



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 21 Meán Fómhair, 2022

Wednesday, 21st September, 2022

**CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS**

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CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoisgh: To the Taoiseach.

*1. To ask the Taoiseach if he will comment on the finding that the possible underpayment on the price paid is less than the total cost of producing a report on an organisation (details supplied) which has taken seven years to complete. — Michael Ring. [46089/22]

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

*2. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [46223/22]

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

*3. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if an application to the warmer homes scheme by a person (details supplied) will be expedited. — Robert Troy. [46069/22]

*4. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the procedures that he will put in place to ensure that there is better coordination and communication between the Dublin Fire Brigade and the Irish Coast Guard in respect of rescues in the Greater Dublin Area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [46079/22]

*5. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the information available to his Department regarding the quantity of polystyrene imported into Ireland on an annual basis; the arrangements for the disposal of this product; if consideration has been given to banning the importation of this product, similar to a number of European countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46137/22]

*6. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if consideration will be given to the funding of the installation of solar panels on the roofs of senior citizen-sheltered housing complexes in order to provide more sustainable energy and reduce energy costs for residents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46138/22]

*7. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide details of the volume, value, and type of grants processed by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, by month during the period January 2022 to August 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [46148/22]

*8. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department is considering the installation of solar panels in schools as a form of energy for schools for heating and water as a potential cost-saving measure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [46154/22]

*9. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will consider increasing grants for the installation of solar panels in domestic settings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [46155/22]

*10. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when the consultation on private wire direct-line renewables will be released; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [46156/22]

*11. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will make a comment on the fact that Ireland did not apply for a key European Commission funding initiative in March 2022 aimed at ensuring continuity of energy supply in the wake of the Russia/Ukraine war through the REPowerEU programme; and the reason that Ireland failed to do so. — Alan Kelly. [46222/22]

*12. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of homes deep retrofitting to date in 2022. — Brian Stanley. [46241/22]

*13. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the dividends paid to the Exchequer by each of the semi-State energy companies; their profits for each of the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [46263/22]

*14. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the quantity of polystyrene imported here on an annual basis; the arrangements for the disposal of the product; if consideration has been given to banning the importation of the product similar to a number of European countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46366/22]

*15. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to fund the installation of solar panels on the rooves of senior citizen housing complexes in order to provide more sustainable energy and reduce energy costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46367/22]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*16. To ask the Minister for Transport the contact that he has had with a company (details supplied) about the recent cancellation of flights due to an IT issue; his plans to acknowledge that many passengers were considerably out-of-pocket as a result of cancellations with extra costs such as accommodation, food and travel to different airports and destinations and lost annual leave days being incurred; his plans to urge the company to compensate passengers for losses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [46060/22]

*17. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of a bus service for an area (details supplied); the date on which it will be back in operation; and the frequency of the service. — Mark Ward. [46077/22]

*18. To ask the Minister for Transport the procedures that he will put in place to ensure that there is better coordination and communication between the Dublin Fire Brigade and the Irish Coast Guard in respect of rescues in the Greater Dublin Area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [46080/22]

*19. To ask the Minister for Transport if a person (details supplied) can be accommodated for a driving licence. — Sean Sherlock. [46082/22]

*20. To ask the Minister for Transport when his Department will issue a decision regarding the funding request received for the proposed takeover by Clare County Council of the Clare assets of Shannon Heritage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [46084/22]

*21. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to dissolve the marine casualty investigation board; the timeline for doing so; and the reasoning behind this decision. — Catherine Murphy. [46085/22]

*22. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason that the proposed new marine accident investigation unit will operate within his Department; the proposed involvement of his Department in the marine accident investigation unit; and the way in which the requirements under European Union law for an independent marine accident investigator will be met. — Catherine Murphy. [46086/22]

*23. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason that the Clinch Report has not been published by his Department in view of the fact that it was received in July 2021 and given that he had committed to its publication by the end of the first quarter of 2022; if he will make arrangements to publish the report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [46087/22]

*24. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will liaise with the National Transport Authority and an organisation (details supplied) to ensure that the recent decision to reduce the timetable of the 175 bus on weekday mornings is reversed, and the normal timetable is restored; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Josepha Madigan. [46113/22]

*25. To ask the Minister for Transport the current average waiting time for practical driving tests, broken down by centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [46118/22]

*26. To ask the Minister for Transport the current average wait time for driver theory tests, broken down by centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [46119/22]

*27. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the extension of the DART line to north County Dublin stations (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [46106/22]

*28. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46140/22]

*29. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide details of plans to establish a dedicated transport service to support persons with a mobility disability, as he has previously mentioned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [46152/22]

*30. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of driver testers that have been let-go by the Road Safety Authority; if this is acceptable given the unacceptable delays in applicants having tests at centres such as Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [46158/22]

*31. To ask the Minister for Transport when a person (details supplied) from County Donegal can expect a date for a driving test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [46176/22]

*32. To ask the Minister for Transport if a driving test date will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [46179/22]

*33. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans in relation to the expansion of the rural transport scheme operated by Local Link; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [46213/22]

*34. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will support the request from a charity (details supplied) for co-funding to be made available to its recycle mobility programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46228/22]

*35. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount allocated by his Department for the development of the rail line from Limerick to Foynes; the date on which this expenditure will be incurred; if it is intended to complete the connection of Foynes to freight centres along the west coast (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46302/22]

*36. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the rollout of Connecting Ireland bus services; the amount allocated to date in 2022; the estimated expenditure in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46303/22]

*37. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Iompair cén uair a thosófar ar an tseirbhís bus idir Casla, Conamara, agus Clár Chlainne Mhuiris, Contae Mhaigh Eo faoi chlár “Éire a Nascadh [Connecting Ireland]”; cén chúis a bhí leis an oiread moille air seo; agus an ndéanfaidh sé ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46306/22]

*38. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure that funding is provided to progress the Clontibret to the border N2 road project; if his attention has been drawn to there being an urgent need to upgrade this section of road due to the high volume of traffic and its importance for a large part of the island of Ireland, north and south; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [46338/22]

