheaper and easier form of examinership which could assist viable enterprises to achieve some restructuring with creditors in order to protect jobs in the trading difficulties. — Richard Bruton. [43183/20]

99. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown that have received support under the restart grant and the restart grant plus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [43788/20]

100. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 28 of 10 November 2020, if he has held the meeting with the agencies with a particular focus on Ballinasloe, County Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42230/20]

101. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the engagements he has had with the workers of a company (details supplied) during their ongoing dispute over redundancy. — Pa Daly. [44123/20]

102. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the mediation talks between a company (details supplied) and its workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [43818/20]

103. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on progress made on implementing the Duffy Cahill report recommendations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [43553/20]

104. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his progress to date in the reform of the Personal Injuries Assessment Board; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [43930/20]

105. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when he expects to progress the Programme for Government commitment to enable regulatory bodies such as ComReg, the Central Bank and the CCPC to have greater use of administrative penalties to sanction rogue operators, as is the norm in other EU Member States; when he expects the Competition Bill (ECN+) to be brought before the Houses of the Oireachtas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [43816/20]

106. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the way in which he envisages Irish consumers and businesses will benefit from the ratification of the CETA agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Cannon. [43948/20]

107. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to the impact of the lack of adequate truck-driver testing facilities in north County Kildare on jobs, employment and incomes given that the area is an important centre of retail and industrial warehousing and logistics. — Réada Cronin. [43898/20]

108. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the key measures under the Action Plan for Insurance Reform; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [43787/20]

109. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in counties Sligo and Leitrim that have availed of the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [43804/20]

110. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Kilkenny that have received support under the restart grant and the restart grant plus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [43797/20]

111. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is considering reopening the restart grants to new applications that would include businesses that may not have qualified under the previous criteria. — Steven Matthews. [43718/20]

112. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the involvement of his Department in talks to try resolve the issue regarding a company (details supplied) and to ensure such occurrences do not happen again; if it is intended to implement the Duffy-Cahill report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [43082/20]

113. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the Working Time Directive applies to the retained fire service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [38396/20]

114. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the measures being undertaken to identify and make contact with SMEs that have yet to engage with the Revenue Commissioners to register their companies in the event of a no-deal Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43921/20]

115. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the action he is taking to encourage women as entrepreneurs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [43796/20]

116. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will consider an additional package of supports for rural wet pub operators that have been closed for eight straight months given that current supports, such as the CRSS and the restart grant plus, are not adequately compensating them for the months they were closed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [43325/20]

117. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the review of examinership by the CLRG; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [44127/20]

118. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to a commitment he made during Priority Questions of 10 November 2020, and further to correspondence from this Deputy and the office of an organisation (details supplied), if he will meet a representation of content moderators and their representatives and trade unions early in 2021; and if he will instruct his officials to arrange the particulars of such a meeting. — Louise O'Reilly. [43823/20]

119. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Tipperary that have availed of the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [43802/20]

120. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Kilkenny that have availed of the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [43798/20]

121. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is satisfied with the level of Brexit readiness amongst companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [43786/20]

122. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his specific policies to support enterprise in towns and villages; if his Department is engaging with other Departments on this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [44120/20]

123. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to and is taking steps in relation to the difficulties facing workers in an airline (details supplied) who are continuing to face problems engaging with the human resources department of the airline regarding their payments and entitlements. — Réada Cronin. [43897/20]

124. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department has offered or been offered additional funding to assist the owners of wet pubs this Christmas. — Peadar Tóibín. [43951/20]

125. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the actions he has taken to support to support entrepreneurship and self-employment for persons with disabilities as outlined in action 116 of the mid-term review of the National Disability Inclusion Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [43945/20]

126. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has engaged with workers and their trade union in relation to the appointment of provisional liquidators to a group (details supplied); the other steps he has taken to ensure that the company will honour the workers' collective agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [43950/20]

127. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the way in which he plans to grow indigenous enterprises in County Kerry in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [43928/20]

128. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has concerns regarding the communication of the impact that Brexit will have on Irish consumers in terms of online shopping from the UK; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [44121/20]

129. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the trading prospects following Brexit; and if new policy tools are being considered to protect jobs in the post-Brexit environment. — Richard Bruton. [43184/20]

130. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Cork that have availed of the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [43792/20]

131. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his progress in relation to updating the National Remote Working Policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [43929/20]

132. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the details of the engagement his Department has had with a representative association (details supplied) regarding the Covid restriction support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [43686/20]

133. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when he expects Ireland to ratify CETA; the way in which Irish consumers, citizens and SMEs will benefit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [43956/20]

134. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in counties Laois and Offaly that have availed of the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [43800/20]

135. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the industries his Department is of the view are most at risk from the ill-effects of Brexit, deal or no-deal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [43169/20]

136. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the liquidation of a company (details supplied); and if he will take steps to ensure the collective bargaining agreement for workers is honoured. — Pa Daly. [44122/20]

137. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to introduce a new form of examinership in relation to company law to facilitate smaller companies seeking to survive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [43809/20]

138. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of Brexit preparations from his Department and its agencies for 1 January 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [43684/20]

139. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to enhance the role of the Personal Injuries Assessment Board; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [43789/20]

140. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in counties Longford and Westmeath that have availed of the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [43806/20]

141. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps he is taking to implement the Government statement on the Role of Data Centres in Ireland's Enterprise Policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42229/20]

142. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a renewed focus will be placed on attracting FDI to County Kerry in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [43927/20]

143. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the supports that have been provided to enable the Workplace Relations Commission to function at the optimum level during the Covid-19 pandemic given the importance of its work and the cases that it is dealing with; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [43817/20]

144. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to the Organisation of Working Time (Amendment) (Carryover of Annual Leave) (Covid-19) Bill 2020 which was introduced on 26 November 2020 which seeks to allow workers to carry over untaken annual leave which they could not take due to the impact of Covid-19; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that similar legislation has been passed for workers in the UK and Northern Ireland; and his views on similar legislation here. — Pearse Doherty. [43937/20]

145. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans for future legislation that will protect workers in situations of redundancy and insolvency in which they have agreements for enhanced redundancy arrangements with their employer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [43820/20]

146. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the details of discussions or contact he has had with the mediator in a dispute (details supplied); his plans to resolve same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [43819/20]

147. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to update the legislation governing European Works Councils. — Louise O'Reilly. [43822/20]

148. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the way in which he is supporting home working; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [43807/20]

149. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of legislation to transpose the ECN plus directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [44128/20]

150. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Carlow that have received support under the restart grant and the restart grant plus; the number that have availed of the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [43795/20]

151. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the amount of funding made available from his Department in 2020 to Údarás na Gaeltachta; the programmes involved in each case; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [43081/20]

152. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he remains in contact with his EU colleagues in an effort to ensure the coordination of trans-EU efforts to cater for any aftershock of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43836/20]

153. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in counties Longford and Westmeath that have received support under the restart grant and the restart grant plus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [43805/20]

154. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has considered additional grant aid support for the wet pub sector since it has been under enforced closure for nine months and has had to remain closed during the sectors busiest period of the year. — Louise O'Reilly. [43824/20]

155. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the universal basic income pilot promised in the Programme for Government; the timeline on the proposed pilot; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [43943/20]

156. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in counties Laois and Offaly that have received support under the restart grant and the restart grant plus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [43799/20]

157. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on the workings of the Workplace Relations Committee. — Paul Murphy. [43851/20]

158. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the way in which his Department is continuing to support the development of new markets for Irish exports in the current Covid-19 and Brexit environment; his plans for 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [43848/20]

159. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the implementation of the Duffy-Cahill report and on efforts to resolve a dispute at a company (details supplied). — Cormac Devlin. [37038/20]

160. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in counties Sligo and Leitrim that have received support under the restart grant and the restart grant plus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [43803/20]

161. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the rationale following reports of the Low Pay Commission's commitment to only a 1% increase in the national minimum wage for 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [26803/20]

162. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the Economic and Sustainability Impact Assessment of the EU-Mercosur Agreement commissioned by his Department in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in January 2020; when the report will be published; the cost of the report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [43942/20]

163. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Cork that have availed of the microfinance Ireland Brexit business loan. — Michael Moynihan. [43808/20]

164. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the Brexit preparations of his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [43668/20]

165. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department and agencies under his aegis will provide a dedicated service to answer questions from SMEs with Brexit queries in advance of and after 1 January 2021. — Fergus O'Dowd. [43667/20]

166. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the new legislation he is preparing that will give regulators such as the Commission for Communications Regulation and the CCPC powers to levy administrative financial sanctions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [43976/20]

167. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Tipperary that have received support under the restart grant and the restart grant plus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [43801/20]

168. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the interactions he has had with his EU counterparts in respect of the EU-Mercosur trade agreement. — Matt Carthy. [42651/20]

169. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will consider extending the supports that are in place for employers to employ and retain persons with disabilities to also include persons with disabilities who choose to become self-employed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [43944/20]

170. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the review by the company law review group on the legal provisions surrounding collective redundancies and the liquidation of companies to ensure that the rights of workers are effectively protected; when he will publish the report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [43939/20]

171. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the measures being undertaken to ensure that there is no difficulties receiving essential imported goods into Ireland in the event of a no-deal Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43922/20]

172. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in counties Cavan and Monaghan that have availed of the Brexit loan scheme. — Niamh Smyth. [43721/20]

173. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the measures he is taking to promote the all-island economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [43168/20]

174. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on the restart grant and restart grant plus; if all funding has at this point been paid out; the details

of same by county in tabular form; his plans to launch a similar scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [43955/20]

175. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide extra supports to SMEs for whom Christmas normally represents their peak trade time. — Peadar Tóibín. [43952/20]

176. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps being taken to ensure that all employers are adhering to public health advice to allow employees to work from home unless it is absolutely necessary particularly in relation to staff with underlying health conditions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [43784/20]

177. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in counties Cavan and Monaghan that have applied for a ready for customs grant. — Niamh Smyth. [43720/20]

178. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on consultations he has had with the trade union movement on issues surrounding workers' rights in company liquidation situations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [43554/20]

179. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to the difficulties facing workers in an airline (details supplied) who are continuing to face difficulty in engaging with the human resources department of the airline regarding payments and entitlements. — Louise O'Reilly. [43826/20]

180. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the work his Department is engaging in with other Departments and agencies in terms of the development of remote working opportunities given the immense benefits for communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Cannon. [43949/20]

181. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the supports available to publicly-licensed houses that have been prevented from trading over the Christmas period as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [43914/20]

182. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans regarding the introduction of sustainability indicators for enterprises in receipt of support from their local enterprise office given that this would highlight businesses that have made a conscious effort with regard to sustainability goals and this is not considered at present as part of a grant application. — Steven Matthews. [43326/20]

183. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans for strengthening Competition and Consumer Protection Commission enforcement powers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [43790/20]

184. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on the future work plan of the Workplace Relations Commission. — Paul Murphy. [43852/20]

185. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he remains satisfied as to the adequacy of measures taken to protect the economy as Brexit

unfolds; his views on whether the alternative arrangements are sufficient insofar as is possible, meet all eventualities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43835/20]

186. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of all proposed EU trade agreements and Ireland's position on same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [43666/20]

187. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the work that is underway in relation to farm safety including training and other assistance to farmers in order to help reduce the number of fatal farm accidents and non-fatal accidents each year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [41562/20]

188. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if Ireland has made a submission to the EU Trade Policy Review; if so, the issues he is prioritising; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [43680/20]

189. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the implementation of the recommendations made in the Action Plan for Insurance Reform in relation to the Personal Injury Assessment Board; the number of recommendations that have not been implemented to date; the reason for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [43849/20]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*190. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on his engagement with the trade union movement in relation to issues regarding collective redundancy legislation reform. — Mick Barry. [28813/20]

*191. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will consider increasing the minimum wage beyond the amount announced in budget 2021 to ensure it reflects a living wage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [40070/20]

*192. 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. [40067/20]

*193. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the contacts he has had with an airline (details supplied) and other airlines registered here in relation to the terms and conditions of their workforce; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [40072/20]

*194. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the funding made available to businesses located in County Galway for Brexit preparations through his Department in 2020; the number of businesses which have benefitted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [44145/20]

*195. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of IDA Ireland site visits to locations in County Galway to date in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [44146/20]

*196. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the additional Covid-19 supports available for businesses in County Galway to help offset the negative impacts of Covid-19; the amounts provided to companies in County Galway under the various schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [44147/20]

*197. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the national SME growth plan; when it will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [44148/20]

*198. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of plans to transform the Low Pay Commission into a living wage commission; the details of any consultation process initiated by his Department in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [44149/20]

*199. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will address a matter in relation to a restart grant application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44151/20]

*200. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the supports that have been made available to artists in the design and crafts industry during the Covid-19 pandemic. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [44158/20]

*201. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to resolve a dispute (details supplied); if he has met with the liquidators; if so, the details of the meetings; his plans to introduce legislation in line with the Duffy Cahill report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [30565/20]

*202. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to intervene with the liquidators of a company (details supplied) that has sought High Court injunctions against former workers; his views on whether such actions will make a resolution of the dispute harder to achieve; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [30566/20]

*203. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department is considering new supports for enterprise start up as Ireland commences to exit the Covid-19 setbacks to employment. — Richard Bruton. [39717/20]

*204. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will bring forward legislation this term to change the Low Pay Commission into a living wage commission; and if he will simultaneously expand the membership of the commission to include a representative of the living wage technical group. — Louise O'Reilly. [30365/20]

*205. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has investigated the impact of the moratorium on redundancies on the workers and employers affected; and if he has considered changes to the primary legislation to allow workers who are on laid off or kept on short-time due to Covid-19, but who cannot claim their redundancy, to re-enter employment or undertake temporary employment with a different employer and still be entitled to

their redundancy when the emergency redundancy moratorium is rescinded. — Louise O'Reilly. [30367/20]

*206. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Clare that have availed of the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [43794/20]

*207. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in County Cork that have received support under the restart grant and the restart grant plus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [43791/20]

*208. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the guidelines and measures in place for the operation of an indoor Santa meet and greet under the level 3 Covid restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [44211/20]

*209. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the supports and grants in place for new start-up businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [44213/20]

*210. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if an employee can be rested to work from the office during the level 3 restrictions if working from home is a feasible option; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [44235/20]

*211. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the details regarding protection laws for employees of EU and foreign businesses located here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard O'Donoghue. [44255/20]

*212. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department has reviewed the correspondence provided by this Deputy to him on 23 November 2020, which was a follow-up in relation to his commitment given in the Oireachtas Committee on Enterprise, Trade and Employment on 18 November 2020 to examine the limitations of the Covid restrictions support scheme and which are excluding many businesses in the events industry as well as upstream suppliers. — Louise O'Reilly. [44268/20]

*213. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the position regarding a general employment permit application by a person (details supplied); the reason an acknowledgement has not yet issued to confirm receipt of the application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [44400/20]

*214. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will engage with the IDA to ensure that a replacement employer is sourced for a site (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [44423/20]

*215. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will work with the employees of a group (details supplied) and their trade union representatives to see a fair and suitable outcome when the company ceases trading. — Paul Donnelly. [44457/20]

*216. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the funding made available to businesses for Brexit preparations through his Department or agencies under its remit in 2020 by county; the number of businesses which have benefitted by county in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [44464/20]

*217. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of IDA site visits by county to date in 2020. — Jim O'Callaghan. [44465/20]

*218. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the value of grants made to companies through the online retail scheme to date in 2020, by county in tabular form. — Jim O'Callaghan. [44466/20]

*219. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the additional funding made available to each local enterprise office in budget 2021. — Jim O'Callaghan. [44467/20]

*220. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to protect the rights and redundancies of workers. — Thomas Gould. [44544/20]

*221. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to address the issue of zero-hours contracts given the recent controversy surrounding contact tracing contracts. — Thomas Gould. [44545/20]

*222. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has considered additional grant aid support for the wet pub sector in counties Carlow and Kilkenny given the sector has been under enforced closure for nine months and has had to remain closed during its busiest period of the year. — Kathleen Funchion. [44548/20]

*223. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if additional supports will be given to businesses in the restaurant and pub trade in counties Carlow and Kilkenny that have invested in outdoor seating and heaters in order to comply with the public health measures and ensure the utmost safety to patrons and customers. — Kathleen Funchion. [44549/20]

*224. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will engage with the workers of a group (details supplied) and their trade union to ensure that the company will honour the workers collective agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [44570/20]

*225. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the progress made to date on implementing the recommendations of the Duffy Cahill Report; his future plans in this area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [44571/20]

*226. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will assist workers in an airline (details supplied) who are experiencing difficulties in engaging with the human resources department of the airline regarding payments and entitlements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [44572/20]

*227. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the sectoral employment orders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [44573/20]

*228. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the supports he will provide to the wet pub sector which is closed during its busiest trading period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [44574/20]

*229. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if additional supports will be given to businesses in the restaurant and pub trade that have invested in outdoor seating and heaters in order to comply with the public health measures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [44575/20]

*230. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he anticipates further reduction in unemployment levels as the curtailment of Covid-19 increases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44635/20]

*231. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the degree to which his Department anticipates re-employment of persons with specific skills after Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44636/20]

*232. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps taken or planned to protect employment in the event of another surge of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44637/20]

*233. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the degree to which he and his Department continue to establish new trading links globally to compensate for job losses related to Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44638/20]

*234. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which Ireland's international network of embassies can be utilised in the promotion of trade and Irish exports in the aftermath of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44639/20]

*235. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he is of the view sufficient provision has been made to compensate for losses of jobs or export markets in respect of goods or services in the aftermath of Brexit; if he remains satisfied that adequate provision has been made to withstand the initial trade shock of developments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44640/20]

*236. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he and his Department have engaged in the promotion of Irish exports, new trade links and alternative markets to compensate for any loss of markets through Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44641/20]

*237. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he remains satisfied regarding the continued availability of Covid-related supports in the services and manufacturing sectors particularly in the event of any further surge in the virus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44642/20]

*238. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which technology, education and the availability of suitable business and housing accommodation continue to be an issue in regard to the creation of further employment nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44643/20]

*239. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to streamline the application process for work permits further with particular reference to the issuing

of decisions in a quick manner therefore avoiding unnecessary delays for businesses in hiring the appropriate staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44644/20]

*240. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he expects the island of Ireland in its entirety to remain an attractive location for foreign direct investment post-Brexit and into the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44608/20]

*241. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the degree to which he continues to support and drive the creation of new enterprises in the indigenous sector nationally with particular reference to the need to encourage the generation of employment in all regions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44609/20]

*242. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the full extent of supports made available to the manufacturing and services sectors including tourism and or events based in County Kildare since the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak; the number of jobs protected directly or indirectly in this context; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44610/20]

*243. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he and his Department have identified the most likely springboard for economic recovery in the wake of Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44611/20]

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

*244. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of the roll out plan for the national broadband scheme. — Thomas Gould. [44547/20]

*245. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is considering plans to extend the broadband connection points programme to additional primary schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [44576/20]

*246. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will report on the operation and eligibility criteria of the 2020 trading online voucher scheme; the breakdown of the allocation and number of recipients by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [44198/20]

*247. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number on the waiting list for the warmer homes scheme in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [44325/20]

*248. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of homes and premises in counties Laois and Offaly, respectively that are still awaiting connection to broadband under the National Broadband Plan. — Brian Stanley. [44372/20]

*249. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department developed a comprehensive policy on the use of biomass for generating power. — Brian Stanley. [44373/20]

*250. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will allow Bord Na Móna to collect and segregate used timber to be used as biomass for power generation as is happening in other jurisdictions. — Brian Stanley. [44374/20]

*251. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the issue of the sourcing of peat for the horticulture sector (details supplied) will be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [44404/20]

*252. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress expected in rolling out the National Broadband Plan in 2021 throughout County Cavan; the areas that will benefit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44411/20]

*253. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress expected in rolling out the National Broadband Plan in 2021 throughout County Monaghan; the areas that will benefit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44412/20]

*254. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has had discussions with telecommunications providers and the communications regulator in relation to the need to improve mobile telephone coverage in different parts of the country including areas in counties Cavan and Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44413/20]

*255. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department has carried out an analysis of the impact which current low afforestation rates in 2020 will have on Ireland meeting its climate targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [44420/20]

*256. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his attention has been drawn to the fact that afforestation rates for 2020 are only at 2,000 hectares; the impact this will have on climate targets for Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [44421/20]

*257. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if an agreement is in place with the UK authorities to ensure there will be no imposition of mobile telephone roaming charges from 1 January 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44440/20]

*258. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the time frame for enacting policy fracked gas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [44490/20]

*259. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to introduce a total ban on smoky coal and make Ireland a smokeless zone; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [44524/20]

*260. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of a broadband connection for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [44559/20]

*261. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to ensure the Commission for Communications Regulation has adequate powers to ensure a decent

standard of care for customers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [44580/20]

*262. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the average 4G mobile coverage by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44589/20]

*263. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when persons in Ballygowan, Claremorris, County Mayo can expect to be connected to the broadband network; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44590/20]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*264. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 46 of 25 November 2020, if, in accordance with section 41(7) of the Irish Aviation Authority Act 1993, the dispute involved has been referred to him for determination by him; if so, the date of any such referral; when he will be in a position to make a determination; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [44190/20]

*265. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of funding for cycleways that was available to Wexford County Council in 2020; the amount of this funding that was drawn down; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [44326/20]

*266. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount spent on improvement and upgrade works on the Ballybophy to Limerick rail line over the past ten years. — Brian Stanley. [44376/20]

