



## **DÁIL ÉIREANN**

*Dé Céadaoin, 12 Deireadh Fómhair, 2022*

*Wednesday, 12th October, 2022*

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**CEISTEANNA  
QUESTIONS**



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**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.*

\*1. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on extending the World Trade Organisation decision on the TRIPS agreement to therapeutics and diagnostic tests which would enable low and middle-income countries to source additional therapeutics and diagnostic supplies from authorised generic manufacturers and could help improve global surveillance efforts and prevent disease progression; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50418/22]

\*2. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to a letter (details supplied) from 18 NGOs calling for Ireland to support an extension of the 17 June 2022 decision of the World Trade Organisation on the TRIPS Agreement to cover Covid-19 therapeutics and diagnostic tests with no further conditions or changes to the text; his plans to support the proposed extension for the full five-year period from the point of extension; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50420/22]

\*3. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50447/22]

\*4. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when the Sick Leave Act 2022 will be implemented; when statutory sick leave days will be made available to employees; the number of annual sick leave days that employees will be entitled to; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [50570/22]

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

\*5. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department

provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50448/22]

\*6. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on the way that salmon catchment numbers were put together for the rivers Suir and Nore in each of the years 2018 to 2022, inclusive; the way that the calculations were adjusted to take account of low water during this period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [50471/22]

\*7. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will request the installation of a salmon counter on the River Suir at Carrick On Suir to ensure the accuracy of the number of salmon that go up the River Suir to spawn rather than depending on guesswork; if the number of salmon recorded in future will be based over a full calendar year using a counter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [50472/22]

\*8. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will request the installation of a salmon counter on the River Nore at Inistiogue to ensure accuracy of the number of salmon that go up the River Nore to spawn rather than depending on guesswork; if the number of salmon that are recorded in future will be based over a full calendar year using a counter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [50473/22]

\*9. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will ensure that representatives of the ancient and cultural tradition of snap net fishing will be included in the decision-making process in relation to the salmon catch that is allowed on the rivers Suir and Nore; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [50474/22]

\*10. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on the way that the ancient tradition of snap net fishing that has been in place since the time of the Vikings will be protected into the future to ensure that the unique skills are not lost forever; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [50475/22]

\*11. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the mechanism by which full-time residents in mobile home parks who pay for electricity calculated by individual non-ESBN meters through their mobile home park operator will receive the three lump sum electricity account credits announced in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [50498/22]

\*12. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of prepaid gas meters for domestic household customers in the State; the number with each company. — Mick Barry. [50501/22]

\*13. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of prepaid electricity meters for domestic household customers in the State; the breakdown of the number with each company. — Mick Barry. [50502/22]

\*14. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the amounts provided in hardship funds for each of the gas and electricity utility companies. — Mick Barry. [50503/22]

\*15. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he raised the issue of extending the moratorium on disconnections to prepaid customers in his meetings with

gas and electricity utility companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [50504/22]

\*16. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department has explored ways to extend the disconnection moratorium to prepaid customers; the options explored; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [50505/22]

\*17. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has explored the various barriers that exist for consumers to switch from prepay to credit meters; his views on a ban on exit fees or other financial penalties for persons wishing to switch from prepaid meters to credit meters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [50506/22]

\*18. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if those who have agreed to take a prepaid meter as part of a process to pay down arrears on their electricity or gas accounts will be allowed to switch back to a credit meter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [50507/22]

\*19. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will support the waiving of the fee to change a gas meter from prepaid to credit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [50508/22]

\*20. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if residents of caravan parks may access the full €200 reduction off their energy bills (details supplied); if so, the way in which they may apply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50517/22]

\*21. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the options for redress open to prepay customers who were not provided with the €200 reduction off energy bills allocated in April, May and June 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50518/22]

\*22. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide clarity on the projected increase in gas power supply pricing over the coming 12-month period. — Robert Troy. [50526/22]

\*23. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of the establishment, membership and remit of the cross-departmental acceleration taskforces (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50528/22]

\*24. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the European Commission definition of highspeed broadband; and the impact that this definition has on determining the intervention area for the National Broadband Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50535/22]

\*25. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures that he has put in place to stop companies from cutting off pay-as-you-go customers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50565/22]

\*26. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if churches and parishes halls will be able to avail of supports for the payment of their heating and energy costs under measures recently announced by Government, aimed at assisting those who may find themselves

confronted with unsustainable energy bills; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50661/22]

\*27. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the target number of attic and cavity wall insulation completions in 2022, 2023 and 2024. — Darren O'Rourke. [50684/22]

\*28. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the estimated number of homes that require attic and cavity wall insulation upgrades. — Darren O'Rourke. [50685/22]

\*29. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the amount in the form of grants or direct funding that his Department or agencies under his Department's remit have provided to local environment networks, public participation networks that are categorised under the Environmental Pillar; if he will provide a list of those organisations that are in receipt of monies in each of the years 2016 to 2021, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50691/22]

\*30. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if a grant will be made available to those households upgrading to a wood pellet stove; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sorca Clarke. [50696/22]

*Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.*

\*31. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the French proposal to tax private jets at the informal meeting of transport ministers in Prague on 20-21 October 2022. — Eoin Ó Broin. [50395/22]

\*32. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50460/22]

\*33. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the only form of identity being accepted at NDLS centres when applying for the first time or renewing one's driving licence or learner permit is a public services card; if there is an alternative offered for those who do not have a public services card and are unable to obtain one due to work commitments and the waiting time in their local INTREO office; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50484/22]

\*34. To ask the Minister for Transport if any consideration has been given to a further extension of age limits for taxis and hackneys considering the ongoing issues that the sector is facing to extend beyond the end of 2022, and in cases in which the car is tested to the highest standard levels available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [50494/22]

\*35. To ask the Minister for Transport if the port capacity study is now complete; the date on which it will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50511/22]

\*36. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to a report (details supplied) regarding the readiness of ports for the construction and installation of offshore wind; if he has considered the report and plans to ensure that Irish ports are ready to construct and install offshore wind farms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50512/22]

\*37. To ask the Minister for Transport the way in which he intends to support Rosslare Port to become ready to act as a construction and installation port for offshore wind; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50513/22]

\*38. To ask the Minister for Transport when the National Ports Policy review will commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50527/22]

\*39. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the 17, 116 and 175 Dublin Bus routes not operating at full capacity, and as such are unable to deal with the numbers of passengers (details supplied); if he will engage with Dublin Bus on this; the further steps that he will take; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [50550/22]

\*40. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the 75 and 75A bus routes causing significant issues in the Stillorgan area (details supplied); if his attention has been drawn to this delay causing people's employment to be put in jeopardy; if he is taking steps to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [50711/22]

*Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.*

\*41. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to instances where banks have rejected mortgage applications but refused to issue letters of refusal to persons wishing to apply for the local authority home loan; if he has had contact with banks in relation to this issue; and if he has considered measures to compel banks to issue letters of refusal where a mortgage application has been rejected. — Pearse Doherty. [50706/22]

\*42. To ask the Minister for Finance the charges for import and VAT on a package from another EU member state (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [50431/22]

\*43. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 232 of 4 October 2022, the reason that karate-class training for children is not "care of the human body" in the same way as yoga and pilates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [50440/22]

\*44. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50449/22]