*39. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 91 and 126 of 26 April 2022, if his Department will reconsider the decision not to designate funding this year to the proposed upgrade of the N25 national road between Midleton and Carrigtwohill, County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [46370/22]

*40. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Topical Issue No. 3 of 29 September 2020, if he will report on the progress made to date on improving road access to Cobh and the Great Island, County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [46371/22]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*41. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will extend the eligibility for tax relief for registration fees to newly-qualified veterinary nurses upon registering with the Veterinary Council of Ireland given that this is already in place for a number of similar professions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [46093/22]

*42. To ask the Minister for Finance when the Revenue Commissioners' office in Blackpool, Cork, will be opened to the public for appointments. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [46117/22]

*43. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount received by the Exchequer by way of dividend from commercial semi-State companies in the each of the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022 by amount and company in tabular form; the policy in respect of dividend payments to the Exchequer from commercial semi-State bodies; the way in which dividends are distributed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [46262/22]

*44. To ask the Minister for Finance in respect of the fine of €405 million imposed on a company (details supplied) if the funds will be lodged into the central Exchequer or if he has provided an escrow facility. — Catherine Murphy. [46264/22]

*45. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will engage with the banking sector to demand a moratorium on fining customers who fail to make direct debit payments on time for the duration of the energy crisis (details supplied). — Gary Gannon. [46310/22]

*46. To ask the Minister for Finance his Department's plans, if any, to amend VAT rates for print media; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [46353/22]

*47. To ask the Minister for Finance his Department's plans, if any, to amend VAT rates for domestic retrofitting or renewable energy works; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [46368/22]

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

*48. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the reason that the Office of Government Procurement has not established a cloud services procurement framework, despite the Government's long-held cloud ambitions, as recently re-stated in the Harnessing Digital and Connecting Ireland Plan 2030, and the stated goal in those strategies of taking a cloud-first approach in order to deliver better public services, leveraging the well-documented cybersecurity and sustainability benefits that the cloud provides; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [46144/22]

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

*49. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the supports or funding streams that are available to support a person who is a full-time rugby player with a provincial side at under-19 level given that the full-time commitments required mean that such a person cannot take up summer or weekend-employment. — Robert Troy. [46110/22]

*50. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she has met with an organisation (details supplied) to discuss improving stadiums and academy infrastructure for clubs participating in a competitive league; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [46121/22]

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

*51. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to confirm receipt of a submission (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46062/22]

*52. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he expects the Local Government (Directly Elected Mayor with Executive Functions in Limerick City and County) Bill 2022 to be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [46126/22]

*53. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 217 of 14 September 2022, the way that the twin goals of sustainable communities and long term tenancies are advanced in the case of a tenant who has resided in a council home for over 30 years and who has recently married, yet now finds that they are barred and delayed from availing of this scheme due to the new ruling that both tenants in a joint tenancy must have 10 years on housing supports before availing of the scheme; If he considers this reasonable; if it discriminates against long-term tenants who marry or have a new partner who becomes a joint tenant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [46145/22]

*54. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number and value of grants approved by a county council (details supplied) under the housing adaptation grant for older people and people with a disability by month in 2022; the average processing time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [46147/22]

*55. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will suspend the hare coursing season due to the increased number of reported cases of highly-pathogenic avian influenza H5N1; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46159/22]

*56. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider a suspension of the open hunting season on wild birds in light of the spread of highly-pathogenic avian influenza; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [46189/22]

*57. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ongoing review into the planning system, which will result in the consolidation and reform of the Planning and Development Act 2000, will include engagement on the merits of the current performance system in comparison with the more globally utilised conformance system. — Thomas Gould. [46218/22]

*58. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the consultation that has taken place or is planned with fishermen and fishing organisations regarding the construction of offshore wind farms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [46232/22]

*59. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the progress made to date on Objective 11 of Housing for All, namely the commitment to provide planning guidance for the development of Section 28 Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable and Compact

Settlement Guidance, including guidance on housing typologies to facilitate innovative approaches to medium and higher densities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [46308/22]

*60. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he intends to open a public consultation on Objective 11 of Housing for All, namely the commitment to provide planning guidance for the development of Section 28 Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable and Compact Settlement Guidance, including guidance on housing typologies to facilitate innovative approaches to medium and higher densities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [46309/22]

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

*61. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the reason for his support of the decision by European Union Foreign Ministers to renew the EU-Israel Association Council for the first time since 2012; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [46070/22]

*62. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of an application for citizenship made by a person (details supplied). — Cathal Crowe. [46074/22]

*63. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on a passport application (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [46142/22]

*64. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the action that will be taken to ensure that Irish citizens are provided with all possible assistance by Irish embassies after citizens' involvement in a car crash in a foreign country (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [46169/22]

*65. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the policy of his Department on Irish citizens being involved in fake election monitoring missions; if such involvement will lead to a review of membership of the 2018 Irish election observation roster; and if it will act as a bar to membership of the next roster due to commence in early 2023. — Gary Gannon. [46311/22]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*66. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to a matter (details supplied); and the measures being taken to ensure that schools are prepared for rising running costs this year. — Martin Browne. [46052/22]

*67. To ask the Minister for Education to confirm receipt of a submission (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46064/22]

*68. To ask the Minister for Education to allocate a school transport ticket to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [46072/22]

*69. To ask the Minister for Education the reason that language support is not being provided to a school (details supplied) in County Mayo; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [46088/22]

*70. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated full-year cost of rolling out the in-school and early years therapy support demonstration pilot project in each school across Ireland. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46109/22]

*71. To ask the Minister for Education when she expects Junior Certificate results to be made available to students; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [46122/22]

*72. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to her Department requesting funding from a school (details supplied) to ensure an adequate hall space for its new school building; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [46153/22]

*73. To ask the Minister for Education the number of primary ASD places that will be available for September 2023 in the Clondalkin area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [46161/22]

*74. To ask the Minister for Education the number of post-primary ASD places that will be available for September 2023 in the Clondalkin area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [46162/22]