*267. To ask the Minister for Transport the new protocols in place to guide best practice in the Covid-19 context for public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44443/20]

*268. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure a substantial financial allocation under the road works programme to Cavan County Council in 2021 for the further planning and design of a route (details supplied) in view of its strategic importance for the Border region and the need to upgrade this road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44461/20]

*269. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of a LocalLink route (details supplied) in County Sligo; if he plans to discontinue the service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [44154/20]

*270. To ask the Minister for Transport the scheme or schemes, in accordance with section 41(1) of the Irish Aviation Act 1993, for the granting of superannuation benefits to, or in respect of, such members of the staff of the company that have been prepared by the company and submitted to the Minister and approved by the Minister with the consent of the Minister for Finance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [44194/20]

*271. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will meet with representatives of the car rental industry to hear and find solutions for Covid-19- related issues regarding the sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44287/20]

*272. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the terms of the Irish Aviation Authority 1996 superannuation scheme were amended in 2012 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44317/20]

*273. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason Irish Aviation Authority members were not informed of changes to the Irish Aviation Authority 1996 superannuation scheme in 2012 and were not given mandatory notice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44318/20]

*274. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration will be given to rescinding amendment 2012 of the Irish Aviation Authority 1996 superannuation scheme given that the attention of his Department has now been drawn to the fact that the rationale for its introduction was based on misinformation provided by the IAA and a subsequent admission by the IAA that the measures should only be temporary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44319/20]

*275. To ask the Minister for Transport if pension in payment increases will be awarded as guaranteed under section 41(5) of the Irish Aviation Authority Act 1993; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44320/20]

*276. To ask the Minister for Transport the authority under which the board of the Irish Aviation Authority decided not to award pension increases given such authority is vested in the Minister; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44322/20]

*277. To ask the Minister for Transport the authority under which the board of the Irish Aviation Authority instructed the trustees and actuary to make no provision for future pension increases when determining the fund liability; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44323/20]

*278. To ask the Minister for Transport if matters in relation to a pension for a person (details supplied) will be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [44327/20]

*279. To ask the Minister for Transport the discussions he has had with his Ministerial colleagues in relation to providing assistance to the bus coach industry particularly companies that provide tourist coach services; the results of these discussions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44353/20]

*280. To ask the Minister for Transport the support that has been made available since the foreign tourism industry virtually closed down in March 2020 to support the chauffeur drive and limousine industry; if further supports are planned in view of the large overheads in terms of borrowing many in the industry face; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44354/20]

*281. To ask the Minister for Transport if persons who had a code 78 applied to a D, D1 licence prior to 30 November 2013, and who also hold a manual category B licence may have the code 78 removed from their D, D1 licence without having to undertake a driver test, under the Road Traffic (Licensing of Drivers) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2020 signed on 30 October 2020 transposing Directive (EU) 2020/612. — Catherine Connolly. [44399/20]

*282. To ask the Minister for Transport when the strategy statements from the cycling officer in each local authority will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [44426/20]

*283. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will give further consideration to the provision of funding to local authorities in 2021 for the local improvement scheme due to the long waiting lists in areas such as counties Cavan and Monaghan and the unacceptable delays for households in rural areas having laneways accessing their homes brought up to an acceptable standard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44554/20]

*284. To ask the Minister for Transport if persons resident in direct provision centres can apply for a driver licence or have driver licences from relevant jurisdictions converted to an Irish driver licence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [44564/20]

*285. To ask the Minister for Transport the efforts his Department is making to highlight and prioritise rural transport needs; if a funding allocation specifically for rural transport has been identified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [44583/20]

*286. To ask the Minister for Transport the efforts his Department is making to further integrate LocalLink services with other existing public transport services for example the National Transport Authority to build on exemplar models of integrated rural transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [44584/20]

*287. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans for developing and supporting a subsidised local area hackney scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [44585/20]

*288. To ask the Minister for Transport when he will be in the position to ensure the provision of promised bus stops and bus shelters throughout County Kildare arising from the routes created through LocalLink services and other scheduled services including the Blanchardstown, Naas routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44633/20]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*289. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the impact of the pandemic on the outdoor activity business sector, such as an outdoor business (details supplied); if he will consider an extension of the CWSS scheme to such firms in order to help ensure this sector survive and recover; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [44199/20]

*290. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review the Covid restrictions support scheme to allow outdoor activity businesses and the business events industry represented by an association (details supplied) to avail of the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [44249/20]

*291. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to issues regarding a company (details supplied) and the application and administration of the temporary wage subsidy scheme which has resulted in employees not receiving payments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [44380/20]

*292. To ask the Minister for Finance the planning being conducted by his Department to deal with the potential housing consequences vis-a-vis 30-year mortgages payable by persons in their late 60s and 70s when salary levels and job opportunities might decrease; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44493/20]

*293. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will allow outdoor activity businesses avail of the covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [44171/20]

*294. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 275 of 24 November 2020, if businesses that do not ordinarily operate from a fixed business premises are not eligible for the covid restrictions support scheme and if he recognised that a business type (details attached) is therefore eligible. — Brendan Griffin. [44188/20]

*295. To ask the Minister for Finance if couples who were due to be married earlier in 2020 but had their weddings pushed back due to Covid-19, will receive an entitlement to backdate jointly assessed tax. — Louise O'Reilly. [44269/20]

*296. To ask the Minister for Finance if persons who import motor vehicles before the end of 2020 will pay the pre-1 January 2021 rates of VRT and be exempt from VAT and customs duty, in the case of a hybrid car will get the current VRT relief that ends on 31 December 2020, in the event that none of the NCT stations that operate registration on behalf of the RSA and the State cannot give an appointment before 31 December 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44338/20]

*297. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider amending the qualifying terms for the Covid restrictions support scheme in order that sports clubs that operate a licensed bar on their premises become eligible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [44343/20]

*298. To ask the Minister for Finance if there is a reciprocal arrangement with the UK authorities for the transfer from them of the registration book of a second-hand car to this jurisdiction in cases in which the book is held by the DVLA in Swansea, as this is needed to register a car here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44357/20]

*299. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason public houses that serve food seasonally cannot continue to avail of the Covid restrictions support scheme if they choose not to open for the Christmas and the winter season in view of the unviability of opening such premises in many rural areas at this time of year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44359/20]

*300. To ask the Minister for Finance the additional measures he will implement to counteract the illegal and cross-Border trade in tobacco and drink products and household fuel products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44401/20]

*301. To ask the Minister for Finance the measures he will introduce to protect and support legitimate businesses trading in household fuel products due to the difficulties they face with illegal cross-Border trade in such products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44402/20]

*302. To ask the Minister for Finance if the applications received for the Covid restrictions support scheme prior to the new guidelines for the scheme being issued in December 2020 will be assessed on the guidelines in place at the time of application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44403/20]

*303. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will address a matter regarding VAT on goods entering from the UK (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [44414/20]

*304. To ask the Minister for Finance the outcome of the most recent discussions with a bank (details supplied) in relation to the need to retain a banking service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44425/20]

*305. To ask the Minister for Finance if correspondence from a person (details supplied) will be reviewed; the steps he will take to engage with the mortgage provider on the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [44468/20]

*306. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on including outdoor activity businesses that do not have a fixed premises in the covid restrictions support scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [44558/20]

*307. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of persons who have benefited from the special assignee relief programme in each year since it was established; the cost of the scheme in each year; the average benefit per person in each year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [44567/20]

*308. To ask the Minister for Finance if mortgage interest relief for all active housing is to be abolished at the end of 2020; the breakdown by county of the number of mortgage holders this will affect; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44586/20]

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

*309. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the timeline for the full unwinding of the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest legislation in relation to public service pensions by pension rate and band; and the timelines for unwinding the FEMPI Acts in tabular form. — Louise O'Reilly. [44274/20]

*310. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the use being made of a building (details supplied); if it is planned to move further sections of his Department to this site; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44355/20]

*311. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if a request has been made to his Department by local authorities for additional funding to deal with flooding. — Sorca Clarke. [44135/20]

*312. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform when the OPW will complete the repair works to the courthouse at Carndonagh, County Donegal to allow the Courts Service to reopen the building for court sittings in the area. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [44207/20]

*313. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if the OPW plan to develop the facilities at the Grianán of Aileach, County Donegal in 2021 in conjunction with Donegal County Council and Fáilte Ireland. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [44208/20]

*314. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the reason Vote 15, previously Vote 12, was transferred to his Departmental Vote group in 2011. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44365/20]

*315. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will ensure an increase in funding to Cavan County Council in 2021 for flood alleviation measures in view of increasing problems with flooding due to the heavy rainfall; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44415/20]

*316. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will ensure an increase in funding to Monaghan County Council in 2021 for flood alleviation measures in view of increasing problems with flooding due to the heavy rainfall; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44416/20]

*317. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the expected timeline for each stage in the provision of new public service accommodation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44424/20]

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

*318. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will address a matter raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [44195/20]

*319. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she plans to make matters in relation to action 14.2 of the Action Plan for Online Safety 2018-2019 a legal requirement in the upcoming online safety and media regulation Bill; the powers a proposed online safety commissioner may have to pursue these statistics from industry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [44390/20]

*320. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the initiatives that have been developed to educate young persons through sporting organisations of the dangers of problem gambling; her plans for 2021 for more initiatives; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [44234/20]

*321. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will accept a legal undertaking relative to the drawdown of lottery funds (details supplied) outlined to her Department by the solicitor of the club as the club is experiencing delays in the registration process of the PRA; and if she will expedite the matter. — John McGuinness. [44256/20]

*322. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when her Department will issue decisions in respect of applications under strand B of the cultural capital scheme 2020 (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [44335/20]

*323. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she plans to have the Abbey Theatre subject to freedom of information legislation. — Paul Donnelly. [44409/20]

*324. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the funding available from the Exchequer and EU sources for tourism projects in 2021 under a scheme (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44462/20]

*325. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the breakdown of the youth field sport grant in each of the years 2017 to 2020; the amount each organisation received; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Chris Andrews. [44470/20]

*326. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will respond to matters raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44482/20]

*327. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the regulations or legislation governing the area of advertising foods that are high in fat, salt and sugar to children on television, social media and other forms of media. — Imelda Munster. [44513/20]

*328. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will address matters raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44542/20]

*329. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media her views on matters raised in correspondence by a person (details supplied) in relation to Fáilte Ireland guidelines for weddings; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44555/20]

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

*330. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will expedite the registration of a property (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [44248/20]

*331. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the new guidelines regarding wind energy will be finalised and published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [44285/20]

*332. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a request has been made to his Department by local authorities for additional funding to deal with flooding. — Sorca Clarke. [44134/20]

*333. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the requirements or communication his Department has made in respect of the use of sonar in Irish waters in view of the impact of sonar on certain cetaceans in particular and the protection Ireland is obliged to provide for such species under EU Directives binding on Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [44139/20]

