DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoín, 23 Meán Fómhair, 2021
Thursday, 23rd September, 2021

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

1. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he has given further consideration to amending the public sector sick pay or occupational injury and illness schemes in relation to long-Covid; if so, if the estimated cost or estimated range will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [45428/21]

2. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the flood relief scheme in Bantry, County Cork. — Holly Cairns. [45593/21]

3. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the remit the new interim Procurement Reform Board; the terms of reference of the board; if a list of board members will be provided; the stakeholders that will be consulted; the proposed date for the board to publish its findings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [45429/21]

4. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if funding will be set aside in order to provide an additional two weeks annual leave to health workers (details supplied). — Michael Collins. [45920/21]

5. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the review of freedom of information legislation; the person or body that will be carrying out the review; the terms of reference of the review; the timeline for the completion of the review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [45634/21]

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

6. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform when the review of the National Development Plan 2018-2027 will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [45684/21]

7. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the remit for his review of the freedom of information system by the terms of reference, stakeholders to be consulted; the proposed date of publication of its findings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [45419/21]
8. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform when he expects the review of the National Lottery to be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [45685/21]

9. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform when he expects Barryscourt Castle, Carrigtwohill, County Cork to open to visitors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [45452/21]

10. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will provide an outline of recent communications with the Minister for Health pertaining to the scale of non-competitive and non-compliant procurement practices by the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [45498/21]

11. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the progress of the Office of Public Works project at Carlow Castle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [45070/21]

12. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will consider a Covid-19 bonus for public sector workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [45070/21]

13. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will consider instituting a change in the tendering process which would facilitate further submissions to be made after a closing date, similar to the recent changes in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [45570/21]

14. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will provide an overview of the way his Department proposes to deal with ongoing vandalism and desecration of graves at Clare Abbey, Ennis, County Clare. — Cathal Crowe. [45585/21]

15. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the funding that the Exchequer will receive from the EU Brexit Adjustment Reserve; the expected timeframe for receipt of that funding; if he proposes to initiate a consolation process regarding the distribution of this funding; and the other proposals he plans to present in this regard. — Matt Carthy. [44746/21]

16. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the Glashaboy flood relief scheme; the status of the tender process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [45413/21]

17. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which civil service personnel are likely to continue remote working; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [45453/21]

18. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the position regarding the provision of an improved landing facility on An Blascaod Mór; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45698/21]

19. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the future use of St. Laurence’s Gate, Drogheda; if costings and feasibility reports have been undertaken in respect of opening the landmark for public tours and so on to further encourage tourism into the town centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O’Dowd. [45495/21]
20. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he is satisfied with the process of Government appointments in light of the recently aborted appointment of a former Minister to a UN position; and his views on whether the Public Service Management (Recruitment and Appointment) Act 2004 needs to be amended in this regard. — Mairéad Farrell. [45415/21]

21. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the plans he has in place to review the oversight and governance of major spending projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [45656/21]

22. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the measures he plans to put in place to deal with the under investment in the Northern and Western Regional Assembly areas and to move the region from a region in transition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [45653/21]

23. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if there has been engagement with the Department of Community and Rural Development in relation to vacant buildings owned or under the remit of the OPW; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45699/21]

24. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his policy on blended working in the Civil Service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [45713/21]

25. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his views on the work to improve the diversity of State boards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [45411/21]

26. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the work on determining the disbursement of Ireland’s allocation of over €1 billion from the Brexit Adjustment Fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [45438/21]

27. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the amount of the State’s expenditure in 2022 that will be allocated by way of competitive bidding for resources based on the quality or innovation of proposals; the Departments that make least use of such models; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [44808/21]

28. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he is satisfied with the process of Government appointments in view of recent events; and his views on whether the Public Service Management (Recruitment and Appointment) Act 2004 needs to be amended in this regard. — Sorca Clarke. [45587/21]

29. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will provide an update on the under-profile and outturn of capital expenditure to date in 2021; if he will provide an update on the revised National Development Plan; if the National Development Plan will address the recent IPCC report and set out clear plans and targets with respect to climate action; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [45499/21]

30. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if all public sector workers will be receiving a pay rise on 1 October 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [45686/21]
31. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [45714/21]

32. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he has held discussions with the Minister for Finance with regard to the need to raise additional revenue to fund permanent current expenditure increases given his intention that Government borrowing would only be for capital investment purposes by 2023 as stated in his recent updates to the Cabinet on Expenditure Management and Spending Strategy for Budget 2022 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [45497/21]

33. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the date of the final publication of the revised National Development Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [45416/21]

34. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform when the flood relief scheme in Skibbereen, County Cork will be officially completed. — Holly Cairns. [45592/21]

35. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the current position in relation to the flood alleviation scheme for Crossmolina, County Mayo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [45421/21]

36. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will report on the PEACE PLUS cross-Border EU programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [45423/21]

37. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the reason for his decision to propose a full new review of ethics legislation rather than restore the existing Public Sector Standards Bill 2015 to the order paper of Dáil Éireann; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [45496/21]

38. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the progress being made to strengthen gender diversity on State boards across the public sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [45688/21]

39. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will make the funds available in Budget 2022 to bring funding for education up to the OECD average of 4.9% of GDP; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [45646/21]

40. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will provide space for a play area in Dun Chaoin on the site of Ionad an Bhlascaoid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45697/21]

41. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his views on the latest publication by the OECD which places Ireland at the bottom of a list of 36 OECD countries in terms of the amount of GDP being invested in education; his plans for improving this record; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [45603/21]

42. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will report on capital expenditure to date in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45493/21]
43. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if in the context of economic progress over the next year, he expects to invoke any further reforms to address any likely issues that might arise; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45599/21]

44. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of plans to carry out remedial works to the railings at Carlow courthouse being managed by the Office of Public Works on behalf of the Courts Service; if there is an update to tender documentation for the repair of ten sections of the railings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [45071/21]

45. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he plans to change public sector procurement to make the process more accessible to small suppliers and contractors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [45654/21]

46. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his plans to review freedom of information legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [45687/21]

47. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of a scheme (details supplied); when it is likely to proceed to approval; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [45639/21]

48. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform when the review of the National Development Plan will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [45454/21]

49. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the CFRAM programme specifically in relation to schemes in County Louth; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [45568/21]

50. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the expected timeframe for completion of an overflow pipe at Lough Funshinagh. — Matt McCarthy. [44887/21]

51. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the steps he is taking to achieve the 20% target for remote working across the public service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45398/21]

52. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if his Department has provided for the recent pay agreement with school secretaries and caretakers in Budget 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [45716/21]

53. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the work on determining the disbursement of Ireland’s allocation of over €1 billion from the Brexit Adjustment Reserve Fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [45211/21]

54. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his views on the call for Covid-19 bonuses in terms of improved pay and conditions for frontline workers and those otherwise negatively impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [43773/21]

55. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the planned expenditure on flood relief in Cork city over the next ten years. — Thomas Gould. [45594/21]
56. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the details of the work underway to introduce blended working into the Civil Service in a way that provides flexibility for workers whilst maintaining customer service levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [45402/21]

57. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if will review the efficacy of the Public Appointment Services in view of both the protracted appointment of the Shannon Group chairperson which has taken 13 months to date coupled with another fact (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [45426/21]

58. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the cumulative additional spending his Department has sanctioned as a consequence of the pandemic since March 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [45488/21]

59. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the Brexit Adjustment Fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [45424/21]

60. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the estimated overall level of Covid-19 related public expenditure that he anticipates in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45492/21]

61. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the proposed conservation management plan for the historic Oldbridge House and estate which is operated by the OPW; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O’Dowd. [45494/21]

62. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of flood defences in the Spanish Arch and docks area of Galway city; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [45633/21]

63. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if the €5.3 million recently returned to the Exchequer from the Criminal Assets Bureau can be ring-fenced and reinvested back into the communities that have been mostly impacted by crime. — Mark Ward. [45399/21]

64. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his views on whether the contracting authorities are conducting an appropriate level of due diligence in view of recent public procurement audit failures associated with Covid-19-related purchases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [45418/21]

65. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the way he plans to promote green public procurement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45397/21]

66. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of works his Department is currently progressing in County Clare to mitigate against coastal erosion. — Cathal Crowe. [45584/21]

67. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the plans that are underway to prepare for the changing demographics which will see an increase in the median age of the population which is currently 38 years and a corresponding increase in age-related public expenditure as forecast in the Trends in Public Expenditure Review Paper produced by his Department during summer 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [45437/21]
68. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the ongoing engagement with the Department of Justice and relevant stakeholders in relation to the restoration of fees to criminal defence barristers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [45401/21]

69. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the key elements in his expenditure management and spending strategy for Budget 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [45683/21]

70. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he is satisfied that contracting authorities are conducting an appropriate level of due diligence in view of recent public procurement audit failures associated with Covid-19 related purchases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [45602/21]

71. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will report on the operation of the entry fee waiver for OPW sites and the subsequent effect on visitor numbers to such sites; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [45489/21]

72. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the value to date of requests for expenditure increases in Budget 2022 in pre-budget submissions; the main areas for which allocations have been sought; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [44807/21]

73. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the progress on flooding project works for Archaran Bridge in County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [45580/21]

74. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of the National Development Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [45491/21]

75. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his views on whether the Top Level Appointments Committee should have a role in the recruitment of special envoys to ensure that the full details of any future appointments to be shared in advance and adequately considered in a proper way; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [45500/21]

76. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if there will be a pandemic bonus for public sector workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [45487/21]

77. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if the issue of problem gambling will be a consideration of the review of the National Lottery good causes funding distribution model which is currently underway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [45410/21]

78. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which it is expected to meet the challenges of the reopening of the economy while at the same time maintaining prudent spending; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45598/21]
CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

79. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she has taken to ensure the return to school is safe and sustainable; the investments that will be required for this; and the work she has undertaken with other Departments in furtherance of this aim. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [45807/21]

80. To ask the Minister for Education the number of CO2 monitors required to provide one for each classroom, learning support room, staff room and other school spaces in which they are required; the number that have been provided to schools to date; and when the remaining monitors will be delivered to schools. — Paul Murphy. [45677/21]

81. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the significant impact of school closures on children with special educational needs; the steps she has taken to ensure that every child with special educational needs can catch up after these closures; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [45808/21]

82. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to address large classes in primary schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45180/21]

83. To ask the Minister for Education the way apprenticeships can be merged into the education model much earlier in order that early school leavers can be encouraged to start an apprenticeship in advance of completing their education. — Richard O'Donoghue. [45918/21]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

84. To ask the Minister for Education the status of supports provided to Irish language schools to promote the use of Irish; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [45667/21]

85. To ask the Minister for Education when she expects the National Council for Special Education to complete and submit its policy advice on education provision in special classes and special schools which was originally requested in 2018; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [45216/21]

86. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the DEIS bands reassessment as committed to earlier in 2021. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [45194/21]

87. To ask the Minister for Education the steps her Department has made to further the availability of ASD education in Dublin 8. — Patrick Costello. [45689/21]

88. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the consultation process with education partners regarding the technical aspects and implementation of the new DEIS model; when she expects the work on the new model to be completed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [45659/21]
89. To ask the Minister for Education the status of and position regarding ongoing talks regarding pay and entitlements for school secretaries and caretakers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45575/21]

90. To ask the Minister for Education when a school (details supplied) will receive funding for a new school building; when is it expected works will start on the new building; and the expected completion date for the new school building. — Louise O’Reilly. [45234/21]

91. To ask the Minister for Education the amount of HEPA filtration that has been acquired by the State for use in schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Kelleher. [45189/21]

92. To ask the Minister for Education if she is satisfied with the division of secondary school patronages across the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [43948/21]

93. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding air quality monitors in classrooms; if they are working; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45695/21]

94. To ask the Minister for Education her proposals to regularise pay and conditions for school secretaries. — Matt Carthy. [44740/21]

95. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she has taken to ensure that capacity will be available in school transport for all applicants in 2021-2022. — Matt Carthy. [44739/21]

96. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider reviewing the 50% school bus transport capacity limit that is currently in operation in the post-primary service; if so, the timeframe for any such review; if she will consider a goodwill provision for late applications for the school transport scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [45504/21]

97. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will approve new terms and pay levels that are being sought by school secretaries who are not employed directly within the public services. — Brian Stanley. [45186/21]

98. To ask the Minister for Education her views on claims that the official advice from her Department regarding carbon dioxide concentrations in classrooms is unsafe and will not aid in reducing transmission of Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [45717/21]

99. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she remains satisfied regarding the adequacy of the school building programme to meet the requirements in full throughout the country; if she envisages the need to make any special provisions in sensitive areas affected by demographic demand or old buildings in need of urgent replacement; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45601/21]