*75. To ask the Minister for Education if the age restriction of 66 years applied by Bus Éireann to school bus drivers operating under contract to the company will be removed to allow them to drive school buses up to the same retirement age applicable to direct employees of the company; if he will clarify the position with the company; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [46168/22]

*76. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to support the proposal of the board of management of a school (details supplied) to use the already sanctioned ASD class for students with an ASD diagnosis already enrolled in the school and on their own waiting list; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [46233/22]

*77. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to a request by a school (details supplied) for a financial contribution to accompany an application for admission; and if this is correct given the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46234/22]

*78. To ask the Minister for Education if school transport will be provided to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [46307/22]

*79. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 271 of 14 September 2022, if she will address the case of two children (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [46337/22]

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

*80. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason that a person cannot use their electricity allowance on their gas bill where it is a small amount against a significant gas bill; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [46180/22]

*81. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to confirm receipt of a submission (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46063/22]

*82. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has considered with regard to the back-to-enterprise allowance adjusting the reduction of 75 per cent of entitlements on the second year of the scheme (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46078/22]

*83. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a supplementary payment will issue to a person (details supplied) that applied for this payment on 7 July while awaiting the outcome of another application; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [46091/22]

*84. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason that an application for carer's allowance has been refused in the case of a person (details supplied) in respect of their daughter who has type 1 diabetes and for whom they care on a full-time basis given that evidence of same has been provided; if the decision to refuse the application will be reviewed given the level of care provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46124/22]

*85. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she is of the view that more privacy should be provided in local Intreo offices (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46135/22]

*86. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the timeline for a decision on a social welfare appeal of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [46141/22]

*87. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her attention has been drawn to the additional workload that community welfare officers are facing due to the huge demand for the additional needs payment; if additional staff will be recruited to help with the backlog; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46157/22]

*88. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a decision will be made on the State pension (non-contributory) of a person (details supplied); the reason for the delay in making a decision in this case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46221/22]

*89. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are plans to increase the telephone allowance (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46229/22]

*90. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to hold a pension market review in view of the significant changes and ongoing issues within the sector; her views as to whether or not a full review including consultation with the public and relevant stakeholders is necessary; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46239/22]

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

*91. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to confirm receipt of a submission (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46061/22]

*92. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason for the delay in finalising domestic violence-paid leave recommendations; if the recommendations will

include a requirement for victims to provide documentation to support an application for domestic violence-leave; and the date on which he will publish his recommendations in full. — Mary Lou McDonald. [46073/22]

*93. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will clarify issues in relation to the Labour Relations Commission Employment Regulation Order for the early years sector; if the order means that a school age practitioner will be paid the same rate as an early years educator regardless of training or qualifications; and the definition of the pay grades within the early years sector to ensure accuracy of pay grade application. — Robert Troy. [46076/22]

*94. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the work-life balance directive was transposed into national law by the deadline of 2 August 2022; and if not, the penalties that will be imposed on Ireland as a result of his Department failing to meet Ireland's obligations under European law. — Mary Lou McDonald. [46090/22]

*95. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will publish the conclusions of the review that his Department undertook in 2021 on domestic violence paid leave; and if a copy of this review has been provided to the agencies and organisations that participated in it. — Mary Lou McDonald. [46108/22]

*96. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of childcare facilities registered with his Department that have ceased business in each of the years 2020 and 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [46123/22]

*97. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will take fresh initiatives to support the opening of new services in areas where there is a proven lack of adequate supply, confirmed by the local childcare committee. — Richard Bruton. [46133/22]

*98. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will consider steps to simplify the registration of childminders delivering service from a home; and if he will consider ways of supporting such provision where there is a shortage of registered childcare services delivering under the various national childcare supports. — Richard Bruton. [46134/22]

*99. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will review the roll-out of a scheme in an area (details supplied) to ensure that the programme is adequate for small-scale providers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [46149/22]

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

*100. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to provide financial support to persons wishing to enter and or remain in third level education. — Catherine Murphy. [46300/22]

*101. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to confirm receipt of a submission (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46067/22]

*102. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the work he and his Department are undertaking, if any, to ensure all students have fair and equitable online access to further and higher education in light of the ongoing student accommodation crisis; if he agrees that high-level institutions must be proactive and flexible in providing online and remote opportunities to students where possible in view of the fact that the difficulties students have in securing appropriate accommodation; his plans, if any, to issue updated guidance to higher level institutions regarding remote learning; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46115/22]

*103. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the dates on which each of the five stages that he referenced with respect to the administrative process in a higher-education policy debate concerning the aspiration to expand the footprint of South East Technological University Waterford in Seanad Éireann on 14 September 2022, were met with respect to the past 10 such projects that have completed all stages in his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [46171/22]

*104. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for a schedule of financial supports available to persons and or their family household in respect of their ambition to attend and or remain in third level education that are not eligible for SUSI. — Catherine Murphy. [46299/22]

*105. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of his engagement with third level education providers to reduce fees and make access to third level education a viable option for all. — Catherine Murphy. [46301/22]

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

*106. To ask the Minister for Justice to confirm receipt of a submission (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46068/22]

*107. To ask the Minister for Justice if members of the uniformed Prison Service who took part in recent centenary commemorations did not receive the appropriate commemorative medals that were awarded to others; if there was a particular reason for this; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46132/22]

*108. To ask the Minister for Justice when a family (details supplied) in County Longford can expect a date for an inquest from the Coroner's Office; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [46165/22]

*109. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will review and re-examine the case of a person (details supplied) whose visa extension application has been rejected with little explanation as to the reason for same. — Chris Andrews. [46167/22]

*110. To ask the Minister for Justice if an application for a work employment visa submitted by a doctor (details supplied) will be reviewed and expedited given that they are waiting to start employment in a HSE-managed facility; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46177/22]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*111. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the HSE feasibility study in relation to the future use of a hospital (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Chris Andrews. [46071/22]