*334. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps taken and considerations made in respect of limiting the impact on cetaceans in Irish waters from NATO exercises such as operation dynamic mongoose in the past three years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [44140/20]

*335. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will work with Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council to ensure that the remaining tenants at a location (details supplied) are not evicted; if he will further explore taking the whole apartment block into public ownership; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44224/20]

*336. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the proposed legislation on tenancies of indefinite duration as agreed to in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [44253/20]

*337. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the housing commission will be established as agreed to in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [44254/20]

*338. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the legal situation with regard to adverse possession; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44291/20]

*339. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the assessment by the NPWS of the current status of the SAC 004025 in Malahide, County Dublin; the actions it has taken to protect the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe O'Brien. [44332/20]

*340. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of a representation (details supplied) being considered by him; when payment will be made if it is already agreed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [44336/20]

*341. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will direct local authorities to re-examine applications for housing grants for the elderly and disabled which were not possible to process due to the Covid-19 pandemic and reduced access to local authority offices (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [44337/20]

*342. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to reduce the requirement to have 30% savings to qualify for a Rebuilding Ireland home loan as many persons find it difficult to save due to the excessive rents they have to pay; the number of loans approved to date by county and year; the number drawn down; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44349/20]

*343. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department received an application for a foreshore licence for coastal protection works between Blackrock and Silverstrand in Galway city; if so, the status of this application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44360/20]

*344. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if discussions have taken place between Galway County Council and the NPWS in relation to the method statements that are required to be agreed with the NPWS as part of the planning conditions for the upgrade of the N59 road from Oughterard to Bunakill; the progress made in agreeing method statements to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44392/20]

*345. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to amend the tenant purchase scheme to enable persons who are in receipt of a pension and have the financial resources to buy out their council home avail of this scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44433/20]

*346. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if income eligibility limits will be improved for social housing for areas such as counties Cavan and Monaghan in which the existing limits are very low and causing difficulties for many families who have little hope of obtaining a mortgage or home loan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44434/20]

*347. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the appointment of consultants to develop the new fire station in Dunleer, County Louth has been agreed to; if so, when

the project will progress and commence construction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [44475/20]

*348. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if County Clare will be approved for housing first initiative; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [44487/20]

*349. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the long-term measures being put in place to address the homelessness issue in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [44488/20]

*350. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the provisions being put into place for those that need independent living in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [44489/20]

*351. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of persons in emergency accommodation in north County Kildare; the cost of same in each of the past three years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44492/20]

*352. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the planning his Department is conducting to address the potential housing crisis involving long-term renters in the absence of private pensions in a large segment of the population particularly women and when the old age pension was not devised to cover the cost of accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44494/20]

*353. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of women aged 50 years and over on the current housing lists that are in emergency accommodation and deemed homeless in the State; the number in north County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44495/20]

*354. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider extending the rent allowance for full-time firefighters particularly for new recruits in view of increased rents which nullify their existing allowance. — Johnny Mythen. [44517/20]

*355. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the criteria which is currently applied to retained fire fighters income when they are looking for a mortgage will be reviewed to take into account all income given the retainer and a two-hour weekly drill are their only reckonable earnings. — Johnny Mythen. [44518/20]

*356. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the criteria will be reviewed for retained fire fighters when applying for a rebuilding Ireland mortgage in view of the fact they are just above the threshold and earning too much to qualify for social housing. — Johnny Mythen. [44519/20]

*357. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of social housing units built directly by local authorities in 2019 and 2020; the projected number of such units for 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44539/20]

*358. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans for the reform of the planning process and in particular the judicial review process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [44541/20]

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

*359. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the information his Department holds on the widely reported operations of a vessel (details supplied) and associated submarine activity in or about dates around 27 July 2020 in Irish waters and the use of sonar; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [44141/20]

*360. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the estimated funding that will be allocated to the United Nations Population Fund in 2021; if funding to same will increase between 2021 and 2030 in line with the overall overseas development assistance budget increases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [44205/20]

*361. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if funding was provided to UNFPA Supplies, the United Nations Population Fund's thematic programme dedicated to expanding access to family planning in 2020; if he plans to allocate funding to this programme in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [44206/20]

*362. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the arrangements his Department has in place to accommodate persons with a disability in the international election observation scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [44560/20]

*363. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if the application process to be considered as an election observer includes questions on disabilities; the impact this has on the selection process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [44561/20]

Chun an Aire Cosanta: To the Minister for Defence.

*364. To ask the Minister for Defence if contact has been made by other naval services with Irish authorities in relation to the use of sonar in Irish waters in the past three years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [44138/20]

*365. To ask the Minister for Defence the estimated cost in 2021 if the capital budget for Defence Forces capability development increased by 15%. — Sorca Clarke. [44133/20]

*366. To ask the Minister for Defence the information his Department or the Defence Forces including both the Air Corps and Naval Service, hold on the incursion into or close to Irish waters the EEZ and territorial waters of vessels, crafts, including submarine vessels belonging to naval services of other nations during the period 1 April to 31 October 2018; if he will provide such information; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [44142/20]

*367. To ask the Minister for Defence the information his Department or the Defence Forces hold on the widely reported operations of a vessel (details supplied) in or about dates around 27 July 2020 in Irish waters; if he will provide such information; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [44143/20]

*368. To ask the Minister for Defence the amount that the Defence Forces spent on purchasing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defence jackets for the Permanent Defence Forces in 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [44406/20]

*369. To ask the Minister for Defence the number of serving and former Air Corps personnel that have made protected disclosures; and the number of the serving whistle-blowers that have been subjected to procedures for dismissal from the service. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44431/20]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*370. To ask the Minister for Education if she will address a matter in relation to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry regarding a grant for travel to July provision; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [44186/20]

*371. To ask the Minister for Education the procedures in relation to teacher and student safety in regard to students that refuse to wear masks in the classroom and for students that have been given medical permission to attend class without having to wear a visor or a face covering; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [44187/20]

*372. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide details in relation to a new school building (details supplied). — Brendan Griffin. [44189/20]

*373. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department is planning to end a policy by some primary schools to no longer allow a sibling first admission. — Gino Kenny. [44196/20]

*374. To ask the Minister for Education if she will direct schools to not end a sibling first admission on the basis that parents working lives, school collection arrangements and the financial burden on parents is not being considered if they have to send their children to multiple schools (details supplied). — Gino Kenny. [44197/20]

*375. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to alleviate the lack of secondary school places in the Malahide and Portmarnock areas of County Dublin; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [44209/20]

*376. To ask the Minister for Education her plans for a new school building (details supplied); if a site been identified; the time frame for the delivery on the project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [44210/20]

*377. To ask the Minister for Education the medium term plan for new schools in the Dún Laoghaire area, including primary and secondary schools; the patron bodies that are involved; the catchment areas; the estimated completion date of permanent schools; the interim plans for these schools in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44215/20]

*378. To ask the Minister for Education the properties owned by her Department in the wider Dún Laoghaire area; the plans for these sites; the way they fit into the established need for primary and secondary schools in the area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44216/20]

*379. To ask the Minister for Education if she will commit to a date by which a school (details supplied) will have a permanent site for the school; if there are other schools also in the Blackrock Booterstown district that are also seeking a permanent location; if so, if they have a priority ahead of the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44217/20]

*380. To ask the Minister for Education if sites have already been examined by her Department for a permanent building and deemed inappropriate for a school (details supplied); if so, the location of the sites; the details of the issues with them that deemed them inappropriate; the primary, non-Covid-related barrier preventing a new school location being confirmed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44218/20]

*381. To ask the Minister for Education the general location for all sites under consideration for the permanent relocation of a school (details supplied); if the sites are within the community of Blackrock Booterstown in view of the fact that the community of same voted for the patronage of the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44219/20]

*382. To ask the Minister for Education the procedures in place to protect school staff and students, some with underlying medical vulnerabilities from Covid-19 infection in a situation in which a student refuses to wear a mask and social distancing of two meters is not possible; the specific evidence and documentation of medical need to not wear a mask required in order to be exempted from the requirement to wear one; the procedures in place to protect school staff and students in situations in which a student has a medical exemption to not wear a mask and social distancing of two meters is not possible (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [44238/20]

*383. To ask the Minister for Education the way the planned investment of €5 million in DEIS schools will be allocated in 2022; if additional resources including staffing will be provided to DEIS band one schools; her views on class size reductions in DEIS band 1 junior and vertical schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [44251/20]

*384. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will ensure an early construction date in quarter 1 of 2021 a permanent building for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [44252/20]

*385. To ask the Minister for Education if she plans to increase the number of students at a college (details supplied) that will be permitted to admit into the first year in September 2021 to accommodate all the students in the catchment area of the school that wish to attend the school in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44330/20]

*386. To ask the Minister for Education if schools have been directed to record non-Covid-19 related absenteeism in school children, for example, having a seasonal bug as Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44333/20]

*387. To ask the Minister for Education the reason special needs assistants only get three days compassionate leave when a parent and other close relatives dies and other staff such as teachers get five days; her plans to address this inequality; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44340/20]

*388. To ask the Minister for Education if adequate provision has been made for classroom accommodation and outdoor recreational spaces in the proposed project to amalgamate schools in Ennistymon, County Clare in order that the current and future needs of pupils can be met; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [44345/20]

*389. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an bhfuil aon deontas nó cúnamh ar fáil ón a Roinn le láthair súgartha riachtanach a fhorbairt ag scoil (sonraí tugtha), go mór mór do na scoláirí atá

faoi mhíchumas, is scoil a bhfuil leathnú mór agus feabhas á chur uirthi; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44361/20]

*390. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the planned building project for a school (details supplied) in County Laois; and the projected timescale for construction of the new building to start. — Brian Stanley. [44366/20]

*391. To ask the Minister for Education if she has assessed the need for a new building for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Stanley. [44367/20]

*392. To ask the Minister for Education the EU counterparts she has spoken formally with since her appointment in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [44410/20]

*393. To ask the Minister for Education if the number of school places will be increased in a school (details supplied) to ensure there is adequate school places for children who wish to attend. — Richard Bruton. [44428/20]

*394. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the new building project to be delivered for a school (details supplied). — Richard Bruton. [44429/20]

*395. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the new building project for a school (details supplied). — Richard Bruton. [44430/20]

*396. To ask the Minister for Education the progress made on the acquisition of a permanent site for a school (details supplied) which is now 18 years in existence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [44436/20]

*397. To ask the Minister for Education the provisions put in place to progress the building of schools in the Dublin 15 area to meet the demand for school places for the 2021 term. — Paul Donnelly. [44456/20]

*398. To ask the Minister for Education when a planned building project (details supplied) will proceed to the next stage; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44471/20]