100. To ask the Minister for Education the status of a school (details supplied); the reason for the delay in submitting the planning application until Q1 2022; when permanent road infrastructure will be constructed, including a footpath and cycleway to the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [45627/21]
101. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department has plans for the leaving certificate exams for 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [45214/21]

102. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the school transport review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [45672/21]

103. To ask the Minister for Education the criteria for small school status; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [45647/21]

104. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to increase the capitation grant for primary schools considering the increased costs to schools of Covid-19 safety measures; and the increase in the cost of providing light and heat. — Sorca Clarke. [45589/21]

105. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department has given a recommendation to primary level schools that semi-contact sports such as hockey and football are not to be played within the current school term; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Chris Andrews. [45448/21]

106. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to accommodate the expanding education needs in Tramore, County Waterford with a view both to lands zoned for education and demographic pressures; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [45660/21]

107. To ask the Minister for Education the status of progress and the timelines for the delivery of new school accommodation for primary schools (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [45436/21]

108. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to improve supports for children with special needs and to ensure that such supports are put in place in a timely manner and eliminate delays in sanctioning posts; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45434/21]

109. To ask the Minister for Education her plans for increasing of ASD places in the Dublin 2, 4, 6 and 6W areas; the timeline on the delivery of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Chris Andrews. [45449/21]

110. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the progress and timelines for delivery of new school accommodation for post-primary schools (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [45435/21]

111. To ask the Minister for Education the progress that has been made with increasing the annual funding levels available to primary education; the progress made with the regularisation of employment conditions for school secretaries and caretakers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [45641/21]

112. To ask the Minister for Education if she plans to alter or reform the leaving certificate examination through alternative assessments after the experiences of the State examinations over the course of the Covid-19 pandemic and the work carried out by the NCCA for the reform of State examinations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [45719/21]

113. To ask the Minister for Education if she has plans to increase the capacity of the school transport service in view of changing public health advice; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45179/21]
114. To ask the Minister for Education the instructions she has given to schools on the way they must respond to Covid-19 cases including on isolation of close contacts of symptomatic and asymptomatic cases. — Paul Murphy. [45680/21]

115. To ask the Minister for Education if she has engaged with Bus Éireann regarding bus ticket shortages in counties Cavan, Monaghan and Louth; if she will detail the types of engagement she has had with Bus Éireann; and the dates in which this engagement took place. — Peadar Tóibín. [45191/21]

116. To ask the Minister for Education if she will discuss the difficulties new and developing schools are facing in accessing special educational supports. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [45694/21]

117. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the progress of the recruitment of additional special needs assistants outlined in Budget 2021; the number of special needs assistants currently employed by county; the way this compares with annual figures for the previous ten years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [45503/21]

118. To ask the Minister for Education the progress made with regard to ensuring public service status for school secretaries and caretakers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [45658/21]

119. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the review of the pilot PPP schools bundle 2019-2021 report, including the assessment of whether the project objectives have been met; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [45671/21]

120. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will publish the documentation involved in the order, acquisition and checking of CO2 monitors for schools; the cost of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [45188/21]

121. To ask the Minister for Education if she will work with a school and an organisation (details supplied) to ensure that the pitches used by the college for generations are kept for use of the college, the local community and sports clubs into the future; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [45643/21]

122. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to ensure universal availability of a schoolbook rental scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45175/21]

123. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to address educational disadvantage which has worsened due to the Covid-19 pandemic. — Thomas Gould. [45597/21]

124. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to tackle large class sizes; if a commitment will be made to undertake an audit of class sizes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [45567/21]

125. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the difficulty parents have in engaging a list of suitably qualified special needs assistants particularly in relation to the home-based summer programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [45577/21]

126. To ask the Minister for Education the status of building works to be carried out on a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [45409/21]
127. To ask the Minister for Education the measures she is planning to take to ensure that spending is at least brought into line with the OECD average of 4.9% of GDP in view of the recent OECD report that ranks Ireland lowest in education spending; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [45644/21]

128. To ask the Minister for Education the number of primary schools that are awaiting exceptional reviews for adapted special needs assistants allocation. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [45195/21]

129. To ask the Minister for Education if she will reconsider the 50% capacity rule on buses for post-primary schools in line with 100% capacity on public transport; if she has sought advice on an increase in capacity from public health bodies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45574/21]

130. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the summer programme for 2021 including registrations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [45676/21]

131. To ask the Minister for Education if the current and projected enrolment at a school (details supplied) will be urgently examined; and the way that accommodation can be suitably provided to meet the needs of the school. — Cathal Crowe. [45579/21]

132. To ask the Minister for Education the measures that are being considered to overhaul the leaving certificate system; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [45431/21]

133. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she is taking to address the shortage of special needs assistants for schools (details supplied). — Holly Cairns. [45591/21]

134. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she is taking to improve literacy and numeracy within the education system; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45177/21]

135. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to reduce the average class size for primary schools considering the growing population and the extra demands on space due to Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sorca Clarke. [45588/21]

136. To ask the Minister for Education the measures and proposals her Department has taken or plans taking to regularise pay, conditions and the pensions of school secretaries; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [45451/21]

137. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to reduce pupil teacher ratios in primary and secondary schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O’Connor. [45674/21]

138. To ask the Minister for Education the supports under the DEIS programme for the 2021-2022 school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O’Connor. [45675/21]

139. To ask the Minister for Education if there is a timeline in place for when the steering group reviewing the school transport scheme will publish its recommendations; if she expects to have these recommendations in place for the 2022-2023 academic year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [45217/21]
140. To ask the Minister for Education the reason parents who are medical card holders have been told that their children are not eligible to travel to a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [45626/21]

141. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she remains satisfied that children and teachers are safely and adequately protected from Covid-19 throughout the autumn and winter months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45600/21]

142. To ask the Minister for Education the status of legislation to ensure an inclusive, relevant and age-appropriate sexual education programme for students following announcements made by her in May 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [45720/21]

143. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the DEIS review and plans to extend the DEIS programme to schools (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [45668/21]

144. To ask the Minister for Education if additional supports will be made available to DEIS schools to assist them in the coming academic year following a prior year in which a significant amount of learning was done either remotely or through home-schooling; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [45573/21]

145. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the schools energy retrofit pathfinder programme including the planned measures; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [45673/21]

146. To ask the Minister for Education her progress to date in engaging with local schools to provide additional ASD classes at both primary and post-primary level in Dublin 9 and 11; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [45450/21]

147. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide clear and uniform guidance to schools on the use of lockers for students to store books during the school day. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [45693/21]

148. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to significant delays in the opening of a new special school in Carrigaline, County Cork, an appeal from the school due to understaffing and the fact that the school is now being forced to open without full completion of the outside garden and play areas. — Thomas Gould. [45596/21]

149. To ask the Minister for Education the progress that is being made in reviewing the current leaving certificate cycle; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [45583/21]

150. To ask the Minister for Education the progress made on the new building for a school (details supplied); and the estimated timeline for works. — Brian Stanley. [45184/21]

151. To ask the Minister for Education the engagement to date with a school (details supplied) in progressing a new building and site identification; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [45582/21]

152. To ask the Minister for Education if funding will be allocated for the construction of a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O’Reilly. [45235/21]
153. To ask the Minister for Education if she will reform the school transport scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [45501/21]

154. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the review of the senior cycle; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [45670/21]

155. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the work being carried out to reduce the use of workbooks in schools and encourage greater reuse or rental of schoolbooks; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [45432/21]

156. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she is taking to provide CO2 monitors to every classroom to ensure adequate ventilation. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [45692/21]

157. To ask the Minister for Education the current and planned mental health supports in place for primary and secondary students; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [45665/21]

158. To ask the Minister for Education the current and planned investment in primary and secondary education in the context of recent findings of the OECD report Education at a Glance 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [45669/21]

159. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to increase capitation grants in order that each school has the staff and resources they need to deliver for all of their students; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [45666/21]

160. To ask the Minister for Education if she will increase the capacity of the school transport service in view of changing public health advice; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45178/21]

161. To ask the Minister for Education if she has considered the reintroduction of an allowance for teachers on offshore islands; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [45648/21]

162. To ask the Minister for Education the consideration given and the action she has taken to provide high-efficiency particulate absorbing filters for each classroom, learning room and staffroom. — Paul Murphy. [45678/21]

163. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the delivery of large-scale building projects in County Mayo; the applications that are currently being considered under the school building programme in the county; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [45642/21]

164. To ask the Minister for Education the criteria used by the State Examination Board when marking down accredited grades which students were allocated by their teachers in leaving certificate 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [45505/21]

165. To ask the Minister for Education the status of a project (details supplied); if further progress has been made on the site acquisition; if her attention has been drawn to obstacles to progressing the project within normal Departmental timeframes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O’Dowd. [45529/21]

166. To ask the Minister for Education the consideration given and action she has taken to protect and improve air quality in classrooms and school staffrooms. — Paul Murphy. [45681/21]
167. To ask the Minister for Education the way her Department plans to upgrade classroom accommodation including addressing defective walls in a school (details supplied). — Cathal Crowe. [45578/21]

168. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she has taken to achieve pay equality and pension entitlements for school caretakers. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [45690/21]

169. To ask the Minister for Education when legislation will be brought forward to provide adequate, relevant and age-appropriate sexual education throughout Irish schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [45721/21]

170. To ask the Minister for Education the value to date of requests for expenditure increases in her Department’s budget allocation for 2022 in pre-budget submissions; the main areas for which allocations have been sought; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [44809/21]

171. To ask the Minister for Education if she will address secondary school place shortages in Milltown, County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45696/21]

172. To ask the Minister for Education if she has received proposals from the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment on reform of the leaving certificate; if the experience of the assessment of students during the Covid-19 pandemic will allow more radical revisions than originally anticipated be made; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [44810/21]

173. To ask the Minister for Education if school transport is running at 100% capacity; the steps she is taking to increase the number of seats available on school buses; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [45691/21]

174. To ask the Minister for Education when it is proposed to increase school bus capacity in view of the difficulties that have occurred for many families in having school transport provided for their children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45433/21]

175. To ask the Minister for Education the number of Covid-19 tests administered and the number and proportion of confirmed Covid-19 cases for primary school pupils by week since the return of primary schools in August 2021. — Paul Murphy. [45679/21]

176. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to a school (details supplied) that has lodged an appeal regarding the inadequate support being supplied for children with very high needs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [45506/21]

177. To ask the Minister for Education if an update will be provided in relation to the issues surrounding the school transport scheme; the status of the review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [45566/21]

178. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she is taking to deliver on her capital building programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45176/21]

179. To ask the Minister for Education the consultation she has had with education workers and their trade unions in relation to the safe reopening of education; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [45605/21]
180. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the reason that Ireland failed to provide data on class sizes to inform the OECD Education at a Glance report 2020; her views on comments by an organisation (details supplied) that having 20% of pupils in classes of 30 or more is a national embarrassment; her plans to address the matter; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [45604/21]

181. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the increased financial burden placed on families for back-to-school costs detailed in an annual back to school survey (details supplied) and the back to school survey by an organisation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [45718/21]

182. To ask the Minister for Education if a school principal can refuse to sign a children’s allowance claim form until the payment of the schools voluntary contribution has been made; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [45576/21]

183. To ask the Minister for Education the reforms that will be made to the leaving certificate examinations to take into account the pressure on students from the pandemic and remote learning; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [45606/21]

184. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she is taking to provide special needs assistants and resource teaching hours to all students who qualify for these supports. — Holly Cairns. [45590/21]

185. To ask the Minister for Education if the school bus route for a school (details supplied) will be reviewed in order that it may include Ballyknockane Road; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [45572/21]

186. To ask the Minister for Education the actions she will take to increase education spending to bring Ireland up to at least the OECD average of 4.9% of GDP given that according to the OECD, Ireland has the lowest spending on education out of 36 countries at just 3.3% of GDP. — Paul Murphy. [45682/21]

187. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 401 of 15 September 2021, when she expects the contractor to be appointed for the construction of a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [45502/21]

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.