*112. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to extend free general practitioner care to all children under eight years of age and then under 12 years of age; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [46094/22]

*113. To ask the Minister for Health the number of scoliosis and spina bifida related orthopaedic procedures carried out for children in each of the years 2016 to 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [46111/22]

*114. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on waiting lists for scoliosis and spina bifida related orthopaedic procedures and consultations for each month in each of the years 2016 to 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [46112/22]

*115. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address the issue of regulation of psychotherapy and counselling under the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 (details supplied). — Kieran O'Donnell. [46116/22]

*116. To ask the Minister for Health when the Health Products Regulatory Authority expects to have rivotril back in stock; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [46120/22]

*117. To ask the Minister for Health when staff at a nursing home (details supplied) will receive their pandemic bonus payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [46136/22]

*118. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE has commissioned a tree surgeon to access the trees at a location (details supplied); if so, if he will furnish a report on same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [46143/22]

*119. To ask the Minister for Health when the Disability Capacity Review Action Plan will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [46151/22]

*120. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on plans to provide the pandemic bonus payment to non-HSE/non-Section 38 organisations covered by the Government decision; when these workers can expect to receive the payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe O'Brien. [46160/22]

*121. To ask the Minister for Health if a person (details supplied) can be moved to a nursing home nearer to their family home in Glasthule, County Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46163/22]

*122. To ask the Minister for Health the progress that is being made with regards to reinstating public health nurse check-ups for infants and children in Lucan, County Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [46164/22]

*123. To ask the Minister for Health his plans, if any, to extend the provision of free condoms to all persons under 25 years, regardless of gender, as part of the State's existing free contraceptives scheme; the estimated cost to the Exchequer of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46172/22]

*124. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the scale of issues facing pharmacists and community pharmacies; the action that he has taken to support pharmacists who have raised concerns around availability of leave, workplace satisfaction and general morale; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46173/22]

*125. To ask the Minister for Health the number of community pharmacies that are currently operating without a supervising pharmacist; the steps that he has taken to ensure employment of supervising pharmacists in pharmacies across the State; the action that he has taken to support pharmacists in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46174/22]

*126. To ask the Minister for Health the reasons for the planned closure of all clinical sexual health services in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda, and in Louth County Hospital, Dundalk; the expected closure dates; his plans for sexual health services in the north east once these services close; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46175/22]

*127. To ask the Minister for Health the number of claims that have been taken against the State in respect of Covid-19 that the State Claims Agency is processing as of 15 September 2022; the number of claims accepted; and the number rejected and or not accepted as valid. — Catherine Murphy. [46178/22]

*128. To ask the Minister for Health the measures and initiatives that will be taken to better understand and to reduce still-birth and infant deaths among mothers of African background, and those in poorer social-economic groups following the publication of a report (details supplied) showing inequalities in mortality; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [46190/22]

*129. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a case (details supplied) reported on in 2021; the engagements he has had with this service provider about this matter; the reason he has not responded to a family advocacy group's request to share the outcome of this service providers consultations with a legal firm; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46220/22]

*130. To ask the Minister for Health if he will support the kaftrio 35 treatment for children for cystic fibrosis (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46224/22]

*131. To ask the Minister for Health if he will list all of the eligible categories of workers for the pandemic special recognition payment. — Seán Crowe. [46225/22]

*132. To ask the Minister for Health the reason that firefighters and paramedics with Dublin Fire Brigade have not received the pandemic special recognition payment despite providing frontline ambulance services during the crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Crowe. [46226/22]

*133. To ask the Minister for Health when firefighters and members of Dublin Fire Brigade will receive their pandemic special recognition payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [46230/22]

*134. To ask the Minister for Health Network teams that serve the HSE CHO 9 area; his views regarding a letter received by a person from one of the Children's Disability Network teams that states there is a minimum 40 week wait to be seen by them in view of the fact that most children have been waiting for many years under the previous regime without being seen; the reason that the wait list is so long; if there are staffing and other resourcing issues at play; his plan to rectify the issue; for a timeline for such plans that can be provided to waiting families; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [46312/22]

*135. To ask the Minister for Health when the pandemic recognition payment will be paid to Fire Brigade Paramedic staff who were on the frontline during the pandemic. — Paul Donnelly. [46336/22]

*136. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for speech and language therapy by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46339/22]

*137. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for physiotherapy by CHO, and age category; and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46340/22]

*138. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for occupational therapy by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46341/22]

*139. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children and young persons on waiting lists for an assessment of need by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46342/22]

*140. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for ophthalmology by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46343/22]

*141. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for audiology by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46344/22]

*142. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for podiatry by CHO, and age category; and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46345/22]

*143. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for community psychology services by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46346/22]

*144. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for counselling services by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46347/22]

*145. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for CAMHS by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46348/22]

*146. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for dietetics by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46349/22]

*147. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on an acute hospital waiting list by age category, hospital, speciality and time waiting in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46350/22]

*148. To ask the Minister for Health the number of acute inpatient, critical care and stepdown beds planned for 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; the number delivered to date, by quarter; the number of outstanding beds to be delivered in 2022 and 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46354/22]

*149. To ask the Minister for Health the number of vacant posts in children's disability network teams, by post and team in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46355/22]

*150. To ask the Minister for Health the number of whole-time equivalent staff who have been recruited into the HSE since the beginning of 2022; the number of staff who have retired or left the HSE in the same period; the expected number of staff who will retire or leave the HSE in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46356/22]

*151. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on implementation of the National Oral Health Policy; the progress to date on reforming the dental treatment services scheme; the steps that are being taken to address the difficulties faced by medical card patients accessing dental services in some areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46357/22]

*152. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists participating in the dental treatment services scheme, by LHO, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46358/22]

*153. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists who have left the dental treatment services scheme since 2015, by LHO and year, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [46359/22]

*154. To ask the Minister for Health if an appointment for a person (details supplied) will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46369/22]

*155. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the decision-making process for the selection of areas for State-funded primary care centres; if there is still a priority list; the prioritisation system for approving private sector centres; if he will provide details of the publicly-funded centres which have been built or approved over each of the past five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46372/22]