*399. To ask the Minister for Education the number of students currently in sixth class in schools (details supplied); if there are sufficient numbers of places in secondary places in the schools; the area to accommodate them; if there is a shortfall; her plans to ensure their needs are met; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44481/20]

*400. To ask the Minister for Education when a building project application by a school (details supplied) will proceed to the next stage; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44485/20]

*401. To ask the Minister for Education the plans in place to guarantee remote access to education for children with high-risk relatives for Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44500/20]

*402. To ask the Minister for Education if school bus capacity will be increased without further delay due to the large number of students unable to access transport at present due to much reduced

capacity in the 2020-2021 school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44510/20]

*403. To ask the Minister for Education the time frame for the completion of an extension at a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44511/20]

*404. To ask the Minister for Education if a recent study has been conducted on demand and availability of secondary school places in an area (details supplied); if so, the projections from the research; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [44520/20]

*405. To ask the Minister for Education if there has been a recent study conducted on demand and availability of secondary school places in an area (details supplied); if so, the projections from the research; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [44523/20]

*406. To ask the Minister for Education if there has been a recent study conducted on demand and availability of secondary school places in an area (details supplied); if so, the projections from the research; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [44525/20]

*407. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to address the needs of the pupils who have paid for school bus tickets but have yet to secure a seat on their local bus due to lack of capacity in view of the fact that schools remain open; her plans to putting on extra buses to cater for these children such as persons (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44538/20]

*408. To ask the Minister for Education the number of schools which have been forced to open against the wishes of the board of management and principals due to high positivity rates for Covid-19 since the reopening of schools earlier in 2020.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [44551/20]

*409. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which her Department has had communication with a school (details supplied) in County Mayo; the dates and methods on which these communications took place; if her Department has spoken with the principal and board of management or had communication with the school outside of the directive sent from her Department to reopen the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [44552/20]

*410. To ask the Minister for Education if remote blended learning will be considered for students who have family members who are immunocompromised and therefore at a higher risk of contracting Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [44556/20]

*411. To ask the Minister for Education her views on making geography a mandatory subject in the secondary school junior cycle curriculum; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [44565/20]

*412. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to glitches regarding the Bus Éireann online system for the school transport scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [44577/20]

*413. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the lack of school places for students in north County Wicklow; if actions are being undertaken to address the shortage of places; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [44581/20]

*414. To ask the Minister for Education the measures that have been put in place to allow students exercise their right not to attend religious education in schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [44582/20]

*415. To ask the Minister for Education if a dangerous school bus pick up point (details supplied) will be addressed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44606/20]

*416. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which ongoing discussions have taken place or are taking place with the various stakeholders with a view to providing new or extended schools in Celbridge, County Kildare given the urgency of the situation and the need for a new school at a school (details supplied); the degree to which discussions have taken place with traffic management in Kildare County Council with particular reference to clear traffic routes to facilitate schools all in an area of rapid population expansion; the extent to which progress has taken place in the past three months in each case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44612/20]

*417. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the upgrading of facilities, extension or replacement of facilities at a school (details supplied); the total accommodation requirements being met; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44613/20]

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

*418. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review the Tús scheme to allow persons that have been participating on the scheme during the Covid-19 pandemic to extend the time they can remain on by the same time they missed out due to restrictions if they so choose in order that they can benefit from the experience gained on this work placement; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [44277/20]

*419. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration will be given to extending the applicability of the free travel pass to taxis for persons who do not have access to a public transport route but need to travel for medical or hospital appointments. — Joe O'Brien. [44334/20]

*420. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a decision will be made on a carer's allowance review for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44185/20]

*421. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person (details supplied) has not received full pandemic unemployment payment arrears. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44214/20]

*422. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of the introduction of the auto-enrolment pension during the course of 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [44247/20]

*423. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an application for an exceptional needs' payment in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44276/20]

*424. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the correct rate of benefit is being paid to a person (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [44281/20]

*425. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the Tús scheme will be reviewed in order to allow persons who have been participating on the scheme during the Covid-19 pandemic to extend the time they can remain on the scheme by the same time they missed out due to restrictions if they so choose in order to benefit from the experience gained on work placement; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [44283/20]

*426. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if provisions or supports have been put in place for persons who have contracted Covid-19 and as a result have been unable to work due to prolonged ill health who require an indefinite period of work leave; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44298/20]

*427. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will clarify the previous assurances given to workers (details supplied) in relation to payments to them as a result of short-time working; if claims dating back to the time of the operation of the temporary wage subsidy scheme have been dealt with; if these claims can be fast-tracked for the Christmas period; if her Department has been in contact with the company in relation to its employees who have not received any payments or have been underpaid for days on which they were laid off due to the miscategorisation of their position by the company on the UP38 form; if workers, in the period before the EWSS was initiated, are entitled to some payment if they were only working for some days in each week; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [44324/20]

*428. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to ensure there is delivery of a local employment service in County Galway by a company located in County Galway; when tenders will issue for such a service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44341/20]

*429. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons who are currently engaged with the JobPath scheme. — Claire Kerrane. [44348/20]

*430. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) qualifies for optical benefit under the treatment benefit scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [44364/20]

*431. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost of the domiciliary care allowance increased to €320 per month. — Paul Donnelly. [44408/20]

*432. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason there was no Christmas bonus issued to those claiming illness benefit. — Paul Donnelly. [44460/20]

*433. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons referred to the local employment service in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Claire Kerrane. [44502/20]

*434. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons engaged with the local employment service in each of the years 2015 to 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form. — Claire Kerrane. [44503/20]

*435. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons that were incorrectly paid the pandemic unemployment payment during Covid-19 restrictions to date. — Johnny Guirke. [44508/20]

*436. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the amount detected which has as paid out due to fraudulent claims. — Johnny Guirke. [44509/20]

*437. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a partial capacity benefit payment will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44512/20]

*438. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a pandemic unemployment scheme payment will be rerated in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44540/20]

*439. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the criteria in cases in which social welfare income including pension income is assessed against carers in relation to the carer's allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [44605/20]

*440. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an application for fuel allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44617/20]

*441. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of an appeal for a disability allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44618/20]

*442. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an application for fuel allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44619/20]

*443. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an application for fuel allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44620/20]

*444. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of an appeal for a carer's allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44621/20]

*445. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a review request for an application for invalidity pension in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44622/20]

*446. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress in respect of an appeal for a disability allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); when the appeal will be brought to conclusion; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44623/20]

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

*447. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the amount of parental leave available to parents of children at the moment; if it is planned to increase the amount of parental leave granted to parents of children under 13 years of age to enable them to strike the correct work life balance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44329/20]

*448. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the Community Participation (Disability) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2019 will be enacted. — Cathal Crowe. [44201/20]

*449. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015 will commence. — Cathal Crowe. [44202/20]

*450. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the Disability Act 2005 will be fully commenced. — Cathal Crowe. [44203/20]

*451. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when legislation will be brought forward for personal assistance services as a right in law, as per the motion unanimously supported by all parties and independents on 29 November 2019. — Cathal Crowe. [44204/20]

*452. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if funding is available to help with the purchase of a car for a family with a disabled child who has to travel from Tipperary to Dublin on a regular basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [44227/20]

*453. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the funding streams available to support the work of a project (details supplied); if her attention has been drawn to the extraordinary work it does; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [44232/20]

*454. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of paternity leave increasing from two to five weeks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [44275/20]

*455. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if counselling and support services will be available to all of those who will potentially be impacted by the publication of the mother and baby homes report on 11 January 2021; if it will be ensured that these services are advertised widely and that those affected will be directly contacted with details of the locations the services are available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44288/20]

*456. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the contract will be extended for the resource worker appointed to work with the 18 families recently resettled (details supplied) in County Longford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [44347/20]

*457. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the new protocols in place to guide best practice in the Covid-19 context for special minibuses, special education and supported work environments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44443/20]

*458. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if funding will be provided in 2021 to ensure the provision of a refuge centre in counties Cavan and Monaghan for victims of domestic abuse; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44480/20]

*459. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of school absences recorded in the State in each of the past three years; the number of school absences recorded in north County Kildare in particular since the outbreak of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44501/20]

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

*460. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a no detriment no disadvantage policy will be established in all third-level institutions with regard to the impact of the pandemic; if no student will be disadvantaged educationally, mentally or fiscally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44220/20]

*461. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he has spoken to the governing authority of University College Dublin on an issue (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44221/20]

*462. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will work with third-level institutions to ensure that persons pursuing a degree in art and design are not subject to materials levies for materials that are necessary for their degree work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44225/20]

*463. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if former members of the Defence Forces who are currently in receipt of a Defence Forces pension and working in the institutes of technology will be subject to abatement of their pensions if they receive a promotion after the formation of the technological universities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44358/20]

*464. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of registered employers in the apprenticeship programme; the number of active employers in the programme; the number of apprenticeship participants by type and by county in each of the years 2017 to 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44599/20]

*465. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of mature student apprentices currently enrolled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44600/20]

*466. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of new apprentices enrolled since the announcement of July stimulus; the way in which

the number compares to the same time period in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44601/20]

*467. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if any decision taken by the HSE regarding remuneration for nursing students would have an impact on the degree status of nursing in higher education; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44602/20]

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

*468. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons with an open application for leave to remain on humanitarian grounds at present. — Patrick Costello. [44172/20]

*469. To ask the Minister for Justice when a person (details supplied) will receive a decision on a citizenship application which is pending for some time; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [44192/20]

*470. To ask the Minister for Justice the parts of the gambling regulation Bill that need to be updated; the reason this will take until 2021; and if consideration has been given to utilising a similar Bill proposed by Fianna Fáil in 2018. — Thomas Gould. [44228/20]

*471. To ask the Minister for Justice the funding streams available to support the work of a project (details supplied); if her attention has been drawn to the extraordinary work it does; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [44229/20]

*472. To ask the Minister for Justice when the final version of the Youth Justice Strategy will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [44236/20]

*473. To ask the Minister for Justice when the next allocation of Garda recruits will be going to Templemore; if persons that were previously approved and on the waiting list will be contacted first in relation to offers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [44260/20]

*474. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of applications made for naturalisation that are still undecided which have been in the system for more than five years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [44258/20]

*475. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason for the delay in the naturalisation process for a person (details supplied); and when they will receive citizenship. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44282/20]

*476. To ask the Minister for Justice if her attention has been drawn to a serious problem with the online booking system to secure appointments at the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service in Dublin which persons have reported to this Deputy that is nearly impossible to make an appointment; and the progress that has been made to replace the booking system. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44308/20]

*477. To ask the Minister for Justice if the problem and resultant scam highlighted over a year ago regarding the online booking system used by the INIS in which it is being used by opportunists to block book appointments which are then it has been suggested are sold through social media

and phone apps have been addressed; and if not, if the issue still persists. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44309/20]

*478. To ask the Minister for Justice if she has received prison inspection reports from the Inspector of Prisons in 2020; if so, the prisons the reports related to; the month the report was received in each case; the planned timeline for publishing these reports; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44362/20]