*188. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will advise on a matter raised in correspondence (details supplied); the reasons for these changes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [45756/21]

*189. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the schemes available for employers looking to recruit outside of the State. — Thomas Gould. [45759/21]

*190. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when the stakeholder consultation of his Department on the International Labour Organisation Convention
190, Elimination of Violence and Harassment in the World of Work is due to commence. — Mary Lou McDonald. [45777/21]

*191. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of engagements the IDA has had with companies regarding data centres in the past 24 months. — Louise O’Reilly. [45854/21]

*192. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the IDA has ever provided funding or support for businesses to open data centres in the State. — Louise O’Reilly. [45855/21]

*193. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the way the redundancy loan scheme for businesses announced during summer 2021 will operate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O’Reilly. [45856/21]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*194. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the significant environmental and biodiversity impact on the Ardee bog if the current plans for the proposed N52 Ardee bypass proceed; the reason it has taken 21 years after initiating the project to retroactively undertake an environmental impact assessment; if his attention has been further drawn the destruction of the endangered curlew’s habitat as a result of illegal fencing installed as part of the project in 2019; his plans to protect the Ardee bog and the biodiversity in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [45801/21]

*195. To ask the Minister for Transport when Kishogue rail station will open resulting in a local train service for commuters in Lucan, County Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [45752/21]

*196. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will urgently examine creating a DART station at Kilcock, County Kildare within the new DART+West plans (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [45784/21]

*197. To ask the Minister for Transport if an exception can be given regarding declaring a vehicle off the road after the fact and a waiver of motor tax arrears for a person (details supplied) who was seriously ill and out of the country for a long period of time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [45786/21]

*198. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason a person (details supplied) cannot renew a driver licence; the reason they must sit all their driving lessons and test again; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45812/21]

*199. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has plans to provide for the use of helmet camera footage in the implementation and enforcement of the rules of the road particularly as it relates to the safety of cyclists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [45844/21]

*200. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are plans to introduce a bus service from Moylough and Mountbellew to University Hospital Portiuncula, Ballinasloe (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45909/21]
*201. To ask the Minister for Transport the way he plans to facilitate rail users who have purchased commuter rail tickets to travel to work and who are now returning to the workplace on a two to three day basis; if he has discussed this issue with Irish Rail and with the Minister for Finance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [45914/21]

*202. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 121 of 3 March 2021, the reason there are no plans to change the 46a bus services at this time in view of the advantage it would offer to those accessing the bus service from Heuston Station; if routes from main transport hubs to hospitals in Dublin are regularly reviewed with regard to ease of connection; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45916/21]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*203. To ask the Minister for Finance the plans he has to change the restrictive tax rules which can inflict a double tax on cross-Border workers who are based in Ireland, particularly when the temporary Covid-19 waiver on these rules ends in January 2022, in order to ensure that thousands of cross-Border workers do not face a financial penalty by seeking to work from home. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [45767/21]

*204. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on reducing the VAT on smokeless coal in Budget 2022 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45806/21]

*205. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to a pre-budget submission (details supplied) ahead of Budget 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O’Dowd. [45813/21]

*206. To ask the Minister for Finance the projected General Government Balance as a percentage of both GDP and GNI* in each of the years 2021 to 2069 consistent with the methodology and assumptions used in his Department’s publication Population Ageing and the Public Finances in Ireland in the two scenarios outlined in table 6 of page 26, in which the SPA remains constant and in which previously legislated increases in the SPA take place in tabular form. — Pearse Doherty. [45847/21]

*207. To ask the Minister for Finance if homes affected by pyrite and therefore have no market value are exempt from paying local property tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [45921/21]

*208. To ask the Minister for Finance the process by which a homeowner can confirm their exemption to paying the local property tax due to pyrite; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [45922/21]

*209. To ask the Minister for Finance if a home (details supplied) is exempt from paying local property tax due to pyrite issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [45923/21]
Chun an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe: To the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform.

*210. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his views on the current state of public ethics and standards in Irish political life given recent events; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [45430/21]

*211. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if there have been any further developments with regard to the Brexit Adjustment Fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [33692/21]

*212. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform when Leighlinbridge Garda station will be reopened; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [36766/21]

*213. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will report on Ireland’s funding under the Brexit Adjustment Reserve. — Neale Richmond. [34659/21]

*214. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the practical measures he will make to reward essential workers for the contribution they made to the fight against Covid-19; if these measures will include raising the minimum wage to €15 per hour, a four day working week, more public holidays and statutory holiday entitlements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43776/21]

*215. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the status of operations at a site (details supplied); and when he plans to open it for public use. — Sean Sherlock. [45841/21]

*216. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which the short and medium-term strategy of his Department is likely in any way to be affected by suggested changes in corporation profits tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45865/21]

*217. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which he expects to rely on reform as a means of meeting public expenditure challenges ahead; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45866/21]

*218. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which he remains satisfied that current expenditure policy remains adequate to meet the challenges in the short to medium term; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45867/21]

*219. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which public expenditure and reform strategies need to be revised to meet any challenges in the short to medium term; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45868/21]

*220. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the areas of expenditure experiencing most pressure at the present time; if he expects to develop a short, medium and long-term expenditure and reform strategy to meet any exigencies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45869/21]

*221. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the degree to which he expects to meet current expenditure requirements in the course of Budget 2022; the extent to which he
has identified particularly sensitive areas needing attention; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45870/21]

*222. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his plans for prudent and strategic expenditure in the short term in order to encourage economic recovery in the aftermath of Covid-19 and Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45871/21]

*223. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which he has had discussions with his EU colleagues with a view to common strategy in the aftermath of Brexit and Covid-19 with particular reference to the need to maximise opportunities for the domestic economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45872/21]

*224. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which he has examined ways and means to acknowledge the efforts and dedication of front-line workers throughout the Covid-19 pandemic; the options available to him in his Department to reward to such persons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45873/21]

*225. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which any issues arising in the context of FEMPI have been adequately addressed and resolved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45874/21]

*226. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which his Department continues to monitor public contracts with a view to achieving optimum value for money while at the same time facilitating an expeditious process leading to increased efficiency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45875/21]

*227. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his plans in respect of public service pay in the future in the context of ensuring fair and equitable recognition throughout the public sector while at the same time protecting structured reform and adequate recognition of need throughout the public sector with particular reference to the lower paid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45876/21]

*228. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the nature of any reforms proposed to ensure equity and reward throughout the public sector in line with requirements in the aftermath of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45877/21]

*229. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which his Department has identified Departments affected by and overrun in expenditure which might not be related to Covid-19 or Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45878/21]

*230. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which various Departments can be rewarded for adherence to public expenditure and reform guidelines while maintaining maximum level of service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45879/21]

*231. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the degree to which value for money targets continue to be met by various Departments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45880/21]

*232. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the extent to which the procurement process remains focused on ensuring the elimination of delays that might be associated with
consequent higher costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45881/21]

*233. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the steps taken to speed up the processing of various public contracts while protecting the interests of the taxpayer in all Departments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45882/21]

*234. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his plans to change public works contracts to include a price variation clause to take account of the recent abnormal increases in the cost of building material; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [45771/21]

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

*235. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when the Covid-19 support package for coláiste samhraidh will be announced. — Dara Calleary. [45810/21]

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

*236. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider increasing the Local Government Fund to address the ongoing lack of funding to Galway County Council. — Seán Canney. [45772/21]