\*45. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 230 of 4 October 2022, if the Revenue Commissioners will be taking any action to recover the difference in tax from the amount that was paid as labelled self-employed as opposed to the amount that should have been paid, had the workers been correctly labelled as employees (details supplied), given that the Revenue Commissioners, as a PRSI collection agent, is responsible for recovering unpaid PRSI for the Department of Social Protection. — Paul Murphy. [50462/22]

\*46. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider reducing the VAT rate on clothing rentals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50490/22]

\*47. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 117 of 29 September 2022, if the EU VAT directive allows a member state to apply a reduced rate of VAT regarding the supply and installation of solar panels on agricultural buildings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50574/22]

\*48. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the benefit-in-kind tax on company car increase is hindering those for whom travelling across the country for work is a crucial part of their employment; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that for those travelling long distances each day electric vehicles are not always an option; if he will take steps to address the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [50704/22]

\*49. To ask the Minister for Finance the rationale behind limiting the business energy support scheme to those businesses that fall under Case I income category given that Case II Income businesses pay tax as well and have incurred a rise in energy costs too. — Jim O'Callaghan. [50705/22]

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

\*50. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 473 of 8 September 2022, the reason that he will not give consideration to the request to extend the evening opening time of the National Botanic Gardens in view of the widespread public interest in visiting the facility; if his attention has been drawn to the additional enjoyment that local people and visitors from further afield could reap by having the gardens open later than 5 pm on summer evenings; if he will undertake to discuss this matter with the Director of the Gardens; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [50584/22]

\*51. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if his Department will gift vacant unused Garda stations to the relevant local authorities for the purpose of public housing given the unprecedented housing crisis that exists. — Patrick Costello. [50399/22]

\*52. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50455/22]



\*53. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the reason that the Public Appointments Service could not proceed with the recruitment campaign for Dublin Fire Brigade which the Service was requested to undertake in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [50500/22]

\*54. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the position regarding his Department's progress in finalising a working paper to locate wellbeing within the context of the budgetary process; the expected timeline for the completion of that work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [50563/22]

\*55. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the position regarding his Department's progress in developing a second working paper, locating well-being within a public policy context focusing on issues in relation to the use of evidence to inform the process, when that work is expected to be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [50564/22]

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

\*56. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the role, if any, that her Department has played in the integration of Ukrainian refugees into communities; if her Department and any agencies under its remit have had an involvement at local or national level in the response; the further steps that they intend on taking to ensure that services are provided to assist in this; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [50428/22]

\*57. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if she will provide a schedule of the services that her Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50459/22]

\*58. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media further to Parliamentary Question No. 138 of 5 October 2022, if funding from her Department to the National Aquatic Centre was used for services provided by an organisation (details supplied); if so, if she will provide the details; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [50461/22]

\*59. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if any funding has been given to an organisation (details supplied) over the past ten years; and if so, if she will provide details. — Alan Kelly. [50464/22]

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

\*60. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 299 of 4 October 2022, the number of applications to the NPWS farm plan scheme for each of the years 2017 to 2021 and to date in 2022 and the number of applications refused in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50581/22]

\*61. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when his Department will increase the social housing income threshold for housing applicants in Tipperary County Council given that the increase is long overdue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [50392/22]

\*62. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he/she will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50453/22]

\*63. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he intends to introduce a green certificate for homes where there is evidence of Pyrite but not yet of physical damage, and where the home is not currently eligible for redress under the Pyrite Resolution Board. — Eoin Ó Broin. [50465/22]

\*64. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of houses in which HAP and RAS tenants are under threat of eviction that have been purchased by local authorities by county in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50478/22]

\*65. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will request that Irish Water and the Environmental Protection Agency investigate the cause of the confirmed presence of methylisoborneol in the water supply for County Wicklow and south County Dublin; if methylisoborneol has been found in other water supplies nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [50487/22]

\*66. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will request local authorities to allow their housing tenants to change a gas or electricity meter from prepaid to credit; if they will cover any fees for doing so; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [50509/22]

\*67. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if any local authorities have a policy of automatically installing prepaid gas or electricity meters on their housing stock; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [50510/22]

\*68. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the details of the allocation of Croí Cónaithe funding by county in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [50557/22]

\*69. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the details of the instructions and information that was provided to local authorities regarding the way to account for and administrate the purchase of a residential property in the context of a tenant being in receipt of HAP and the owner seeks to sell this property to the council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [50560/22]

\*70. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the Wildlife Advisory Council last met; if he will report on its work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50571/22]

\*71. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the role that his Department or the National Parks and Wildlife Service has following the instances of swan mortalities at a location (details supplied) in August 2022; if a full investigation as to the cause of mortalities has been conducted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50572/22]

\*72. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to adjust income limits for social housing assessment to adequately reflect the impacts of inflation and changes set out in Budget 2023 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [50681/22]

\*73. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of wheelchair liveable houses that are required by each local authority across all 13 basis of need categories in view of the 2021 Summary of Social Housing Assessments; his plans to ensure the delivery of these wheelchair liveable houses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [50687/22]

\*74. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of wheelchair liveable houses that have been allocated in the past 12 months by each local authority in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [50688/22]

\*75. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of wheelchair liveable houses that each local authority have in their current plans, broken down by municipal district in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [50689/22]

\*76. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount in the form of grants or direct funding that his Department or agencies under his Department's remit have provided to local environment networks, public participation networks that are categorised under the Environmental Pillar; if he will provide a list those organisations that are in receipt of monies in each of the years 2016 to 2021, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50692/22]

\*77. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of inspections of rental accommodation by local authority that have taken place in 2021 and to date in 2022; and the number of inspectors allocated to carry out inspections of rental accommodation in each local authority in tabular form. — Sorca Clarke. [50695/22]

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

\*78. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if a birth certificate submitted as part of application for an Irish passport can be returned in the case of a person (details supplied) who urgently requires the documentation to be returned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50391/22]

\*79. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas

of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50450/22]

*Chun an Aire Cosanta: To the Minister for Defence.*

\*80. To ask the Minister for Defence if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50445/22]

*Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.*

\*81. To ask the Minister for Education if a response will issue to correspondence that she has received from an organisation (details supplied); and if she will ensure that additional land is sourced for adequate outdoor green field sports amenities for the 1,000 students that are projected to attend the new three school campus for the town that incorporates the college. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [50407/22]

\*82. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 352 of 4 October 2022 (details supplied), the steps that can be taken in cases in which parents have contacted the SENO but have been advised that their child will not be given a place in an ASD unit in the absence of an ASD diagnosis despite having very similar neurodevelopment difficulties and needs and requiring the same supports as those with ASD; if a student who does not have an ASD diagnosis but who does have similarly presenting needs is eligible to apply for a place in an ASD unit; the further steps that a parent can take in cases in which a child will not be given a place in an ASD unit without an ASD diagnosis; if further general learning disability units will be provided to cater for the needs of such children; if it is the policy of the NCSE that no further general learning disability units will be provided; if so, if steps will be taken to allow children without an ASD diagnosis but with similar needs to access ASD units; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [50424/22]

\*83. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the progress of an additional accommodation application (details supplied); when the project will be signed-off to proceed to construction; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50425/22]