*479. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to publish the reports received by her Department from prison chaplains in 2020; her further plans to publish an annual report of such reports; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44363/20]

*480. To ask the Minister for Justice the position regarding the delivery of actions 13.1 and 13.2 of the Action Plan for Online Safety 2018-2019; the specific actions that have been made to ensure industry signs up, complies and adheres to the ISPA Code of Practice and Ethics; the current sign-up percentage; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [44387/20]

*481. To ask the Minister for Justice the position regarding the delivery of action 13.3 of the Action Plan for Online Safety 2018-2019; if the engagement has taken place; when this extension will take place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [44388/20]

*482. To ask the Minister for Justice the position regarding the delivery of action 13.5 of the Action Plan for Online Safety 2018-2019; the results that have been found from this; if legislation is required; if she plans to extend the powers of proactively searching for child sexual abuse material online to hotline.ie; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [44389/20]

*483. To ask the Minister for Justice the position regarding the delivery of action 14.2 of the Action Plan for Online Safety 2018-2019; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [44390/20]

*484. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason the State has only implemented 34 measures of Directive 2011/93/EU relating to online child sexual abuse material; if she plans to implement the directive in full or further; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [44391/20]

*485. To ask the Minister for Justice if periods of interruption of employment in for example the hospitality sector due to Covid-19 will be held against a worker when they seek renewal of their work (details supplied); if not, if it will be sufficient to establish legal employment with the same employer at the start and at the end of the period with a period claiming the pandemic unemployment payment in between; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [44417/20]

*486. To ask the Minister for Justice the improvements she plans to implement to the CCTV scheme due to difficulties encountered by community groups in availing of the scheme as structured at present; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44469/20]

*487. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will ensure that adequate policing resources are provided in the Border region to deal with cross-Border criminal activity by persons and organised gangs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44522/20]

*488. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of prosecutions and or convictions under the purchase of sexual services section of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017 since the Act was commenced until 1 December 2020; the number of persons prosecuted and or convicted that identified as sex workers in the legislation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [44562/20]

*489. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of prosecutions and or convictions under the Criminal Law (Human Trafficking) Act 2008 and the Criminal Law (Human Trafficking) (Amendment) Act 2013 since the respective commencement of each Act until 1 December 2020; the number of persons prosecuted and or convicted according to the categories of trafficked individuals for the purpose of sexual exploitation or labour exploitation, forced criminality, forced begging and or the removal of their organs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [44563/20]

*490. To ask the Minister for Justice if her attention has been drawn to instances in which the Irish Prison Service is not facilitating remote work for employees that are high risk due to underlying medical conditions despite recommendations from the medical adviser of the service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44604/20]

*491. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in the determination of an application for citizenship in the case of a person (details supplied); if the original passports can be returned as soon as possible; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44624/20]

*492. To ask the Minister for Justice if arrangements can be made for a person (details supplied) to return to Clondalkin Towers in which they previously resided; the current status in respect of their application for residency status; if compassionate consideration will be given to their case with particular reference to their medical circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44625/20]

*493. To ask the Minister for Justice when immigration status naturalisation will be facilitated in the case of a person (details supplied); if their case can be urgently considered regardless of previous developments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44629/20]

*494. To ask the Minister for Justice if urgent consideration will be given to an application for naturalisation in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44630/20]

*495. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which a request for immigration access to naturalisation remains available in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44631/20]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*496. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a repayment under the nursing home support scheme 2009 is being requested (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [44212/20]

*497. To ask the Minister for Health when he plans to extend the pay restoration that has commenced for 50 section 39 organisations to the remaining 250 similar organisations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44289/20]

*498. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE or the Department of Health has drawn up national guidelines for resuming the full range of supports for persons with disabilities and their careers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44442/20]

*499. To ask the Minister for Health the new protocols in place to guide best practice in the Covid-19 context in respect of home based care, personal assistants, transport to disability day service, respite and attending for specialist assessment and or therapy.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44443/20]

*500. To ask the Minister for Health the additional supports in place for persons with special needs and their families to help persons return to a structured day; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44444/20]

*501. To ask the Minister for Health the plan for persons with disabilities that live with their partners, spouses, parents and families in the HSE roadmap to reopening; the person they or a concerned other contact should apply for reassignment of pre-Covid-19 supports; the additional supports available to these families to support everyone establish daily and weekly routines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44445/20]

*502. To ask the Minister for Health the plan for re-establishing respite supports for persons with disabilities both emergency and planned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44446/20]

*503. To ask the Minister for Health the process for families to flag their need for respite or additional supports for persons with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44447/20]

*504. To ask the Minister for Health the plan for adults with disabilities that live alone in the HSE roadmap to reopening; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44448/20]

*505. To ask the Minister for Health the process to apply for reassignment of pre-Covid-19 supports for persons with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44449/20]

*506. To ask the Minister for Health the person or body being prioritised for home-based supports at the present time; the criteria being applied to determine priority; the way in which this is likely to change over the coming months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44450/20]

*507. To ask the Minister for Health his plans regarding the resumption of care and support of the person with the disability in order that families can return to work and education; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44451/20]

*508. To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting list time for first and review assessments for speech and language assessment and speech and language therapy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44452/20]

*509. To ask the Minister for Health if all HSE disability services staff that were redeployed to other duties during the lockdown have now fully returned to their own team and operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44453/20]

*510. To ask the Minister for Health if support packages for persons with dementia, acquired brain injuries and or chronic mental health difficulties is included in the brief for HSE disability services; if not, the person or body that are the relevant local managers responsible for these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44454/20]

*511. To ask the Minister for Health the way in which the community sector can improve its cooperation with HSE disability services in the best interests of local persons of all ages that have disabilities, their families and those who work with and for them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44455/20]

*512. To ask the Minister for Health the plans in place to support a community (details supplied) in its work to secure the short-term accommodation of its residents and ensure the earliest possible reopening; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44491/20]

*513. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider the fire responder scheme (details supplied) as a secondary stand by in the case of an ambulance not being available in the case of an echo. — Johnny Mythen. [44516/20]

*514. To ask the Minister for Health the HSE guidance on recovery for sufferers of long-term Covid-19 issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44150/20]

*515. To ask the Minister for Health if he plans to meet with a person (details supplied) to address a matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44156/20]

*516. To ask the Minister for Health the number of referrals received by the dedicated cataract clinic in Nenagh, County Tipperary for patients living in west County Cork during 2019 and to date in 2020; if the HSE encouraged medical professionals in counties Cork and Kerry to avail of this service; the approximate time a patient will have to wait for treatments; the measures that have been agreed in the national service plan to improve waiting times for persons requiring eye procedures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [44170/20]

*517. To ask the Minister for Health the process that was involved in the considerations that were made in order to arrive at the decision to repurpose St. Brigid's Hospital, Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary; and if his attention has been drawn to the way that this impacts on the ability of sick family members to remain close to their families or in the community. — Martin Browne. [44180/20]

*518. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the importance of persons receiving convalescent or palliative care to remain close to their families; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [44181/20]

*519. To ask the Minister for Health if the two facilities that are to act as alternatives for persons that would otherwise receive convalescent or palliative care at St. Brigid's, Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary have been identified; if so, if he will provide details of same; if the facilities will be run by private operators; and the projected cost of using same. — Martin Browne. [44182/20]

*520. To ask the Minister for Health if persons with Down's syndrome will be prioritised for the Covid-19 vaccination due to their higher risk from the disease; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [44184/20]

*521. To ask the Minister for Health if yoga studios will be allowed reopen with immediate effect in view that dance studios were allowed to reopen with pods of one, up to a maximum of 15 in a room (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [44191/20]

*522. To ask the Minister for Health the status of discussions and or meetings and or correspondence he has had with an organisation (details supplied) with regards to its announcement that it will be withdrawing from its disability and mental health services in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44222/20]

*523. To ask the Minister for Health the plans he has to ensure that residents that were in a facility (details supplied) are housed appropriately after the closure of the facility on Merrion Road, Dublin 4; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44223/20]

*524. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a non-EU national junior doctor does not have the same access to training programmes as EU junior doctors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44226/20]

*525. To ask the Minister for Health the funding streams available to support the work of a project (details supplied); if her attention has been drawn to the extraordinary work it does; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [44230/20]

*526. To ask the Minister for Health the funding provided in budget 2021 to support those addressing gambling addiction, education programmes surrounding the dangers of gambling and the importance of accessing support for harmful gambling. — Thomas Gould. [44233/20]

*527. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 596 of 8 December 2020, the position regarding the creation of MDTs in CHO 6, 7 and 9; the position regarding recruitment and appointment of optometrists, orthoptists and other support staff to deliver care in these teams; the locations of the MDTs; the anticipated delivery time frame; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [44237/20]

*528. To ask the Minister for Health if sufficient mental health supports will be put in place in advance of the publication of the report of the commission of inquiry to include all adoptees and survivors and not just those that could participate in the commission's inquiry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44239/20]

*529. To ask the Minister for Health if an appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [44240/20]

*530. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for appointments in CAMHS; the average waiting times by CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44241/20]

*531. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults waiting for appointments for mental health services; the average waiting times by CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44242/20]

*532. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults waiting for appointments in the adult primary care psychology service; the average waiting times by CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44243/20]

*533. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for appointments in the primary care child psychology service; the average waiting times by CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44244/20]

*534. To ask the Minister for Health the number of psychologists employed in the adult primary care psychology service; the average waiting times by CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44245/20]

*535. To ask the Minister for Health the number of child psychologists employed in the child primary care psychology service; the average waiting times by CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44246/20]

*536. To ask the Minister for Health the measures he is taking to reduce the three-year waiting list to see a paediatric rheumatologist; when the third paediatric rheumatologist will be employed; the outcome of the meetings (details supplied) on the matter of increased risk of juvenile arthritis in children with Down's syndrome in November 2019; the way his Department is raising awareness of the increased risk of juvenile arthritis in children with Down's syndrome to general practitioners and other healthcare professionals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [44250/20]

*537. To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of patients admitted to Keltoi for isolation purposes including the location they were referred from and the reason they could not make use of the facility in Citywest, Dublin 24. — Thomas Gould. [44257/20]

*538. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a suitable location for a community alcohol treatment service has not been secured (details supplied); the way the allocated funding for the inoperative service is being used; if he has engaged with the HSE regarding resumption of this service; when he expects this service to recommence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44259/20]

*539. To ask the Minister for Health if persons with special needs and disabilities are included in the grouping of persons in the 18 to 64 age category with underlying health conditions in the provisional vaccine allocation groups document; if not, the category they are in; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44261/20]

*540. To ask the Minister for Health if he will increase membership of the dialogue forum with voluntary bodies to include union representatives; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44262/20]

*541. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will have a knee operation. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44263/20]