*237. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the grades of local authority employees who are permitted or disqualified from standing for local elections; and the relevant legislation in which this is outlined. — Martin Browne. [45804/21]

*238. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the assistance being put in place for persons who are harvesting seaweed using traditional methods who wish to apply for a seaweed harvesting licence given that the window to register traditional seaweed harvesting rights on folios is drawing to a close (details supplied); if he plans to offer assistance with the environmental screening and assessments which are required as part of the licence application; the way he will ensure that the rights of traditional harvesters are respected and that seaweed harvesting process remains accessible to persons from the local community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Máiréad Farrell. [45846/21]

*239. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason the Valuation Office telephone helpline is currently closed; when the office will reopen; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [45862/21]

*240. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which any pollution of the water supply has affected the various towns throughout north County Kildare and south County Meath; the degree to which the causes of such pollution have been identified; the reason the public were not immediately alerted; if any danger continues to exist for consumers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45907/21]
Chun an Aire Gnóthaí Eachtracha: To the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

*241. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of a passport application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [45760/21]

*242. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if the rapid passport renewal service will be reopened; the timeline for passport offices to reopen to the public; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45762/21]

*243. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of an application for a passport by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [45785/21]

*244. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs when a passport will issue in the case of a person (details supplied); if an individual and specific reply will be provided by him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45797/21]

*245. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if a passport can be issued in the case of a person (details supplied); if an individual and specific reply will be provided by him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45798/21]

*246. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs when a passport will issue in the case of a person (details supplied); if an individual and specific reply will be provided by him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45799/21]

*247. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs when a passport is likely to issue in the case of a person (details supplied); if an individual and specific reply will be provided by him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45800/21]

*248. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of a passport application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [45805/21]

*249. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the actions his Department is taking to address the recent re-arrests of Christians in Eritrea (details supplied) who were previously imprisoned in violation of their right to freedom of religion and belief; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [45815/21]

*250. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on whether the attacks on education by Israeli forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory are a deliberate attempt to make the teaching and learning environment unsafe for Palestinian children; his further views on whether the educational process has been severely hampered and disrupted as a result of these attacks and that the dignity and security of Palestinian students and teaching staff have been repeatedly and deliberately violated through the systematic targeting and legal discrimination of the occupying power; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [45845/21]

*251. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if the State plans to raise the issue of Syrian detainees who have suffered arbitrary and incommunicado detention and enforced disappearance by Syrian Government forces at the UN Security Council during its Presidency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [45848/21]
*252. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if a passport will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Mayo in view of the fact that they have travel arrangements. — Michael Ring. [45859/21]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*253. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she is taking to deliver on her capital building programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45181/21]

*254. To ask the Minister for Education her views on whether it is acceptable or appropriate under the UNHCR Best Interest of the Child principle or equality that 732 children with special educational needs are without a school place and currently sanctioned for home tuition with some families believing they are hidden away from society and mainstream education; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [36252/21]

*255. To ask the Minister for Education the detail of the current assessment of a school (details supplied) by her Department; and if her Department will now sanction a new school building. — Brian Stanley. [45185/21]

*256. To ask the Minister for Education the recent discussions she has had in relation to the school bus transport system; the funding made available for physical distancing for post-primary students; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [44228/21]

*257. To ask the Minister for Education when all State primary and secondary schools will be provided with carbon dioxide monitors; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [45753/21]

*258. To ask the Minister for Education if a school (details supplied) will be provided with additional teaching staff to deal with the rapid increase in student numbers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [45775/21]

*259. To ask the Minister for Education the status of plans to increase the capacity of school transport in view of the fact an increase would accommodate many more students who are currently awaiting tickets on routes. — Robert Troy. [45782/21]

*260. To ask the Minister for Education if she will review the 50% occupancy rule for school transport in rural Ireland to allow children who previously had concessionary bus tickets to travel on the school bus in view of the fact that this is causing undue hardship for parents who have had to source alternative means of transport at short notice to get them to school and given the latest information from NPHET that the country is on track for lifting of most restrictions from 22 October 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [45790/21]

*261. To ask the Minister for Education when persons (details supplied) will be facilitated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [45802/21]

*262. To ask the Minister for Education if the funds will be made available in Budget 2022 to ensure that school secretaries receive a public sector pension entitlement; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [45645/21]

*263. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the provision of public sector pensions to school secretaries and caretakers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [45715/21]
*264. To ask the Minister for Education the way rates of pay are set for job-sharing SNAs and teachers who substitute in their own schools; the reason there is disparity in the way that members of staff are paid and who is allowed claim expenses; her plans to address this disparity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [45814/21]

*265. To ask the Minister for Education if a school transport route can be put in place from Mullingar to Collumba College, Killucan (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [45819/21]

*266. To ask the Minister for Education when a bus ticket will be issued to a student (details supplied) who has no other means of travelling to school. — Peter Burke. [45820/21]

*267. To ask the Minister for Education the reason a student (details supplied) had their leaving certificate results downgraded so heavily causing them to miss out on their college course; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45830/21]

*268. To ask the Minister for Education if she will address a matter regarding school works for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [45853/21]

*269. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she is determined to improve pupil-teacher ratios in all primary and second-level schools throughout the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45883/21]

*270. To ask the Minister for Education the locations throughout Ireland most acutely affected by higher class sizes and disadvantageous pupil-teacher ratios at primary and second-level; her ongoing plans to address these issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45884/21]

*271. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she is determined to improve special needs classes continue to be made available in all primary and second-level schools throughout Ireland; the areas in which difficulties have arisen; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45885/21]

*272. To ask the Minister for Education the degree to which school transport issues continue to arise throughout Ireland; the extent to which she continues to move to resolve such issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45886/21]

*273. To ask the Minister for Education if she anticipates any particular measures to address areas in which a particular shortage of suitable special needs places has arisen in primary and second-level schools throughout Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45887/21]

*274. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which various school building projects throughout the country have been able to progress throughout the Covid-19 downturn; the locations of any particular difficulties in this regard; the proposed or ongoing action to address such issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45888/21]

*275. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which the number of school places catering for children with autism continues to be made available at primary and second-level schools throughout Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45889/21]
*276. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she has agreed to provide new second-level schools at precise locations throughout north County Kildare; the extent to which such works are in hand or ongoing; the schedule for the projects concerned; the extent to which any such projects in terms of construction or planning have been impacted by Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45890/21]