\*84. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais cén uair a thabharfar cead do scoil (sonraí curtha ar fáil) chun conraitheoir a fhostú faoin Scéim um Chóiríocht Bhreise; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Mairéad Farrell. [50435/22]

\*85. To ask the Minister for Education if a grant is available to primary schools for the purposes of training staff with AED defibrillator devices; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [50436/22]

\*86. To ask the Minister for Education when school transport will be provided to an eligible student (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50437/22]

\*87. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if she will provide a schedule of the services that her Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50446/22]

\*88. To ask the Minister for Education when an applications for assistive technology for a child (details supplied) which was submitted by the child's school will be reviewed and a decision issued on same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [50488/22]

\*89. To ask the Minister for Education if pupils attending special classes in primary school who have been eligible for special transport arrangements will, in all circumstances, be entitled to similar transport for their attendance at special classes at second level, particularly where there are no special classes available within their secondary school catchment areas and where they would be categorised as concessionary pupils for school transport; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [50515/22]

\*90. To ask the Minister for Education if she will review the matter regarding eligibility for school transport for pupils who are transitioning from primary to post-primary schools who have been attending special classes in primary school and for whom there are no special classes available within their catchment area at post-primary and who are therefore obliged to attend as concessionary pupils for public transport at units outside of their catchment area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [50516/22]

\*91. To ask the Minister for Education the number of National Educational Psychological Service psychologists in full-time employment by county as of September 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50529/22]

\*92. To ask the Minister for Education if consideration will be given to providing a school bus on a road (details supplied). — Martin Browne. [50566/22]

\*93. To ask the Minister for Education the status of a school bus application in the name of a pupil (details supplied). — Martin Browne. [50567/22]

\*94. To ask the Minister for Education the status of a school bus application for two pupils (details supplied). — Martin Browne. [50568/22]

\*95. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the school bus application for two pupils (details supplied). — Martin Browne. [50569/22]

\*96. To ask the Minister for Education the number of applicants from County Monaghan for the school transport scheme in 2021 and 2022; the number of students who have applied in 2022 who are currently without a place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50578/22]

\*97. To ask the Minister for Education the increased capacity put in place for the school transport scheme in 2022; the Government target for the provision of spaces; the forecasted need for capacity by year until 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50579/22]

\*98. To ask the Minister for Education the reason for the delay with the issuing of the 2022 Junior Certificate results; and when the results will be made available to students. — Brian Stanley. [50666/22]

\*99. To ask the Minister for Education the number of places available in ASD classes in the east County Meath area for the 2023-2024 school year (details supplied); if she is concerned at the shortage of such classes; if she will make additional provision to meet demand in the east County Meath area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [50686/22]

\*100. To ask the Minister for Education when transport will be arranged for five pupils (details supplied) in County Mayo. — Michael Ring. [50690/22]

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

\*101. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the eligibility of a person (details supplied) for increases in their weekly pension following recent announcements in Budget 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50370/22]

\*102. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a PPS number will issue in the case of a person (details supplied) who applied online. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50396/22]

\*103. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason that no community welfare officer is available in Carrick on Suir, County Tipperary; when regular meetings with community welfare officers in local communities will resume; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [50402/22]

\*104. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a complete reappraisal of an application for domiciliary care allowance can be undertaken in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50406/22]

\*105. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if she will provide a schedule of the services that her Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50457/22]

\*106. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 221 of 5 October 2022, if she will confirm that the removal of the long-term requirement will also mean that recipients of illness benefit will qualify for the cost-of-living support payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [50463/22]

\*107. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a disabled person (details supplied) who is primary medical certificate holder will receive the cost-of-living disability support grant payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50489/22]

\*108. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will clarify the matter regarding PRSI contributions given that it relates to carer's benefit in cases in which a recipient is applying for a further round of carer's benefit in respect of care for a second eligible person commencing



immediately after the expiry of their current eligibility; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [50514/22]

\*109. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the role that her Department has played in the integration of Ukrainian refugees into communities; if her Department and any agencies under her remit have had an involvement at local or national level in the response; the further steps that her Department intends on taking to ensure that services are provided to assist with same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [50522/22]

\*110. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the unsuccessful fuel allowance application by a person (details supplied) will be retained and awarded in January 2023 when the means limit has no longer been exceeded; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50548/22]

\*111. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if persons participating on the jobs initiative scheme will be entitled to apply for fuel allowance under announcements made for Budget 2023. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50549/22]

\*112. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) in County Cork will be approved for a free fuel allowance. — Michael Creed. [50554/22]

\*113. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 225 of 5 October 2022 if he will provide the number of persons on the community employment scheme stream to date; and if he will reflect on his position in respect of the once-off €500 payment and issue the payment to this cohort. — Catherine Murphy. [50668/22]

\*114. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide a breakdown of supplementary welfare allowance applications to date in 2022, by county; the number of applications awarded; the number refused; the total amount paid out; and the reason given for the payments in tabular form. — Sorca Clarke. [50694/22]

\*115. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on her Department's work on a straw-man proposal for the restructuring of long-term disability payments; if she will provide details of the unit or group that is carrying out this work; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50712/22]

\*116. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a review (details supplied); if the review is on track to be completed by Q4 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50713/22]

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

\*117. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the funding for early learning in childcare to be provided by his Department in 2023 could also be made available to those parents whose childcare provider is not registered with the national childcare scheme; the options that are available to such parents to avail of the State support; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [50369/22]

\*118. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason that the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) scheme is restricted to age limits where children must

have reached the age of two years and eight months before 1 September, meaning that any children that have not reached this age are met with inflexibility and will be unable to qualify for a further seven months; the further supports that can be provided to a child with additional needs who has been informed that they can no longer be accommodated in their childcare facility due to their additional needs without the support of AIM and where a child has missed the cut off point and is now ineligible for supports until they reach the age of three-and-a-half years; the reason that a child can be excluded from a childcare facility due to their additional needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [50468/22]

\*119. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide the details of each privately run residential care home for children placed in State care; and the number of children currently placed in each residential care home in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [50491/22]

\*120. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if HIQA conducts inspections of private residential care homes for children in State care; and if so, the number of inspections that have taken place in each of the years 2019 to 2021 and to date in 2022. — Catherine Murphy. [50492/22]

\*121. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if Tusla has contracted private companies to conduct inspections of private residential care homes for children in State care; if so, the details of the companies that have been contracted; the total value of contracts awarded; and the number of inspections carried out by each contractor to date in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [50493/22]

\*122. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to the shortage of ECCE places in the Drumcondra, Griffith Avenue area of Dublin; and if more early childhood education and childcare places will be provided. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [50540/22]

\*123. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 516 of 29 March 2022, when the report of the Collaborative Forum of Former Residents of Mother and Baby Homes and Related Institutions, submitted to him in December 2018, will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50701/22]

\*124. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the development of the Autism Innovation Strategy; the expected timeline for the finalisation and publication of the Strategy; if he will provide details of the Autism Innovation Strategy oversight and advisory group; the number of times that the group has met to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50702/22]

\*125. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide details of the research commissioned by his Department, and being carried out by the ESRI, into the housing situation of children; when he expects to receive and publish the final report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50703/22]

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

\*126. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a fee reduction can be made available to part-time students given the announcement of a €1,000



fee reduction for undergraduate students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [50394/22]