*542. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients from Tallaght and St. James's hospitals that were prepped for surgery and then sent home as there were no recovery beds available in the past five years. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44264/20]

*543. To ask the Minister for Health the funding provided to a charity (details supplied) in 2020; if the amount was an increase on 2019; the services for which the funding was to be used; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44267/20]

*544. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department has been in contact with an organisation (details supplied) with regard to the restrictions placed on indoor training due to Covid-19; and his plans to engage with the organisation to allow artistic roller skating to proceed in a safe and secure manner under level 3 restrictions. — Louise O'Reilly. [44270/20]

*545. To ask the Minister for Health if he plans to allow swimming classes to operate within level 3 restrictions. — Louise O'Reilly. [44271/20]

*546. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department has been in contact with yoga teachers with regard to the restrictions placed on indoor yoga due to Covid-19; and his plans to engage with them to allow yoga to proceed, in a safe and secure manner under level 3 restrictions. — Louise O'Reilly. [44272/20]

*547. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 485 of 10 December 2020, if non-Fáilte Ireland affiliated venues have to comply with the Fáilte Ireland guidelines which ban music and dancing. — Louise O'Reilly. [44273/20]

*548. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children admitted to adult psychiatric services in each of the years 2017 to 2019 and to date in 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [44278/20]

*549. To ask the Minister for Health if the approval of a medical card for a person (details supplied) will be expedited. — John McGuinness. [44280/20]

*550. To ask the Minister for Health if the approval of a medical card will be expedited for a person (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [44284/20]

*551. To ask the Minister for Health if clinics for those who have suffered from Covid-19 have been established in hospitals in order to manage patients with complications as a result of a Covid-19 diagnosis or who require follow-up care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44292/20]

*552. To ask the Minister for Health if a national strategy will be put in place pertaining to the operations of clinics for those who have suffered from Covid-19; if consideration has been given to the ring-fencing of funding either at local hospital group level or national level for persons who have contracted Covid-19 and as a result have suffered prolonged ill health; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44293/20]

*553. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to classifying Covid-19 as a long-term medical condition in view of the long-term ill health and complications experienced by some who contracted the disease; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44294/20]

*554. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to implementing coordinated services on a national level for persons who have contracted Covid-19 who are since recovering but require follow-up care or referrals to specialists where necessary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44295/20]

*555. To ask the Minister for Health if a coordinated national strategy on follow-up care for those who have contracted and been affected on a long-term basis due to Covid-19 has been

discussed between his Department and hospitals with post-Covid clinic facilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44296/20]

*556. To ask the Minister for Health if persons who have contracted Covid-19 in 2020 will be included in priority groups under the roll out of the Covid-19 vaccination programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44297/20]

*557. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the drug plenadren has not been licensed for use in Ireland despite being licensed by the European Medicines Agency nearly ten years ago; and his views on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44299/20]

*558. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to requesting the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics to re-evaluate its decision in 2013 not to recommend a full pharmacoeconomic evaluation and its decision in 2017 that reimbursement is not recommended at the submitted price given that the price in two years may have substantially dropped since then, the number of patients in Ireland is low and that plenadren has a variety of prices in other EU states. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44300/20]

*559. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the rare and often forgotten medical condition craniopharyngioma; the number of children with the condition; the number of adult sufferers here; and his views on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44301/20]

*560. To ask the Minister for Health if there have been negotiations with the manufacture of the drug plenadren to obtain a discount supply to treat the few patients in Ireland who would be able to avail of this life-changing drug if it was discounted, subsidised by the HSE or available on their medical cards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44302/20]

*561. To ask the Minister for Health if he has had communications with health authorities in other EU states with a view to bulk purchasing the drug plenadren from a pharmaceutical company (details supplied) to achieve a price reduction for national health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44303/20]

*562. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the drug plenadren is coming off licence in 2021; the steps that can be taken to encourage other pharmaceutical companies to commence production of the drug at a more affordable price for patients or their health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [44304/20]

*563. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to awarding a consultant contract to existing specialists in public health medicine as per the recommendations of the Crowe Horwath report, the Scally report and the report of the Covid-19 Nursing Homes Expert Panel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44305/20]

*564. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to implementing targeted measures to recruit and retain hospital consultants across all specialities in order to increase the number of consultant posts in line with the recommended ratios of the National Clinical Programmes and the postgraduate training bodies and to address the shortage of hospital consultants in Ireland in comparison to its European counterparts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44306/20]

*565. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to increasing the number of basic and higher postgraduate specialist training posts in order to meet the demand with the

number of posts frontloaded in year one accompanied by a corresponding increase in the number of consultants required to provide training; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44307/20]

*566. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to the modernisation of postgraduate specialist training reflecting changes in the practice of medicine and the changing demographics of doctors in training by establishing a differentiated model which provides clearer career paths with greater predictability of training arrangements, greater predictability at the outset of training schemes regarding locations of rotations over the course of a scheme and the improvement of working conditions as set out in the recommendations made in the report of the Strategic Review of Medical Training and Career Structures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44310/20]

*567. To ask the Minister for Health if investment of targeted incentives for general practice for the development of infrastructure including premises, medical equipment, diagnostic equipment and IT equipment will be considered as per the recommendations in a report (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44311/20]

*568. To ask the Minister for Health if further financial supports to allow newly established general practices remain financially viable and open to patients will be reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44312/20]

*569. To ask the Minister for Health if further financial supports will be considered in order for established general practices to employ additional general practitioners, practice nurses and other support staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44313/20]

*570. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to establishing a multi-annual programme of investment in 5,000 additional public acute bed capacity including investment in standalone public hospitals for elective care and a doubling of critical care capacity to 550 critical care beds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44314/20]

*571. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to expanding access to diagnostic, radiology and laboratory services to allow timely access to investigations and results of same to general practitioners which will support them in appropriately managing patients in the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44315/20]

*572. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to the further resourcing of diagnostic, radiology and laboratory departments in hospitals to allow timely access to investigations and results of same for hospital doctors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [44316/20]

*573. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 596 of 8 December 2020, the position regarding the creation of MDTs in CHOs 6, 7 and 9; the position regarding recruitment and appointment of optometrists, orthoptists and other support staff to deliver care in these teams; the locations of these MDTs; the anticipated delivery time frame; the locations of the MDTs nationwide; the date of the MDTs delivery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Browne. [44321/20]

*574. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration has been given to amending the provisional vaccine allocation groups to prioritise persons with Down's syndrome; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe O'Brien. [44331/20]

*575. To ask the Minister for Health if an immediate long-term placement will be provided for a person (details supplied); the action to be taken by him to accommodate them and other residents affected; the reason for the sudden decision to close the facility and the complete lack of engagement with the residents and families concerned; the date his Department and the HSE were informed of the closure; and if a process will be put in place to inform all concerned including the staff. — John McGuinness. [44344/20]

*576. To ask the Minister for Health when a grant application by an organisation (details supplied) will be decided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44350/20]

*577. To ask the Minister for Health the number of local community health infrastructure projects currently underway by CHO; if they are in primary care, social care or mental health; the cost of each; and the expected date of completion in tabular form. — John Lahart. [44368/20]

*578. To ask the Minister for Health the number of local community health infrastructure projects completed in 2020 by CHO; if they are in primary care, social care or mental health; and the cost of each in tabular form. — John Lahart. [44369/20]

*579. To ask the Minister for Health the number of infrastructure projects completed in 2020 in each hospital group; and the cost of each project in tabular form. — John Lahart. [44370/20]

*580. To ask the Minister for Health the number of infrastructure projects currently underway in each hospital group; the cost of each project; and the expected date of completion in tabular form. — John Lahart. [44371/20]

*581. To ask the Minister for Health the way in which persons who receive a negative PCR test will be picked up by the tracing service further to advice to persons travelling into Ireland that if they obtain a negative PCR test after five days they do not need to restrict their movements further; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44377/20]

*582. To ask the Minister for Health if he plans to introduce a legal underpinning to the provision that persons travelling into Ireland may reduce the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days if they obtain a negative PCR test after five days in view of the statements by the Taoiseach and the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment that such underpinning may be required; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44378/20]

*583. To ask the Minister for Health the resources to be made available for the development of the ambulatory care hubs; the location of the first phase of hubs; the reason level 2 hospital sites were not considered for such hubs in view of the fact that many are already dealing with large numbers of older persons and those with chronic illness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [44382/20]

*584. To ask the Minister for Health the reason Roscommon town was not considered as a location for one of the 18 new ambulatory care teams in view of the current expertise in chronic and geriatric care at Roscommon University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [44383/20]

*585. To ask the Minister for Health if matters raised by a person (details supplied) in relation to pregnant women from 28 weeks going on health and safety leave will be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [44394/20]

*586. To ask the Minister for Health if funding will be allocated for the recruitment of an additional full-time consultant paediatric with a special interest in children's palliative medicine for Temple Street Children's University Hospital. — Paul Donnelly. [44407/20]

*587. To ask the Minister for Health when the Edenmore primary care centre will open; and the services the centre will provide. — Richard Bruton. [44427/20]

*588. To ask the Minister for Health when equipment will be made available to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [44432/20]

*589. To ask the Minister for Health the amount spent by his Department and the HSE on PPE, ventilators, related hardware and medicines directly related to the mitigation and contingency plans for dealing with Covid-19 since 1 February to date in 2020; the number of purchases that were made outside of the public procurement process; and if the Office of Government Procurement was engaged with and or consulted with in respect of these purchases. — Catherine Murphy. [44435/20]

*590. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an assessment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [44437/20]

*591. To ask the Minister for Health if a community out of hours mental health nursing facility is available in north County Cork in respect of a person (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [44438/20]

*592. To ask the Minister for Health the name and location of rehabilitation detox services that have been closed and used as isolation facilities due to Covid-19. — Thomas Gould. [44439/20]

*593. To ask the Minister for Health if increased funding will be made available in 2021 to the drug taskforces in view of the increased demand for services in this area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44463/20]

*594. To ask the Minister for Health if the business practice of cold-calling in person to person's homes is permitted during Covid-19 restrictions; if it is provided for within the levels for Living with Covid; if so, the levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44473/20]

*595. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking in response to evidence from a cross-disciplinary group of Irish researchers (details supplied) that a sufficient level of vitamin D helps to safeguard against susceptibility to Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44476/20]

*596. To ask the Minister for Health the details of the agreement between his Department and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland to commission the recent review by the Authority of the national vitamin D guidelines; if a literature review was required as part of the report; if the review referred to the issue of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44477/20]

*597. To ask the Minister for Health if the membership of the Public Health Nutrition sub-committee convened to generate the Food Safety Authority of Ireland report Vitamin D – Scientific Recommendations for Food-Based Dietary Guidelines for Older Adults in Ireland included specialist expertise in the areas of immunology, virology, infectious disease or geriatric medicine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44478/20]

*598. To ask the Minister for Health if an independent expert group will be convened to examine the evidence linking vitamin D levels and susceptibility to Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [44479/20]