*277. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she has agreed to provide new primary schools at precise locations throughout north County Kildare; the extent to which such works are in hand or ongoing; the schedule for the projects concerned; the extent to which any such projects in terms of construction or planning have been impacted by Covid-19; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45891/21]

*278. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which special needs schools at primary or second-level continue to progress towards the provision of extra or new facilities at the various locations previously identified; the extent to which each project has been impacted by Covid-19, the proposals to address issues arising; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45892/21]

*279. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which larger class sizes and disadvantageous pupil-teacher ratios are evident at primary and second-level throughout north County Kildare; the extent of her proposals to address such issues in the short and medium term; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45893/21]

*280. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which adequate provision for early years education remains an integral part of her Department’s objectives; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45894/21]

*281. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which her Department continues to identify and replace deficient or obsolete school accommodation in all areas throughout Ireland with a view to replacement; the extent of any such programme at present; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45895/21]

*282. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she continues to engage with the school authorities in special needs schools throughout County Kildare with a view to meeting accommodation or other requirements; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45896/21]

*283. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she remains satisfied regarding the adequacy of the number of special needs teachers and SNAs in all primary and second-level schools throughout County Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45897/21]

*284. To ask the Minister for Education the progress in regard to the provision of a Gaelcholáiste in north County Kildare; the extent to which the project is evolving; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45898/21]

*285. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which accommodation requirements at primary and second-level schools in Kilcock, County Kildare continues to be met; her plans for the future in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45899/21]
*286. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which accommodation requirements at primary and second-level schools in Naas, County Kildare continue to be met; her plans for the future in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45900/21]

*287. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which accommodation requirements at primary and second-level schools in Clane, County Kildare continue to be met; her plans for the future in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45901/21]

*288. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which accommodation requirements at primary and second-level schools in Prosperous, County Kildare continue to be met; her plans for the future in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45902/21]

*289. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which accommodation requirements at primary and second-level schools in Leixlip, County Kildare continue to be met; her plans for the future in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45903/21]

*290. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which accommodation requirements at primary and second-level schools in Celbridge, County Kildare continue to be met; her plans for the future in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45904/21]

*291. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which accommodation requirements at primary and second-level schools in Sallins, County Kildare continue to be met; her plans for the future in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45905/21]

*292. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which accommodation requirements at primary and second-level schools in Maynooth, County Kildare continue to be met; her plans for the future in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45906/21]

*293. To ask the Minister for Education if she will allocate €10 per primary school child for schools to buy books for their libraries including audiobooks and picturebooks; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [45930/21]

*294. To ask the Minister for Education if she will that ensure schools provide suitable alternative educational activities for students who have opted out of religion class; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [45931/21]

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

*295. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a reduced fee for birth certificates provided to organisations for disadvantaged and socially excluded persons such as an organisation (details supplied) on behalf of housing applicants has ceased. — Martin Browne. [45817/21]

*296. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reasons local authority housing applicants must continue to provide birth certificates with their application in view of the fact that social
protection applicants do not have to produce a birth certificate because her Department can access them itself; and if she will give consideration to enabling local authorities to access birth certificate information upon the request of a housing applicant given the limited financial means of many applicants. — Martin Browne. [45818/21]

*297. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way the pandemic unemployment payment will be treated when it comes to calculating jobseeker’s benefit for individuals in 2023, relating to pay and weeks worked in 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45829/21]

*298. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the six year limit will be removed from the rural social scheme (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45833/21]

*299. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the terms of the new regional model proposed to replace local employment services will be reviewed in view of considerable fears of contracts being unviable and other identified flaws in the model that could see a disincentive for service providers to prioritise long-term unemployed persons with assistance; her views on the fact that rewarding progression into employment only is too narrow a measurement of progress; if her attention has been drawn to the value of walk-in services under local employment schemes and is of the view that the loss of this element of the service would be regressive; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45834/21]

*300. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on a review of further medical evidence submitted for an illness benefit review in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [45861/21]

*301. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider an increase in the qualified adult allowance to allow for the additional weekly payment of €10 for those qualified adults over 80 years of age; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [45911/21]

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

*302. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if there are plans to remove the requirement of a court order to allow a person access their files as per section 88 of the Adoption Act 2010 for adoptees who have already met their birth mother; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [45789/21]

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

*303. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a review of the college fees can be carried out in relation to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [45858/21]

*304. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department has engaged with universities and colleges on the use of Covid-19 antigen testing in third-level institutions; the plans that are in place for the roll-out of antigen testing on college
campuses; the timeline for any such roll-out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [45913/21]

*305. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will report on the most recent meeting of the Working Group on Student Accommodation; the details of the immediate supports planned to tackle the student accommodation crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [45926/21]

*306. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps he is taking to respond to the shortage of student accommodation. — Holly Cairns. [45932/21]

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

*307. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason a person (details supplied) is waiting so long for citizenship; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45811/21]

*308. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in the determination of an application for naturalisation in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45787/21]

*309. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason stamp 4 and not stamp 1 has been awarded in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45788/21]

*310. To ask the Minister for Justice when details of the IHAP 3 scheme will be announced; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [45795/21]

*311. To ask the Minister for Justice the expected timeline on the publication and presentation to the Dáil Éireann for the proposed new hate crime legislation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [45816/21]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*313. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter raised in correspondence (details supplied); if this is in line with his Department’s workforce planning; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [45755/21]

*314. To ask the Minister for Health when the Sláintecare project on the development of a national diabetes register will recommence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [45757/21]

*315. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the need for a national diabetes register; the reason there is no current register; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [45758/21]
*316. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [45764/21]

*317. To ask the Minister for Health if he will request the Health Service Executive to include the maintenance and upkeep of an AED register in the report that the HSE has commissioned on Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Strategy of Ireland (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45768/21]

*318. To ask the Minister for Health his plans in moving forward with regard to Covid-19 testing sites as testing and tracing efforts remain a key part of a response to the pandemic; if there are plans to expand testing in any capacity to rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [45769/21]

*319. To ask the Minister for Health when capital funding will be allocated to Belmullet Hospital for a modular build that will ensure the safety of patients and a maximum of 12 step-down beds can be operated in relation to infection prevention control issues identified during a HIQA inspection of the service at Belmullet Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [45774/21]

*320. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the provision of specialised respite services for those affected by Prader-Willi syndrome; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [45776/21]

*321. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide funding to appoint a clinical psychologist to each acute hospital diabetes multidisciplinary team; his views on whether psychosocial support in diabetes care is not formally embedded as part of diabetes management; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [45778/21]