\*127. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on when the circular related to partial refunds on fees paid before the €1,000 reduction came into effect can be expected by institutions of further and higher education. — Martin Kenny. [50441/22]

\*128. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on when a person (details supplied) can expect their partial refund of fees paid before the €1,000 reduction announced in Budget 2023. — Martin Kenny. [50442/22]

\*129. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50451/22]

\*130. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of the provision of pathways for social care students studying at a college (details supplied) into the profession; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50479/22]

\*131. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the €40 million to address sustainable funding for higher education as outlined in the Budget 2023 Expenditure Report is a first or full-year costing; if it is a first year costing, and the estimated full-year costing; if this is fully separate from €37 million allocated for central pay agreement provision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50480/22]

\*132. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way that the €40 million allocated under non-core additional Covid-19 will be spent; if the €40 million is a first or full-year costing; the value in full-year costings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50481/22]

\*133. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way that the €21 million allocated under non-core additional National Recovery and Resilience Plan allocation will be spent; if the €21 million is a first or full-year costing; the value in full-year costings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50482/22]

\*134. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way that the €21 million allocated under non-core additional Brexit Adjustment Reserve allocation will be spent; if the €21 million is a first or full-year costing; the value in full-year costings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50483/22]

\*135. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will address issues (details supplied) in relation to recognising students in the SUSI application system who started college under age 23 years and who live independently from their parents; and if the matter will be examined and the issues addressed. — Gino Kenny. [50525/22]

\*136. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in Budget 2023 the non-pay allocation is €1,607.4 million whereas this was set at €1,612.2 million in the 2022 Expenditure report; the reason this is the case given the €98 million in additional resources; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50536/22]

\*137. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason for the reduction in the allocation of expenditure from the National Training Fund given that it is €682.5 million in 2023 expenditure report and was €716.4 million in 2022; the areas in which the reductions will be made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50537/22]

\*138. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason that the core capital allocation is €568 million given the National Development Plan anticipated €579 million; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50538/22]

\*139. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to provide support to higher education institutions to deliver affordable student accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50539/22]

\*140. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the total number of apprentice in each type and phase; the total number of apprentices awaiting access to off-the-job training in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50543/22]

\*141. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the total number of PhD researchers; the percentage of PhD researchers who will receive the €500 stipend increase; the total number who will likely receive the increase in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50544/22]

\*142. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the engagement that he has had with Maynooth University regarding the cancellation of the student centre (details supplied); the obligations that are on the university to those who paid the increased levy now that the project has been cancelled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [50545/22]

\*143. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the reduction in fees for third level students will apply to students attending part-time courses such as the part-time BA in social care in Galway University; and the supports that will be provided for part-time students. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [50551/22]

\*144. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a student (details supplied) in a third level institution can transfer courses while still availing of the free fees' initiative; if there is a certain timeframe in such instances; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50558/22]

\*145. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason that PhD students who are not funded by SFI and IRC have been excluded from receiving the bonus payment announced in Budget 2023; if this will be reconsidered and amended to include all PhD students given the current cost-of-living situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [50662/22]

\*146. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his attention has been drawn to some PhD students who have been deemed ineligible to receive the SUSI postgraduate grant due to their date of birth at the time of application, despite being financially independent from their parents in advance of the application and despite their turning 23 years of age in advance of beginning their PhD studies; and if this will be reviewed given the financial pressures experienced by PhD students. — Eoin Ó Broin. [50663/22]

\*147. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of appeals heard by the independent student grants appeal board in 2021; and if he will provide a breakdown of the number of appeals that were upheld, partially upheld, overturned and withdrawn in 2021. — Gary Gannon. [50744/22]

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

\*148. To ask the Minister for Justice when a certificate of naturalisation will be issued in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50400/22]

\*149. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of a case (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50401/22]

\*150. To ask the Minister for Justice if there is data available on the number of prosecutions for the illegal removal of a clamp under the Criminal Damage Act 1991 in each of the years 2019 and 2021. — Neasa Hourigan. [50422/22]

\*151. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if she will provide a schedule of the services that her Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50454/22]

\*152. To ask the Minister for Justice if an application has been received from a person (details supplied) for a transfer to a prison in this State; the current status of the application; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50542/22]

\*153. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí who have left An Garda Síochána since the beginning of 2022; the number of retirements and the number of resignations and the number of resignations per district; the net total Garda number per district as of 30 September 2022; and the total garda numbers per district in 2021. — Mattie McGrath. [50547/22]

\*154. To ask the Minister for Justice if the Government remains committed to ratify the optional protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; when the Attorney General will conclude his determination as to whether a small number of additional legislative measures may be required to ensure that the State is compliant with all of the extra-territorial jurisdiction requirements under Article 3.1 of the Protocol; and if she is concerned for Ireland's international human rights record as a result of the State's protracted delay in ratifying this optional protocol. — Mary Lou McDonald. [50583/22]

\*155. To ask the Minister for Justice if a payment of €300 recently made for a stamp 1 visa will be refunded to a person (details supplied) who was subsequently awarded stamp 4 within a short number of months and had to pay another €300 fee; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50665/22]

*Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.*

\*156. To ask the Minister for Health if he is taking steps to pay those undertaking work placements to become a social worker for their work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [50683/22]

\*157. To ask the Minister for Health if Beaumont Hospital is lacking five neurology nurse specialists (details supplied); the efforts that are being made to fill these posts; when the posts will be filled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50393/22]

\*158. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a breakdown of the number of meetings and expenses allocated to members of a forum (details supplied) payable by the HSE in 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [50403/22]

\*159. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address the urgent situation facing a family (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [50404/22]

\*160. To ask the Minister for Health if he will intervene in the closure of a nursing home (details supplied) in County Cork and the lack of respite beds. — Sean Sherlock. [50405/22]

\*161. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults and children who are on public dental and orthodontic waiting lists for each month of the years 2017 to 2021 and to date in 2022, by county, region and CHO in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [50408/22]

\*162. To ask the Minister for Health the number of claims that were made under the dental treatment services scheme; and the number of dentists making claims for each month of the years 2017 to 2021 and to date in 2022, by LHO, CHO and region in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [50409/22]

\*163. To ask the Minister for Health the number of publicly-employed dentists, orthodontists, dental surgeons, dental nurses, and other dental orthodontic staff by staff grade for each of the years 2017 to 2021 and to date in 2022, by LHO, CHO and region in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [50410/22]

\*164. To ask the Minister for Health the funding that has been provided for MS sufferers in Budget 2023; if he has included a request by an organisation (details supplied) for additional funding from the HSE to provide an additional 1220 additional bed nights at a centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [50423/22]

\*165. To ask the Minister for Health if he will ensure an ASD assessment is prioritised and scheduled for a person (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [50426/22]

\*166. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the development of the support for the Irish survivors of thalidomide Bill; when he expects to publish the Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50438/22]

\*167. To ask the Minister for Health if he will include ADHD inattentive on the long-term illness scheme for those aged 16 years and over; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [50439/22]

\*168. To ask the Minister for Health if he has been provided with an estimate of the increase in nursing home running costs; if the payment levels towards running costs under the fair deal scheme will be re-evaluated; and the provision that has been made for this in the estimates for 2023. — Richard Bruton. [50443/22]