*156. To ask the Minister for Health if he will specify all children's disability network teams that serve the HSE CHO 9 area. — Gary Gannon. [46376/22]

*157. To ask the Minister for Health the current average wait times for each children's disability network team in CHO9. — Gary Gannon. [46377/22]

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

*158. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of the development of the biomass industry here; and the involvement of his Department. — Brian Stanley. [46242/22]

*159. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the commitments that he has secured or obtained in the review of the CAP regarding fishers and the fishing process industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [46181/22]

*160. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 647 of 14 September 2022, in stating that removing lop and top or brash from site is not described in the standards for felling and reforestation, if harvesting lop and top and brash from forestry harvesting sites is outside of the scope of the standards for felling and reforestation of October 2019 and that the standards for felling and reforestation do not apply to such standards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46215/22]

*161. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 647 of 14 September 2022, in stating that there is no licence requirement if a landowner wishes to remove some of this material from a site, if this is an unlicensed activity and that harvesting lop and top or brash from forestry harvesting sites is outside the scope of the felling licence system and requirements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46216/22]

*162. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 647 of 14 September 2022, if he will confirm the Department's standard or guideline or guidance document that forest owners should review when harvesting lop and top or brash from harvesting sites; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46217/22]

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

*163. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will urgently review the provision of funding to an association (details supplied) to ensure that the services can continue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [46150/22]

*164. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to confirm receipt of a submission (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46065/22]

*165. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will support an application (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46095/22]

*166. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide an update on plans to establish exclusively independent community-led Leader groups, as committed to in the Programme for Government. — Cathal Crowe. [46166/22]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH,
I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 22 MEÁN FÓMHAIR, 2022
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER, 2022**

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

1. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 299 of 26 July 2022, the composition of the promised specialist team which will assist the National Transport Authority in conjunction with Galway City and County Councils, in undertaking the work to update the Galway Transport Strategy; the details of the process for the appointment of members of the

specialist team; the status of the appointment process for the members of the specialist team; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [46314/22]

2. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will conduct a feasibility study to investigate the reopening of the Navan to Kingscourt rail line; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45990/22]

3. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of traffic calming measures in an area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [46255/22]

4. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to tackle reliability issues on bus routes (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [45999/22]

5. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the development of the Boyne Greenway; and when the Greenway will be built. — Peadar Tóibín. [46284/22]

6. To ask the Minister for Transport the total capital funding provided for his Department in 2022; the expenditure profile at the end of August 2022; if there is likely to be an underspend in any particular area, if so, if additional funding will be provided for the non-national road network; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [46316/22]

7. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will adjust the eligibility for the 19 to 24-year-old Leap card to include third-level students who are 18-years-old given that many private operators now charge more for a child ticket than a young adult ticket under the newly introduced scheme, resulting in 18-year-old college students who use private operators not being eligible to avail of the intended saving for third level students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [46187/22]

8. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress to date with the safe-routes-to-school initiative, the best exemplars which have emerged; and if there shall be a new call for participation. — Richard Bruton. [45647/22]

9. To ask the Minister for Transport his plan for fare reductions on public transport in Budget 2023; if he has met with public transport service operators with regard to fare reductions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [46105/22]

10. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to increase funding to the safe routes to school programme to improve cycling infrastructure on the approach to schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46321/22]

11. To ask the Minister for Transport the date on which the North County Dublin Irish Rail services will receive new carriages for train services in the Greater Dublin Area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [46103/22]

12. To ask the Minister for Transport the position in relation to new BusConnects routes and scheduled implementation of same in Dublin given the difficulties in recruiting and retaining drivers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [45703/22]

13. To ask the Minister for Transport if new and extra train carriages will be provided for the Dublin to Waterford line; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [45996/22]

14. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the All-Island Strategic Rail Review in order to progress the delivery of improved rail infrastructure and services to help achieve connectivity for the regions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [46271/22]

15. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of towns with a population of over 1,000 persons that do not have a daily commuting bus service. — Peadar Tóibín. [46286/22]

16. To ask the Minister for Transport the date on which he will commence work on a new national aviation policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [46097/22]

17. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the need for later train services from Dublin to the regional cities and major towns on train lines in order to accommodate diverse working schedules and to improve the connectivity to the regions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [46272/22]

18. To ask the Minister for Transport the total funding provided in 2022 for the non-national road network; if he will ensure that increased funding will be provided for this road network in 2023 due to the need for an increased investment in these roads in areas such as counties Cavan and Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [46315/22]

19. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount allocated by his Department for the development of the rail line from Limerick to Foynes; when it is expected this expenditure will be incurred; if it is intended to complete the connection of Foynes to freight centres along the west coast such as Ballina and Westport by re-opening the rail line from Athenry to Claremorris; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46273/22]

20. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the East West Link; the engagements made by his Department on this project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45989/22]

21. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to reform the EV grant scheme to target grant support as persons that need it most; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46319/22]

22. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the Royal Canal Greenway between Leixlip and Clonsilla; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [45998/22]

23. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps his is taking to provide public transport options for people with disabilities living in rural areas. — Holly Cairns. [46043/22]

24. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has met with an industry (details supplied) in advance of Budget 2023; if additional supports will be offered in view of the significant pressures on the industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46201/22]

25. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the difficulty by bus companies in recruiting and retaining staff will delay or hinder plans to improve public transport and to reach climate targets; if his Department plans to deal with staffing levels specifically on public service obligation services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [45984/22]

26. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has outlined the opportunity that exists in relation to the use of hydrotreated vegetable oil to members of county councils and the Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [46191/22]

27. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to introduce a scrappage scheme for the oldest and most polluting lorries to help hauliers transition to more environmentally friendly engines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46318/22]

28. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress that has been made on connecting rural Ireland; if the roll-out of new routes is on target; and if any modifications could be made to accelerate the roll-out. — Robert Troy. [46000/22]