*322. To ask the Minister for Health if a diabetes psychology resource will be provided to each community diabetes specialist team hub under the integrated model of care for the prevention and management of chronic disease implementation guide; his views on whether access to psychosocial support in these teams should be made available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [45779/21]

*323. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide funding to appoint a 0.5 whole-time equivalent clinical psychologist to each acute hospital diabetes paediatric diabetes team; his views on whether psychosocial support in paediatric diabetes care should be available in each team; the reason there is no access to this support outside of Dublin paediatric diabetes services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [45780/21]

*324. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide funding for a post of clinical psychologist to the multidisciplinary team in Wexford General Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [45781/21]

*325. To ask the Minister for Health the steps that should be taken by a person who cannot secure general practitioner services locally and has made efforts to secure a general practitioner within a reasonable radius of their home. — Robert Troy. [45783/21]

*326. To ask the Minister for Health if arrangements are available for the vaccination of persons who cannot leave their homes for reasons of agoraphobia. — Richard Bruton. [45809/21]
*327. To ask the Minister for Health the reason health and social care professionals in primary care will be able to progress from staff grade to senior grade while those same professionals with the same length of time with regard to experience in hospitals and the mental health area will not; the rationale for allowing some to progress in their careers while others cannot; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45823/21]

*328. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 306 of 25 February 2021, the reason women who turned 61 years of age before 30 March 2020 will not be screened at 65 years given the screening programme has been increased up to 65 years; the number of women who will miss out due to this specific use of a date; the reason women are no longer screened beyond the age of 65; the reason this decision on the March date was decided; the person or body which decided it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45824/21]

*329. To ask the Minister for Health if a list of nursing homes in the State in which residents in them are provided with tailored support packages or comfort monies will be provided; the number of individuals who receive these supports; the grounds on which they receive them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45825/21]

*330. To ask the Minister for Health the average payment made to private nursing homes under the National Treatment Purchase Fund by county. — Claire Kerrane. [45826/21]

*331. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nursing homes in the State that receive a top-up payment from the HSE in respect of a resident or residents; the corresponding county each nursing home is located; the rationale for these top-up payments; and the way in which it is determined who receives them. — Claire Kerrane. [45827/21]

*332. To ask the Minister for Health the amount of funding provided to a centre (details supplied); the number of staff currently employed; the current services available; the number of vacant posts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45828/21]

*333. To ask the Minister for Health the way an Irish citizen vaccinated outside of Ireland but in the EU avails of an EU Digital COVID Certificate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45831/21]

*334. To ask the Minister for Health the steps his Department is taking in the short-term, notwithstanding the Government’s commitments to reforms in this area under the Sláintecare plan, to ensure that general practitioners cannot charge excessive fees to patients who do not hold a medical card or general practitioner visit card; the steps his Department is taking in the context of the implementation of Sláintecare to move to a system of universal general practitioner care without charges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [45835/21]

*335. To ask the Minister for Health if male secondary school students who were in second year or over when the roll-out of HPV vaccines for their gender began in 2019, can access the vaccine through the public health system; if he plans to hold mop-up clinics for this cohort of teenage boys; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [45836/21]

*336. To ask the Minister for Health the number of medications which have been removed from being available for free under a medical card in the past three years; the person or body which decides to remove such medications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45838/21]
*337. To ask the Minister for Health if a medication (details supplied) will be made available again under the medical card; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45839/21]

*338. To ask the Minister for Health if a medication (details supplied) will be made available again under the medical card; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [45840/21]

*339. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding a homecare package for a person (details supplied) in County Meath; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [45849/21]

*340. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons who are currently awaiting inpatient eye care procedures in the community healthcare organisation Dublin north city and county area; the average waiting time for an inpatient appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Lou McDonald. [45850/21]

*341. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons who are currently awaiting outpatient eye care treatment in the community healthcare organisation Dublin north city and county area; the average waiting time for an outpatient appointment; the average waiting time for a procedure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Lou McDonald. [45851/21]

*342. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in the community healthcare organisation Dublin north city and county area who have been waiting six, 12, 18 and more than 18 months to access outpatient eye care. — Mary Lou McDonald. [45852/21]

*343. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) has been waiting so long for an assessment of need appointment. — Niamh Smyth. [45857/21]

*344. To ask the Minister for Health if he will facilitate the appointment of the new chairperson of the North Inner City Drug and Alcohol Taskforce as agreed by consensus at the taskforce minuted meeting of 16 March 2021, in full adherence to the Local and Regional Drugs Task Forces Handbook. — Mary Lou McDonald. [45860/21]

*345. To ask the Minister for Health when a tonsillectomy can be arranged for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45908/21]

*346. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 163 of 7 July 2021, if he will provide a list of all other interdependencies (details supplied) which must be addressed before Part 8 of the Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act 2015 can be commenced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [45910/21]

*347. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department has engaged with universities and colleges on the use of Covid-19 antigen testing in third-level institutions; the plans that are in place for the roll-out of antigen testing on college campuses; the timeline for any such roll-out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [45912/21]

*348. To ask the Minister for Health if plans are in place to give a third Covid-19 vaccine dose to those who would be identified as being at high-risk from Covid-19 or who are immunocompromised; if so, the timeline for any such roll-out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [45927/21]
*349. To ask the Minister for Health the waiting times for cataract surgery in each hospital in which such surgery takes place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45933/21]

*350. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to roll-out the Sligo model of eye care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [45934/21]

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

*351. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a decision will be reached on an appeal by a person (details supplied) in County Mayo. — Michael Ring. [45765/21]

*352. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of a grant application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [45770/21]

*353. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if subsequent to the implementation of rules prohibiting the landing of live bivalve molluscs including wild caught scallops in UK ports he will address the serious financial cost to scallop fishers fishing off the coast of the UK now required to land their catch in EU ports; the reason these fishers are not included in other support schemes; if his attention has been drawn to the impact of this requirement on all involved in fishing, processing and transporting these products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [45773/21]

*354. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his views on introducing a universal basic income for farmers on a trial basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [45928/21]

*355. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his views on a continuation of a welfare scheme for sheep, including the provision to pay up to €20 per ewe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [45929/21]

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

*356. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she has received the external review of the walks scheme administered by her Department; if this review has addressed the issue of the role of the rural recreational officer and the equity in resourcing these posts in certain areas due to the number of stakeholders participating and the vast geographical area covered; if in the context of this review, she will reconsider the administrative resources available to the groups participating particularly for the funding of rural recreational officers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [45837/21]