\*169. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a schedule the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50452/22]

\*170. To ask the Minister for Health if he will he clarify the net income threshold for single householders to qualify for free GP care (details supplied); the expected date for the implementation of this measure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [50466/22]

\*171. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a shortage of radiation therapists in Ireland; the steps that he is taking to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [50495/22]

\*172. To ask the Minister for Health if he will conduct an independent review of radiation therapy to tackle issues of recruitment and retention; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [50496/22]

\*173. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the case of a person (details supplied) who is awaiting an appointment with the neurology department of Cork University Hospital following a referral by the Bons Secours Hospital, Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [50520/22]

\*174. To ask the Minister for Health the role that his Department has played in the integration of Ukrainian refugees into communities; if his Department and any agencies under her remit have had an involvement at local or national level in the response; the further steps that his Department intends on taking to ensure that services are provided to assist with same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [50523/22]

\*175. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the recruitment process for a centre (details supplied) to hire psychiatric nursing staff; the roles that are vacant; the stage that the recruitment process is currently at; when it is expected to be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [50524/22]

\*176. To ask the Minister for Health if additional payments for pensioners announced in Budget 2023 will be reflected in an increase in the threshold for applying for a medical card, or that additional cost-of-living payments will be disregarded in the calculation of means; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50530/22]

\*177. To ask the Minister for Health if he will urgently provide home help hours to a person (details supplied) in County Cork who has recently been discharged from hospital. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50541/22]

\*178. To ask the Minister for Health the provisions that will be put in place to allow for the upcoming social welfare pension increases and for those over 70 year-old full medical card holders who will now exceed the threshold due to this increase; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50546/22]

\*179. To ask the Minister for Health the number of senior occupational therapists who are working with the children's disability network team; the number of days that they are employed; the number of children that attended this service; the number waiting to be seen by the occupational therapist; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [50552/22]

\*180. To ask the Minister for Health the number of individual family service plans that have been produced within the CDNT5 and south Tipperary to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [50553/22]

\*181. To ask the Minister for Health when the National Screening Advisory Committee is expected to present its recommendations for the expansion of population-based screening programmes following its annual call for changes to screening services in November 2021; if he intends to accept NSAC's recommendations; the likely timeframe to implement any expansion of the screening programmes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [50555/22]

\*182. To ask the Minister for Health when the National Screening Advisory Committee is expected to make its second annual call for changes to be made to population-based screening programmes in Ireland; if the recommendations from the first annual call launched in November 2021 will be available before the second call is announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [50556/22]

\*183. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive their full allocation of 15 hours per week home support; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50575/22]

\*184. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 513 of 12 October 2021, the status of proposed legislation for parents who have children through surrogacy; if such legislation will include a provision for maternity leave for mothers through a streamlined service that ensures both parents are legally recognised as such, retrospect parentage for those mothers who have been granted just guardianship to date and measures to reduce the substantial legal costs involved for the parents concerned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50576/22]

\*185. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 510 of 12 October 2021, the status of the progress on legislation that will provide legal recognition to both parents who have children through surrogacy either in Ireland or abroad; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50577/22]

\*186. To ask the Minister for Health if a hospital appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [50585/22]



\*187. To ask the Minister for Health if the review into mortuary services at University Hospital Waterford is complete; if so, when will it be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50642/22]

\*188. To ask the Minister for Health the number of meetings that he and his Departmental officials had with organisations (details supplied) and other representative bodies in 2022; the dates of such meetings; the topics discussed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50643/22]

\*189. To ask the Minister for Health the number of meetings that he and his Departmental officials had with organisations (details supplied) and other representative bodies in 2022 in which the issue of expanding GP care beyond children up to eight years was discussed; the dates of such meetings; the topics discussed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50644/22]

\*190. To ask the Minister for Health the number of meetings that he and his Departmental officials had with organisations (details supplied) and other representative bodies in 2022 in which the issue of expanding GP visit cards to more of the population was discussed; the dates of such meetings; the topics discussed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50645/22]

\*191. To ask the Minister for Health the additional funding excluding funding for existing levels of service as in pay, demographics and carryover measures for funding the Disability Capacity Review in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50646/22]

\*192. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the additional funding excluding funding for existing levels of service as in pay, demographics and carryover measures for funding Sharing the Vision in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50647/22]

\*193. To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional staff funded in Budget 2023 excluding from previously-funded posts and staff not yet delivered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50648/22]

\*194. To ask the Minister for Health the core additional spend for new measures excluding one-off measures for emergency department hospital services in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50649/22]

\*195. To ask the Minister for Health the core additional spend for new measures excluding one-off measures for the National Ambulance Service in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50650/22]

\*196. To ask the Minister for Health the core additional spend for new measures excluding one-off measures for primary health care services in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50651/22]

\*197. To ask the Minister for Health the core additional spend for new measures excluding one-off measures for community healthcare services in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50652/22]

\*198. To ask the Minister for Health the core additional spend for new measures excluding one-off measures for acute hospital services in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50653/22]

\*199. To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional acute inpatient beds funded in Budget 2023, excluding beds previously-funded and not yet delivered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50654/22]

\*200. To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional critical care beds funded in Budget 2023, excluding beds previously-funded and not yet delivered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50655/22]

\*201. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the number of additional mental health beds funded in budget 2023 excluding beds previously funded and not yet delivered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50656/22]

\*202. To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional community beds funded in Budget 2023, excluding beds previously-funded and not yet delivered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50657/22]

\*203. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a line-item breakdown, beyond the summary of measures, of the €254.4 million in new measures funding allocated to his Department, detailing the cost estimate and implementation timelines for each measure to which new measures funding was allocated in Budget 2023, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [50658/22]

\*204. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update regarding the conversion of multitask assistant and household domestic staff and catering grades to healthcare assistant grades at Dungarvan Community Hospital; the number of posts which have been converted; the number of outstanding posts; the number of domestic grade posts which have been converted; the number of outstanding claims from domestic grade posts; the manner in which claims from domestic grade posts is being handled; if domestic-grade post workers who are performing HCA work and hold the requisite FETAC level 5 qualification will be upgraded to HCA posts; the number of meetings held with trade unions regarding this; the outcome of said meetings; the number of occasions on which Dungarvan Community Hospital management has requested upgraded posts for domestic-grade workers; the number of occasions on which these were refused, and by whom they were refused; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50659/22]

\*205. To ask the Minister for Health if an urgent hospital appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [50660/22]

\*206. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the case of a child (details supplied) who is awaiting an autism assessment at a centre in Limerick following a referral ten months ago; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [50664/22]

\*207. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients under the GMS that are registered with a primary healthcare centre (details supplied); the number of GPs registered at this centre; the number of patients per GP; and the average waiting time for an in-person consultation. — Sean Sherlock. [50667/22]



\*208. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to increase the rates of the blind welfare allowance, in view of the 12% increase in taxi fares which came into effect on 1 September 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50669/22]

\*209. To ask the Minister for Health the engagements that he has had with the Mental Health Commission on the proposed closure of the Owenacurra Centre, Midleton in either 2021 or 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50670/22]

\*210. To ask the Minister for Health the engagements that he has had with the Mental Health Commission on the inpatient acute psychiatric ward in Bantry Hospital in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50671/22]