*599. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 916 of 24 November 2020, if officials in his Department have concluded their examination of the matter; and the reason for not publishing the Smith Report. — Róisín Shortall. [44483/20]

*600. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to address the needs and difficulties of persons living with limb damage caused by the drug thalidomide (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44496/20]

*601. To ask the Minister for Health the plans in place in terms of beds and staffing to meet a possible Covid-19 surge at Naas General Hospital post-Christmas 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44497/20]

*602. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults and teenagers being treated for alcohol-related injury and illness in each of the past three years; the number in north County Kildare in particular; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44498/20]

*603. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults and children awaiting both psychological assessment and therapy nationally; the number in north County Kildare in each of the past three years; the number waiting more than three and six months in each group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [44499/20]

*604. To ask the Minister for Health the reason vulnerable persons under 70 years of age with underlining conditions such as leukaemia that fall into the HSE defined very high risk from Covid-19 are not in the same group as the over 70s for the roll out of the Covid-19 vaccine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [44507/20]

*605. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the development of a primary health centre (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [44514/20]

*606. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to ensure that any woman who initiated a legal abortion in this country and is forced to travel if the abortion fails will receive the care they need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [44521/20]

*607. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 916 of 24 November 2020, if officials in his Department have concluded their examination of the matter; the reason a report (details supplied) on the proposed National Genomic and Genetic Medicine Strategy has not been published; and if he will publish it without delay. — Róisín Shortall. [44543/20]

*608. To ask the Minister for Health if a workplace which chooses to close due to concerns in relation to the risk of Covid-19 due to a 10% positivity rate should be forced to remain open; his views on whether is safe and in the best interest of the health and safety of those in that workplace; if there are workplaces other than schools which would be forced to open under these circumstances; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [44550/20]

*609. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to provide MRI services for children who are waiting in excess of two years for a MRI; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [44553/20]

*610. To ask the Minister for Health if funding has been secured to complete works at Monasterevin day care centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [44568/20]

*611. To ask the Minister for Health if he will take steps to expedite funding for gene-silencing treatment for amyloidosis such as patisiran and equivalent drugs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [44569/20]

*612. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for scoliosis treatment and surgery; the wait time for same; his plans to ensure no child is waiting while their health deteriorates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [44579/20]

*613. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists that have withdrawn from the dental treatment services scheme; the number of dentists remaining in the scheme by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44587/20]

*614. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting on lists as both inpatients and outpatients for Mayo University Hospital; the average wait time; the number waiting more than one, two, three and four years, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44591/20]

*615. To ask the Minister for Health the wait time for outpatient appointments at Mayo University Hospital and University Hospital Galway, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44592/20]

*616. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on the waiting list to see a paediatrician in County Mayo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44593/20]

*617. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children awaiting an outpatient appointment at Mayo University Hospital and University Hospital Galway; the comparison to the same period in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44594/20]

*618. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting to access the National Counselling Service by county; the average wait time; the number of persons waiting over one year by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44595/20]

*619. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting for cataracts surgery by county; the average wait time; the number waiting over one, two, three and four years, respectively by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44596/20]

*620. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting for physiotherapy services by county; the average wait time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44597/20]

*621. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for physiotherapy services by county; the average wait time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44598/20]

*622. To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date in the determination of eligibility for a medical card in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44614/20]

*623. To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date in the determination of eligibility for a medical card in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44615/20]

*624. To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date in the determination of eligibility for a medical card in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44616/20]

*625. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which it is proposed to augment and provide improved youth mental health services throughout the country with particular reference to assessment and availability of residential places in which warranted and comprehensive follow-up in respect of individual cases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44626/20]

*626. To ask the Minister for Health the steps taken or planned to address the serious deficiencies in child and adult mental health services; when he expects to be in a position to provide the serious improvement in such services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44627/20]

*627. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for improvement in all aspects of mental psychiatric health services with a view to ensuring availability and access to services throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44628/20]

*628. To ask the Minister for Health when access to counselling will be facilitated in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44632/20]

*629. To ask the Minister for Health the position in regard to the restoration of speech and language and other therapies for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [44634/20]

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

*630. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if an area aid payment was made to a farmer (details supplied) in County Kerry pre-2002; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44152/20]

*631. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will consider requesting a report from the Department of Transport with regard to proposals for the continued realignment of the R572 from the N71 to Castletownbere fishing port; if EU funding is still available for such necessary improvements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [44153/20]

*632. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [44155/20]

*633. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department or any agencies within his remit have observed a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [44183/20]

*634. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the issues that have arisen regarding tree felling licences have been resolved; the number of applications waiting to be dealt with by his Department; the time frame for this process; and if he will expedite the process. — John McGuinness. [44266/20]

*635. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the progress made to date in resolving the issue in relation to licensing timber felling and forestry roads which is vital for the efficient working of timber mills here; the details of the increase of raw material that has been licensed as a result during the past two months; the number of forestry roads that have been licensed; the further steps he plans taking in relation to this matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44328/20]

*636. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the steps he is taking to ensure that pelagic mid water pair trawling in boats over ten metres is prohibited from fishing within ten kilometres of the coast in order to protect the inshore fishing fleet, while allowing mid-sized boats that traditionally fished for species such as prawns and that do not have a capacity for fishing far offshore to continue fishing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44339/20]

*637. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the average waiting time for decisions on aquaculture licensing appeals to the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board; if he plans to provide additional staff to the Board; his plans to amend legislation or take other steps to assist the Board reducing the time delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44351/20]

*638. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to digitise the records of the Land Commission and make them available to the public and to scholars electronically in view of the 100th anniversary of the Land Commission in 2023 and the historical importance of the documents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [44356/20]

*639. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the issues discussed at the most recent meeting of the beef forum; the date and agenda for the next meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44395/20]

*640. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the progress to date in ensuring that approved merchant stores will continue to sell veterinary medicines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44396/20]

*641. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the progress to date in reducing the delays in processing forestry felling applications which have adversely affected the supply of timber products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44397/20]

*642. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the estimated acreage of forestry affected by ash dieback disease; the costs incurred in implementing measures to counteract the spread of this disease; the further measures to be undertaken; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [44398/20]

*643. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the way in which the shortfall of felling licences will be made up when 16,309 hectares of felling licences have issued to date in 2020 compared to the equivalent figure of 56,080 hectares in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [44418/20]

*644. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the way in which he plans to issue the 9,000 forestry licences each year or 750 licences per month that the forest and timber industry requires when currently it issued only 274 licences in November 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [44419/20]

*645. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the date the backlog of forestry licences will be cleared; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [44422/20]

*646. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if all seizures of horses made under SI 62 of 2016, the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013 and the Control of Horses Act 1996, are included in the national horse seizure statistics figure; if not, his plans to ensure that all horse seizures are included in the national figure in view of the fact without the inclusion of some the national horse figure provided is erroneous; if he will ensure that all of the legislation will be enforced in order to reduce and eliminate continuing and blatant disregard for the law on animal welfare in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [44441/20]

*647. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to increase afforestation levels to 8,000 hectares per year as set out in the recently published Ag Climatise – A Roadmap towards Climate Neutrality in view of the ongoing licensing crisis and the fact that afforestation rates for 2020 are currently only 2,000 hectares; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44472/20]

*648. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to provide for the necessary forestry licences to increase afforestation levels to 8,000 hectares per year given his Department is having difficulties processing licences for 2,000 hectares per year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44474/20]

*649. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of appeals the Forestry Appeals Committee is dealing with on a weekly basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44484/20]

*650. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason divisions 2, 3 and 4 of the FAC are only sitting one day per week in view of the urgent nature of the crisis in the forestry and timber industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [44486/20]

*651. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the animal welfare measures taken by Greyhound Racing Ireland in 2019 and to date in 2020; the monitoring mechanisms of same in place by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44526/20]

*652. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the actions taken by his Department and Greyhound Racing Ireland to address greyhound culling; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44527/20]

*653. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department has considered the mandatory installation of CCTV in meat processing plants with a view to ensuring animal health and welfare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44528/20]

*654. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the budget measures introduced as part of Budget 2021 to support suckler farmers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44529/20]

*655. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to support the Irish seed potato sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44530/20]

*656. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to support the Irish seed potato sector post-Brexit should the import of seed potato from the UK no longer be possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44531/20]

*657. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the involvement his Department has had in the development of the National Marine Planning Framework; the consideration given to the inclusion of fisheries and aquaculture; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44532/20]

*658. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the date by which it is intended to have all farmed mink in Ireland culled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44533/20]

*659. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of mink intended to be culled in relation to Covid-19. — Matt Carthy. [44534/20]

*660. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the manner by which it is intended to cull mink; the persons or bodies that will carry out the cull; the persons or bodies that will supervise them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44535/20]

*661. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if mink have been culled to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44536/20]

*662. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the persons or bodies that will be responsible for culled mink carcasses; the way in which they will be disposed of; the persons or bodies that will supervise their disposal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44537/20]

*663. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason mussels and salmon landed in ports are not included in SFPFA landing figures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [44566/20]

*664. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number waiting and the average waiting times to avail of the targeted agricultural modernisation scheme by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44588/20]

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

*665. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the stability fund application by an organisation (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [44200/20]

*666. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her plans to provide a new library at Ballybay, County Monaghan; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [44515/20]

*667. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding being allocated for the Leader programme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [43593/20]

*668. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of the establishment of a network of broadband connection points in south western areas of County Cork; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [43594/20]

*669. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that will be provided in County Cork under the local improvement scheme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [43595/20]

*670. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that will be provided in County Clare under the local improvement scheme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [43597/20]

*671. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if a local community organisation can avail of grant funding to convert a premises in the village of Moyne, County Tipperary into a community co-operative shop; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [44265/20]

*672. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will respond to queries raised (details supplied) in respect of the local company development perspective application for Covid stability funding; and if she will seek urgent clarification for the NGO. — Fergus O'Dowd. [44279/20]

*673. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if a source of fundraising will be available to non-local authority community centres in early 2021 due to Covid-19 impacting on their own fundraising via draws and collections and so on. — Paul Donnelly. [44458/20]

*674. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if a clear information pack will be made available for service users of community centres on the impact of Covid-19 restrictions on their particular sector. — Paul Donnelly. [44459/20]

*675. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her plans for remote working hubs in County Cork. — Thomas Gould. [44546/20]

*676. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of projects and administration allocations under the Leader transitional programme; the funding provided for new Leader projects in 2021; the funding identified for the delivery and administration of the Leader

programme in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [44603/20]

*677. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will ensure that all community services programme workers and the organisations in which they work many of which have continued to provide essential services during the Covid-19 crisis have their full funding needs guaranteed by her Department for the duration of the Covid-19 pandemic and for the subsequent ongoing service requirements caused by the pandemic. — Paul Murphy. [44607/20]