29. To ask the Minister for Transport when he expects legislative measures to be introduced to facilitate the deployment of red-light cameras. — Neasa Hourigan. [46324/22]

30. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department has undertaken any work to address the current lack of bus drivers; if consideration is been given to temporarily increase the maximum age limit for school bus drivers to alleviate the pressure on bus companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [46335/22]

31. To ask the Minister for Transport to report on the delivery of service by a company (details supplied) including cancellations of buses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [45994/22]

32. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will retain the reduced public transport fares to help with the cost of living in 2023; if his Department has considered reducing the public transport fares even further; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46200/22]

33. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on stakeholder engagement on the Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan; if he will outline the implementation of the plan going forward; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46182/22]

34. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which passenger capacity is being or can be improved on the north Kildare commuter lines such as Naas-Sallins, Hazelhatch, Kilcock, Maynooth, Leixlip and Confey; if park-and-ride facilities are likely to be provided or extended on these very busy routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46363/22]

35. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress that is being made in addressing shortages of HGV drivers; his plans to extend driving licence recognition to additional non-EU countries; and the timeframe for the recognition of Ukrainian licences. — Robert Troy. [46001/22]

36. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to extend the short-hop zone to more train stations to help reduce the cost of public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46320/22]

37. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the feasibility of extending the age limit for school transport drivers to 72 years of age to allow older drivers who are in possession of a full public service vehicle licence, a full driving licence and who are certified as medically fit to drive, and to assist with the current shortage of school transport drivers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [46186/22]

38. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will detail the shortfall in bus driver numbers in all public service obligation service providers including Bus Éireann, Dublin Bus and Go Ahead; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [45694/22]

39. To ask the Minister for Transport the improvements planned for Carlow town bus links; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [45997/22]

40. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the rollout of Connecting Ireland for the persons of Cork North West; the timelines for the new bus routes; extended bus routes to be rolled out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [46252/22]

41. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department has had meetings with Transport for Ireland with regard to expanding the TFI 90-minute €2 fare to include more towns in Dublin such as Skerries and Balbriggan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [46107/22]

42. To ask the Minister for Transport the engagement he has had with public transport service providers (details supplied) with regards to public safety and security on public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [46104/22]

43. To ask the Minister for Transport the grants that have been put in place to support the transition to electric vehicles. — Peadar Tóibín. [46128/22]

44. To ask the Minister for Transport his concerns that the working conditions and pay of drivers in Bus Éireann may be affecting the staffing levels needed at the company; if he will meet with the National Transport Authority to examine whether their contracting and tendering model is fit for purpose; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [45985/22]

45. To ask the Minister for Transport if BusConnects in Cork will be a cashless system. — Thomas Gould. [46245/22]

46. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress that has been made on the implementation of the Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan; and the improvements that have been made in County Mayo. — Alan Dillon. [46351/22]

47. To ask the Minister for Transport the actions that he plans to take to address the ongoing service issues in the Greater Dublin Area, with specific regard to the bus services operated by an organisation (details supplied) including the 33A, 33B, and 102 services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [46139/22]

48. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to follow the example of other countries in relation to reducing the costs of public transport and moving to a free and frequent public transport system nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46235/22]

49. To ask the Minister for Transport the rate of expenditure of government allocations for walking and cycling infrastructure within Mayo County Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46352/22]

50. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 332 of 14 June 2022, the progress that has been made to-date on the roll-out of park-and-ride facilities in Galway;

the status of the National Transport Authority Park and Ride Development Office Park and Ride Study for Galway; the status of the site options analysis and feasibility studies for each of the zones identified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [46313/22]

51. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will re-examine the policy on free public transport in light of recent moves in a number of EU Member States to reduce fares and its impact on numbers increasing on public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [45701/22]

52. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans for a pedestrian crossing or flyover at the roundabout at the M1-R104 intersection located in Santry, Dublin 9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [46281/22]

53. To ask the Minister for Transport if the action within the new Road Safety Strategy to explore the potential of an online portal for road users to upload footage of road traffic offences which could assist in prosecution, is on schedule for completion in Quarter 4 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [46322/22]

54. To ask the Minister for Transport the investment in public transport per person in rural areas versus Dublin city. — Peadar Tóibín. [46285/22]

55. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the Oylegate to Rosslare bypass in Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [45549/22]

56. To ask the Minister for Transport if the public transport fares reduction will be extended beyond 31 December 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46183/22]

57. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the calls made by taxi representative groups at a meeting of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Transport and Communications for supports for their industry (details supplied); his plans to support the calls; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46270/22]

58. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of a light rail system in Cork; and the stations that will be on the northside of Cork city. — Thomas Gould. [46246/22]

59. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to improve public transport connectivity in an area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [45983/22]

60. To ask the Minister for Transport if he plans to extend all public transport fare reductions to private bus operators; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [45719/22]

61. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to extend the 20% fare reduction for public transport to commercial bus operators; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46317/22]

62. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures considered to address the road safety issues on the Macroom to Ballincollig stretch of the N22; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [46251/22]

63. To ask the Minister for Transport the actions taken by his Department to increase the number of taxis in the Dublin region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [46253/22]

64. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will directly intervene and press for the Road Safety Authority to commit to a permanent driver test centre for Drogheda considering the fact that Drogheda is the largest town in Ireland along with the longest wait times in the country which is completely unacceptable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46100/22]

65. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the roll-out of the G1 and G2 Bus Connect services; and when these services are likely to commence. — Patrick Costello. [46202/22]

66. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on ensuring that Castletownbere is classified as a larger town with the Connection Ireland plan to ensure that the Beara peninsula is assigned the necessary scale of routes. — Holly Cairns. [46044/22]

67. To ask the Minister for Transport the current position regarding the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [46334/22]

68. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the Connecting Ireland programme; the progress made to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [45684/22]

69. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps that his Department is taking to ensure that the cycling and walking officer roles that are funded by his Department, are being filled within Dublin City Council. — Patrick Costello. [46203/22]

70. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will intervene to prevent the cessation of public transport routes in east Waterford (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [45815/22]

71. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration will be given to including 17- and 18-year-olds on the youth travel card scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [45718/22]

72. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which plans for the electrification of the Dublin to Maynooth rail line are actively in hand when the project is likely to be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46362/22]

73. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has identified the barriers to adoption of electric modes of travel; and if he is developing measures to address them. — Richard Bruton. [45648/22]

74. To ask the Minister for Transport if the Strategic Rail Review is still anticipated to be completed in Q4 2022; if he will commit to publishing the report as soon as it is completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [46276/22]

75. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps that his Department is taking to ensure that Ireland harnesses the potential of the Connecting Europe Facility fund which will make €5.12

billion available for projects to help increase the sustainability of the transport network, including rail infrastructure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [46323/22]

76. To ask the Minister for Transport the date on which Kishogue train station will open to the public; the cost of same; the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [45995/22]

77. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [46129/22]

78. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures being considered by his Department to further cut the cost of public transport in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [46254/22]

79. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department has received a Public Service Obligation application from an organisation (details supplied) in terms of a service established between Shannon Airport and Amsterdam Schipol Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [46096/22]

80. To ask the Minister for Transport if the public transport fare reduction will be extended; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46212/22]

81. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will re-examine the role of the National Transport Authority in the provision of bus services across Ireland given the recent failures of their tendering and contracting process in relation to public service obligation services, specifically the attempt to contract out the 101 Bus Éireann service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [45699/22]

82. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on improving security and safety on public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46211/22]

83. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department will review train schedules and timetables between Cork and Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [45982/22]

84. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the current difficulties in Bus Éireann in relation to the retention of drivers and its impact on services across Ireland; if he has any plans to raise these shortages with the National Transport Authority or company management; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [45696/22]

85. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress that has been made with the roll-out of Connecting Ireland bus services; the amount allocated to the project in 2022; the estimated expenditure in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46274/22]

86. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will urgently seek a review of supports which are currently in place to support the overall Government strategy to transition to electric vehicles in the coming years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [45757/22]

87. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding DART plus; the progress made to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [45681/22]

88. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps he is taking to make the necessary regulatory changes to enable credit unions to significantly increase their footprint in the mortgage market. — Holly Cairns. [46041/22]

89. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will indicate the relaxed European Union rules that are now available to Member States' taxation and public finance ministers in order to assist in confronting the present crisis and if he will indicate the possibilities they open up. — Richard Bruton. [46332/22]

90. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to increasing inheritance tax thresholds given the increase in house prices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46185/22]

91. To ask the Minister for Finance the degree to which Irish mortgage borrowers can expect to be in a position to borrow at a similar rate to those available throughout Europe given their perceived single market entitlements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46365/22]

92. To ask the Minister for Finance the discussions that he and his Department have had with the Central Bank in relation to an extension of the timeframe for banks (details supplied) exiting the market here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [46296/22]

93. To ask the Minister for Finance if financial supports for working from home will be increased given the increase in the cost of utilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46184/22]

94. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on the work that he has undertaken to bring down the cost of insurance for motorists, homeowners and businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [46283/22]

95. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on progress in the review of the disabled drivers and disabled passengers scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [46247/22]

96. To ask the Minister for Finance to review as a matter of urgency the rates and tax relief changes that will commence on 1 January 2023 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46098/22]

97. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the latest recommendations from the Commission on Taxation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [46250/22]

98. To ask the Minister for Finance if he plans to expand remote working relief in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [46279/22]

99. To ask the Minister for Finance the way that he intends to use the billions in additional revenue now available to him as a result of the surge in corporate tax receipts expected this year; the way that these may be used to combat the ever-worsening housing crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46268/22]

100. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to reduce the VAT rate for newspapers and digital publications to zero, following a report (details supplied); the analysis that his Department has carried out on this matter; the details of any engagement that he has had with industry representatives on this matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [46374/22]

101. To ask the Minister for Finance if financial supports for working from home will be examined given the increase in the cost of utilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46209/22]

102. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to a report (details supplied) which highlighted Ireland's over-reliance on corporation tax receipts from the ten highest-paying companies; his plans for a review of Ireland's reliance on foreign direct investment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [46373/22]

103. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report back from the informal Economic and Financial Affairs Council configuration in Prague; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [46249/22]

104. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of persons who have availed of remote working relief to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [46282/22]

105. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review and reform the advantageous tax regime enjoyed by IREFs and REITs following the sharp decline in taxes paid by institutional property investment funds and recommendations made by the Commission on Tax and Welfare. — Pearse Doherty. [46287/22]

106. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated revenue from corporation tax in the context of growing global inflation rates and economic difficulties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [46333/22]

107. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the taxation commission report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [46048/22]

108. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated number of individuals who would benefit from a 30% income tax rate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46210/22]

109. To ask the Minister for Finance if the VAT rate of 9% for the tourism and hospitality sector will be extended beyond February 2023 in view of the cost-of-living crisis and the pressures facing businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46194/22]

110. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of persons and the percentage of the workforce that pay income tax at the higher rate; and the number of full-time workers who would benefit from a 30% income tax rate. — Alan Dillon. [46361/22]

111. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to introduce new personal taxation treatment to encourage stay at home parents to enter part-time employment in strategic areas (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [46101/22]

112. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on reforming motor vehicle taxation to improve energy efficiency of the car fleet in Ireland and uphold the tax revenue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [46327/22]

113. To ask the Minister for Finance the discussions he and his Department have had with the Central Bank in relation to the difficulties that have arisen for some customers of banks (details supplied) in opening new accounts with other financial institutions. — Brendan Smith. [46295/22]

114. To ask the Minister for Finance if he would support regulations to oblige retail banks to guarantee access to cash across the State through a branch network and ATM network that would allow people to easily access and deal in cash should they so wish; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [46198/22]

115. To ask the Minister for Finance the measures being considered other than business loans and grants to assist SMEs with the rising cost of energy to ensure viability of their businesses in view of the cost of living crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [46244/22]

116. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans, if any, to reduce the rate of VAT applied on condoms and menstrual cups to 0%; the estimated cost to the Exchequer of reducing the rate on said products to 0%; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46208/22]

117. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the review of the disabled drivers and disabled passengers scheme that his Department gave a commitment to undertake; the timeline for reforming the scheme; and the expected date by which the Medical Board of Appeal will recommence hearings. — Pearse Doherty. [46288/22]

118. To ask the Minister for Finance if a statement on the State's progress on the wellbeing indicators in accordance with the dimensions outlined in the Wellbeing Framework for Ireland will accompany Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [46188/22]

119. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is planning any further taxation measures in Budget 2023 to bring the large numbers of vacant and derelict homes into use given the severity of the housing crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46266/22]

120. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is concerned by the recent findings of the Report of the Commission of Investigation IBRC that a senior official at his Department made an unauthorised disclosure of confidential information regarding the sale process for an organisation (details supplied); if he believes that it is appropriate that the same official now represents the State's interest in relation to the liquidation of IBRC in their role as head of the shareholding and financial advisory division at his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46207/22]

121. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to extend the 9% VAT rate for the hospitality sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [46257/22]

122. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which the necessary economic fundamentals continue to be met and will so do in the coming year in the aftermath of Budget 2023 or otherwise; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46364/22]

123. To ask the Minister for Finance if the duty that was removed from petrol and diesel will apply for another year; and if he will freeze the carbon tax in light of the current energy crisis. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [46192/22]

124. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the work of the Office for the Promotion of Competition in the Insurance Market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [45714/22]

125. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is concerned about the impact of rising European Central Bank interest rates on mortgage holders; his plans, if any, to put a cap on variable mortgage interest rates to protect homeowners; if he agrees that the current code of conduct on mortgage arrears needs to be updated to provide greater protection to homeowners who may be in arrears; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46205/22]

126. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to extend the bike-to-work scheme to include more persons (details supplied); his plans to raise the limits of the scheme to enable the purchase of cargo bikes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [46328/22]

127. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount his Department has collected in VAT on fuel per year in the past five years. — Peadar Tóibín. [46330/22]

128. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will introduce a refundable tax credit equivalent to one month's rent for struggling renters in Budget 2023 given the deepening unaffordability in the rental sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [46290/22]

129. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount of revenue his Department has made through excise duties on fuel per year in the past five years. — Peadar Tóibín. [46329/22]

130. To ask the Minister for Finance the way in which the terms of reference were set for the Commission on Taxation; and the way in which the recommendations will support entrepreneurs in Ireland. — Robert Troy. [46047/22]

131. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans, if any, to afford owners of defective apartment blocks built during the Celtic Tiger-era additional tax reliefs on the costs of redress which they face; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [46238/22]

132. To ask the Minister for Finance the action that he is taking to address the risks associated with the recent upward shift in corporation tax receipts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [46305/22]

133. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the easing of VAT rates for retrofitting works or renewable energy works for domestic purposes to assist homeowners in reduction reliance on energy providers in view of the energy crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46099/22]

134. To ask the Minister for Finance the steps he is taking to fulfil the commitment in the Programme for Government for credit unions to become a key provider of community banking. — Holly Cairns. [46042/22]

135. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on the resumption of the primary medical certificate appeals process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [45988/22]

136. To ask the Minister for Finance with reference to the one-member company pensions if the proposed changes to the PRSA will replicate all aspects of existing one-member arrangements; and if the enhanced PRSA will be included in the Finance Act 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [46243/22]

137. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on his recent engagement with the credit unions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [46280/22]

138. To ask the Minister for Finance his work to date on the introduction of a vacant property tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [46258/22]

139. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will support measures to be taken to ensure that interest rate rises will not be passed-on to mortgage consumers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [46196/22]

140. To ask the Minister for Finance the scale of the impact that rising energy prices will have on the balance of international payments in European Union Member States; the implication that this will have on public policy; the strategies that are being debated by the Euro-Group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [46331/22]

141. To ask the Minister for Finance the grants and benefit-in-kind rates that will take effect in 2023 for new battery electric vehicles; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46360/22]

142. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the recent Tax and Welfare Commission Report's findings that wealth and capital taxes should increase materially as a proportion of tax revenues; his plans, if any, to increase such taxes in order to put the public finances on a sustainable footing as outlined in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46204/22]

143. To ask the Minister for Finance when he will bring forward his proposals on reforming the credit union policy framework; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46193/22]

144. To ask the Minister for Finance the action that he is taking to support credit unions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [46326/22]

145. To ask the Minister for Finance the way that he will ensure that the benefits of the insurance reform agenda are passed on to customers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [46304/22]

146. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on undertaking a regular benchmarking exercise in respect of all working-age income supports, as recommended in the Report of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [46297/22]

147. To ask the Minister for Finance the measures that are under consideration to alleviate the huge increases in the cost of energy for small and medium businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [45715/22]

148. To ask the Minister for Finance the aspects of the recommendations of the recent Report on the Commission on Taxation which he supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [46197/22]

149. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will examine changes to the tax rules affecting section 31E of the stamp duty legislation which are impacting schemes to help elderly persons remain in their homes when they experience financial difficulties (details supplied); his plans, if any, to exempt such products from the current rules; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [46237/22]

150. To ask the Minister for Finance if the Department of Health has nominated candidates for the disabled driver medical board of appeal following the closure of the second-round expression of interest campaign which closed on 5 July 2022; when he will appoint nominees to the Board; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [46277/22]

151. To ask the Minister for Finance if he, or any of his Departmental officials, were provided with any prior written or verbal notice regarding the decision of a bank (details supplied) on 21 July 2022 to terminate cash services at a number of its branches; if he or his officials were in possession of a document before the bank's announcement of the decision to terminate cash services at a number of its branches on 22 July 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46206/22]

152. To ask the Minister for Finance the details of the SME Credit Demand Survey that was published by his Department in September 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [46325/22]

153. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on progress to replace the disabled drivers medical board of appeal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [46248/22]