\*211. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 593 of 14 September 2022, the dates that clinical staff members based in Garnish House, Cork were informed of the decision by the HSE to vacate the property in Q1 of 2023; the format and context that this information was conveyed to them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50672/22]

\*212. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 593 of 14 September 2022, the dates that residents of Garnish House, Cork were informed of the decision by the HSE to vacate the property in Q1 of 2023; the format and context that this information was conveyed to them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50673/22]

\*213. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 593 of 14 September 2022, the dates that senior clinician managers of allied health disciplines and nursing managers, for example, with responsibility for Garnish House, Cork were informed of the decision by the HSE to vacate the property no later than the end of Q1 of 2023; the format and context that this information was conveyed to them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50674/22]

\*214. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 529 of 20 September 2022, if members of the national HSE executive management team were offered first dose Covid-19 vaccines in 2021 as part of the national roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccine programme to HSE staff, or as part of a separate scheduling process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50675/22]

\*215. To ask the Minister for Health if senior HSE management, including chief officers, heads of service and area administrators, across CHOs were offered first-dose Covid-19 vaccines in 2021 as part of the national roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccine programme to HSE staff, or as part of a separate scheduling process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50676/22]

\*216. To ask the Minister for Health if mental health service heads of discipline across CHOs were offered first dose Covid-19 vaccines in 2021 as part of the national roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccine programme to HSE staff, or as part of a separate scheduling process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50677/22]

\*217. To ask the Minister for Health if Owenacurra Centre residents who have been offered new placements in Garnish House have been informed that this is a temporary placement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50678/22]

\*218. To ask the Minister for Health the way in which unit 3, St. Stephen's Hospital, Glanmire is acceptable as an alternative placement for Owenacurra Centre residents given the scale of concerns raised by the Mental Health Commission concerning this facility in recent inspection reports, along with its remote location, poor transport links and shared rooms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50679/22]

\*219. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE has had any engagement with Cork County Council regarding its proposal to build a ten-bed 24-hour staffed service in Midleton; if so, if he will provide details of this engagement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50680/22]

\*220. To ask the Minister for Health the reason that a response has not issued to date to a query in respect of a child (details supplied) in County Mayo in view of the urgency of the case. — Michael Ring. [50699/22]

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

\*221. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to the continued shortage of wood pellets for use in wood pellet stoves and the impact this will have this winter on householders who have removed solid fuel heating systems and rely on wood pellet stoves to heat their homes. — Sorca Clarke. [50697/22]

\*222. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a payment will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50421/22]

\*223. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if he will provide a schedule of the services that his Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50444/22]

\*224. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department has carried out a full investigation following the instances of swan mortalities at Castle Lake Forest, Bailieborough, County Cavan in August 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50573/22]

\*225. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 104 of 4 October 2022, if the referenced Programme for Government commitment which commits the Government to the allocation of €1.5 billion in projected carbon receipts over the next ten years is inclusive or exclusive of schemes which fall under the Common Agricultural Policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50580/22]

\*226. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 761 of 4 October 2022, the total amount of co-financing provided by the State in relation to funding from the European Multiannual Financial Framework (EUMFF) between 2014 and to date in 2022; the total amount of co-financing provided through the EUMFF; the total spend by year in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50582/22]

\*227. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department will take inflation and the impact of the concrete levy into account when awarding TAMS funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50698/22]

\*228. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the supports and funding that are available specifically for women in farming; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [50700/22]

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

\*229. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the role that her Department has played in the integration of Ukrainian refugees into communities; if her Department and any agencies under his remit have had an involvement at local or national level in the response; the further steps that her Department intends on taking to ensure that services are provided to assist with same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [50521/22]

\*230. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide a schedule of the number of staff by grade who are assigned on a full-time basis to liaise and provide support to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in order for that Department to fulfil its areas of responsibility in respect of providing for the needs of those seeking international protection and persons categorised by virtue of the temporary protection directive by the European Union; and if she will provide a schedule of the services that her Department provides to the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in that regard. — Catherine Murphy. [50456/22]

\*231. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that is available for community centres to help them meet their additional energy bills this winter; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [50476/22]

\*232. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if additional funding will be provided for a community centre (details supplied) in order that it will be able to afford its energy bills this winter; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [50477/22]

\*233. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the amount in the form of grants or direct funding that her Department or agencies under her Department's remit have provided to local environment networks, public participation networks that are categorised under the Environmental Pillar; if she will provide a list those organisations that are in receipt of monies in each of the years 2016 to 2021, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50693/22]

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**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH,  
I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 13 DEIREADH FÓMHAIR, 2022  
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY,  
FOR ORAL ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 13 OCTOBER, 2022**

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

1. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if additional resources are being given to INTREO centres, particularly community welfare offices, in order to deal with the huge additional requests

for supplementary welfare and exceptional needs payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [49886/22]

2. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans, if any, to review the community employment scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [50108/22]

3. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the feasibility of extending child benefit to children who are 18 years or over, but are still in full-time post-primary education; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [50309/22]

4. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the delay with the issuing of PPS numbers from her Department; and if there are plans to tackle this delay. — Paul Donnelly. [49787/22]

5. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the additional resources that were put in place to deal with the surge in applications for supplementary welfare allowance and additional needs payments given that it is being promoted as a source of additional emergency income for those with increased energy costs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50716/22]

6. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide a timeframe for the introduction of the cost-of-living payments announced in Budget 2023 that are due to be issued before Christmas 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [50308/22]

7. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way that her Department will ensure that social welfare payment rates are adequate and that the social protection system protects persons from poverty considering the announcement of a €12 increase to the weekly core payment rates in Budget 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [50411/22]

8. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of working family payment applications currently awaiting a decision per county in tabular form; the steps that her Department is taking to clear this backlog; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50271/22]

9. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if additional staff have been recruited or seconded to community welfare sections in INTREO offices to deal with the additional applications for supplementary welfare allowances; and if not, if she plans to bring in additional staff to deal with the extra workload. — Sorca Clarke. [50731/22]

10. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the auto-enrolment workplace pension scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [49690/22]

11. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the instructions that have been issued to community welfare officers in relation to people who present to them seeking assistance due to having difficulties in keeping their prepaid gas or electricity meter topped up; the criteria that will be applied to assess claims; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [50714/22]

12. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review means testing for the carer's allowance including a review of the removal of means testing requirements to qualify for these payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [50414/22]

13. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she intends to increase the number of participants on rural social schemes to meet the demand for the services delivered by the rural social schemes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [44769/22]

14. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which she and her Department remain sensitive to any issues arising from the availability of an adequate pension where applicants are factually deemed not to be unable to continue in employment and may not qualify for an appropriate pension on whatever grounds; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50593/22]

15. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way in which additional needs payments will be used to ensure that those with pay-as-you-go electricity meters do not face disconnection this winter. — Thomas Gould. [49679/22]

16. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will improve the criteria for the free fuel allowance in circumstances where a family member returns to live on a temporary basis with a parent or a sibling who are in receipt of the free fuel allowance and ensure the continuation of this payment where the changed household composition is of a temporary nature; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [50388/22]

17. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of the review of the school meals programme; the timeline for the completion and publication of the review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50745/22]

18. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department will pre-process applications for fuel allowance for new applicants who will qualify in January 2023 as a result of measures included in Budget 2023 to avoid any backlog; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50286/22]

19. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she considers that the €2 increase in the qualified child payment is sufficient to tackle child poverty in the context of the cost-of-living crisis; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50725/22]

20. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the proposals to improve the criteria for the free fuel allowance in cases in which a family member, due to housing or domestic difficulties, may return to live with a parent on a temporary basis and that parent normally resides on their own and had been in receipt of free fuel allowance; if she will ensure that such a recipient of this allowance will continue to receive this payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [50387/22]

21. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will bring forward the extension of eligibility for the fuel allowance, currently not due to come into effect until January 2023, given that the cold weather starts long before then; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50722/22]

22. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the evidence on which she based the increase of €2 per week, 30 cent per day for the qualified child increase for children under the age of 12 years. — Joan Collins. [50621/22]

23. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the announcement made to support carers in Budget 2023; if she will also provide an update on plans to allow carers to qualify for contributions for State pensions for the first time; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [49596/22]

24. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons who will benefit from the double payment of child benefit; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [49598/22]

25. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she intends to introduce reforms to social welfare means testing in the Social Welfare Bill 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50319/22]

26. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the intended timeframe to introduce legislation underpinning the provision of pensions to carers. — Matt Carthy. [50586/22]

27. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the responsibility that her Department has in making changes to the Community Employment Procedures Manual; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [50729/22]

28. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her response to the Commission on Taxation and Welfare's recommendation that Government undertakes a regular benchmarking exercise in respect of all working-age income supports including supports for persons who are unemployed, people with disabilities and persons parenting alone, following which multi-annual targets should be set for social welfare rates which provide for regular incremental progress; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [50397/22]

29. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has read a post-Budget 2023 analysis (details supplied) that highlights that after the Q4 2022 cost-of-living measures are implemented, a one-parent family with two children, one in primary and one in secondary will face a shortfall of €9.40 and for those with an older child, this rises to €82.73; and if she will address same. — Joan Collins. [50640/22]

30. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her attention has been drawn to the significant backlog in her Department for the exceptional needs payment that many applicants have been waiting upwards of eight weeks; if she is concerned with this given that it is supposed to be an urgent payment for those in exceptional need; her plans to tackle the backlog; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50215/22]

31. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans, if any, to upgrade the INTREO centre in Ennis, County Clare, or to recruit additional staff for this valued facility; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [50382/22]

32. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps that are being taken to address the backlog in assessments for applicants of the additional needs' payment and supplementary welfare allowance within the community welfare service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [50273/22]

33. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason that the fuel allowance has not been extended to working family payment recipients. — Joan Collins. [50629/22]



34. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the rationale behind the method for means testing capital for means-tested social welfare payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50320/22]

35. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on a key conclusion in a report (details supplied) that “measures to address the additional costs of disability should be based on a multi-faceted approach involving increased cash payments, enhanced access to service provision and specific targeted grant programmes”. — Holly Cairns. [50328/22]

36. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has given consideration to allowing increased mortgage costs as part of the means test for carers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [49482/22]

37. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to reform the CE and Tús schemes, in order to make them more appealing to potential candidates; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [50614/22]

38. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if applicants for the fuel allowance under the new threshold guidelines announced in Budget 2023, who will now qualify for the payment from 1 January 2023, will receive the additional grant support of €400 announced for fuel allowance recipients; if not, the additional supports which she intends to provide for such vulnerable persons in the coming months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [50627/22]

39. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on work underway in her Department examining long-term disability income supports; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [50413/22]

40. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will ensure that the €400 one-off payment to those in receipt of fuel allowance is extended to those who will become eligible for fuel allowance with the new means test in January 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [50098/22]

41. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when she expects to be able to provide the bonus child benefit payment to families; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50617/22]

42. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider removing the means test for the carer’s allowance or raising the thresholds to allow more persons to avail of the payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50280/22]

43. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the budget that has been allocated to community welfare officers in relation to those seeking assistance due to an inability to keep their prepaid gas or electricity meters topped up; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [50715/22]

44. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will detail the specifics of the extension of the working family payment; if there is an estimate of the number of additional families that will now be eligible; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [49480/22]

45. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the timeline for cost-of-living payments issued before Christmas 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [50367/22]

46. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will ensure that the Citizens Information Board remains a fully functional service despite the recent changes to the organisation; if she has engaged with the CIB in relation to same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50216/22]

47. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will ensure that those on so-called short-term social welfare payments will also receive the Christmas bonus and the one-off cost-of-living support; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [50099/22]

48. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the changes to the fuel allowance scheme as announced in Budget 2023; the additional number of people that will be able to avail of the allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O'Donnell. [50599/22]

49. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has had any discussions with the Department of Rural and Community Development with a view to addressing the anomaly whereby some persons on rural social schemes cannot access the fuel allowance due to the fact that they were not in receipt of the allowance when they started on the scheme, especially in light of rising fuel and energy costs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [44765/22]

50. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide the details of the implementation of the expansion to fuel allowance eligibility; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [49599/22]

51. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will reconsider the failure to increase social welfare rates, in particular for single parents, above the rate of inflation in Budget 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50719/22]

52. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the measures that are being taken to deal with the long processing times for carer's allowance; carer's benefit, invalidity pension, disability allowance and additional needs payments applications; the measures that are being taken to deal with the long processing times for reviews on the previously listed applications; the measures that are being taken to ensure no delays in files transferring to the appeals department on all social welfare appeal requests; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [50594/22]

53. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she is increasing resources to reduce processing times of additional needs payment claims. — Thomas Gould. [49678/22]

54. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps that her Department is taking to tackle the issue of food poverty; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [50429/22]

55. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when cost-of-living payments scheduled before Christmas 2022 will issue to recipients; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50532/22]

56. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline eligibility for the working family payment; and the impact the changes will make to this payment in respect to Budget 2023. — Alan Dillon. [50709/22]



57. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her response to the Commission on Taxation and Welfare's recommendation that the individualisation of payments made to qualified adults should be progressed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50608/22]

58. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the latest Central Statistics Office figures which state that one in ten households cannot afford to pay for school trips, while 12% of one-parent families cannot afford to pay for them; and the steps that her Department is taking, if any, to counter this. — Gary Gannon. [50748/22]

59. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans for the implementation of the expansion of the fuel allowance scheme for persons over 70 years of age; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50616/22]

60. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide details of any analysis carried out by her Department into providing support with redundancy payments arising from the closure of local employment services and jobs clubs around the country as a result of the roll-out of the new local area employment services; if her Department has carried out any analysis on redundancies arising from the change to the new local area employment services, and in particular, the number of persons who have been made redundant and their length of service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50746/22]

61. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which it continues to be possible to address particularly sensitive issues in respect of family income and the cost of living impact; if she is satisfied regarding the adequacy of her Department's resources to address such circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50592/22]

62. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on reports of substantial waiting times for supplementary welfare allowance and additional needs payment applications to be processed and paid out; the current estimated processing times for an application to be processed and paid out; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [50717/22]

63. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the right of community employment supervisors to secure pension entitlements; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [50728/22]

64. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the social protection supports currently being considered to improve the overall departmental response to domestic abuse situations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [49597/22]

65. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the position regarding her Department's modelling of the impacts of the increase in the thresholds of the working family payment; the number of additional families likely to be able to avail of the payment; the distributional impact of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [50398/22]

66. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on her plans regarding recognising the additional cost of disability; the way that she intends to ensure that this additional cost is reflected within the social protection system; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [50415/22]

67. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the key conclusion in a report (details supplied) that “the levels of disability payments and allowances should be changed to reflect the very different costs of disability by severity and type of disability”. — Holly Cairns. [50327/22]

68. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider reviewing the means test for disability allowance in order that as well as assessing income the application process also takes into account the additional cost of disability; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [50600/22]

69. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the cost-of-living supports her Department announced in Budget 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [49689/22]

70. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the current tendering out of a service (details supplied) will be subject to any review or oversight by her Department in terms of its effects on the unemployed and their access to services, or the effects in terms of those employed in providing these services; if the process has resulted in any deterioration in terms of pay and conditions of staff affected, as well as the quality of services provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [50628/22]

71. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to quickly expedite the large number of persons over 70 years who will be eligible for fuel allowance come January 2023 following changes in Budget 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [50613/22]

72. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her response to the Commission on Taxation and Welfare’s recommendation that working-age payments should be reformed to move towards an income-related working-age assistance payment available to all households; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50609/22]

73. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to review the eligibility criteria for carers and provide further financial supports to those who provide full-time care. — Alan Dillon. [50710/22]

74. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on additional needs payment applications; if community welfare officers are dealing with an increase in applications at present; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50272/22]

75. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will reintroduce the Covid enhanced illness benefit given that statutory sick pay will not start until at least January 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50724/22]

76. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will support a matter relating to the working family payment and the closure of a person’s (details supplied) application for renewal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [49481/22]

77. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline all of the cost-of-living measures and payments due in 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kieran O’Donnell. [50598/22]

78. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans, if any, to increase staffing resources in INTREO centres to meet demand for public services card appointments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [50109/22]

79. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she intends to amend the income disregard, the eligibility criteria and the schemes which attract the disregard in the means test, for the farm assist scheme. — Matt Carthy. [50587/22]

80. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on a State pension solution for long-term family carers given her commitment to providing a solution but no inclusion of such a measure in Budget 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [50412/22]

81. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will re-organise community welfare officers back into the community for at least two to three days per week, but preferably permanently (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [50624/22]

82. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the supports for pensioners announced in Budget 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50531/22]

83. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department has a policy to take excess payments made in respect of the fair deal scheme into account as a result of over-payment of the State pension (non-contributory); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [50363/22]

84. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider expanding the children's allowance payment to include children after the age of 18 years who are still in second level education; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [50595/22]

85. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider extending the time allowed on community employment for those aged over 50 years. — Sorca Clarke. [50730/22]

86. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she considers that the ongoing cost of disability can be adequately addressed through one-off payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50723/22]

87. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an access-to-work scheme will be introduced for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50639/22]

88. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he proposes to establish a new metric for gathering data on childhood poverty in Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [50384/22]

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

89. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the actions that he is taking to increase foster carer's allowance. — Thomas Gould. [49682/22]

90. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the engagement he has had with childcare providers in Dublin regarding core funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [49692/22]

91. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the steps that he is taking to address the staffing crisis in the childcare sector to ensure the continued provision of adequate childcare across the State. — Sorca Clarke. [50733/22]

92. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of persons from Ukraine that are being housed in private properties in which the owner is in receipt of the recognition payment; if he will provide an update on the number of pledged properties which have been deemed suitable for the placement of a person or family from Ukraine; the number of such people that have been placed in pledged accommodation to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [50217/22]

93. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline the various types of family and caring leave have expanded in Ireland over the past ten years; if his attention has been drawn to any data measuring how beneficial this has been to families in that time; the plans for future provision of leave under consideration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [50606/22]

94. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the provisions that his Department are making in view of a recent survey showing that over seven in ten young persons are considering leaving Ireland for a better quality of life, to deliver improved youth services and supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [50740/22]

95. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when he expects to receive the comprehensive review of the disabled drivers and disabled passengers scheme. — Matt Carthy. [50588/22]

96. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide the details of the proposals on domestic violence leave; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [50289/22]

97. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the commitment to excavate the burial site at Tuam; when the director for authorised intervention will be appointed; the support that will be provided to the director in ensuring that excavation works can commence on the site; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [50738/22]

98. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will introduce some flexibility in the ECCE scheme to enable children with disabilities to repeat a pre-school year if needed in order that they can have a successful primary school transition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [50602/22]

99. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to the widespread anger at his recent decision not to engage an international legal expert to review testimonies given to the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [50631/22]

100. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans, if any, to improve the pay and conditions of foster carers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [49959/22]

101. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on the implementation of the core funding scheme in relation to the early childcare sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [49600/22]

102. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the way in which his Department is supporting the expanded facilitation of breastfeeding in the workplace; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [50310/22]

103. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on the report from an organisation (details supplied) concerning urgent action to address accommodation crisis for persons seeking protection in Ireland. — Holly Cairns. [50330/22]

104. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he has had any discussions with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the Cabinet in relation to a ban on evictions, given the current crisis in emergency accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [50100/22]

105. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline the main developments under the core funding partner service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [50361/22]

106. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the steps that he is taking to end the wardship system. — Holly Cairns. [50333/22]

107. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the way in which his Department will implement a secure application process for persons seeking paid domestic violence leave. — Alan Farrell. [49601/22]

108. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline his intentions to provide further financial supports to parents to combat rising childcare costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [50707/22]

109. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if consideration will be given to increasing the foster care allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50533/22]

110. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he can provide international comparative data to show if the State has improved in recent years in terms of public spending on childcare; the way the new investment measures planned to come into effect in 2023 will mean in terms of Ireland's poor comparative position on same; his new goal for State investment in the early years in view that the Government's 2028 goal of €1 billion per annum has been reached five years ahead of schedule; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [50208/22]

111. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his engagement with the Minister for Education to identify school buildings for after-school childcare services to

increase on the current 14% level nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [50597/22]

112. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the progress that has been made in relation to implementing the report of the advisory group on the provision of support including accommodation to persons in the international protection process. — Matt Carthy. [50589/22]

113. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his engagement with the Red Cross on pledged accommodation to progress Ukrainians currently in hotels and temporary type accommodation arrangements are matched to these pledged accommodations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [50596/22]

114. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide details concerning his engagement with disabled persons' organisations concerning the Assisted Decision- Making (Capacity) (Amendment) Bill 2022. — Holly Cairns. [50332/22]

115. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of pledges made by members of the public to house Ukrainian refugees; the number of these that have been activated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [50362/22]

116. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason that the Government has not ratified the optional protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which would provide a mechanism for persons to challenge when their rights are not being upheld; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50638/22]

117. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the way in which the proposed average 25% reduction in fees for childcare users will apply to recipients of income-assessed national childcare scheme subsidies and those who only receive a universal subsidy; if the overall progressivity of NCS subsidies are retained after the new rates come into effect; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [50385/22]

118. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to the widespread anger at his decision not to go ahead with an independent review of the testimonies given by survivors of mother-and-baby homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [50636/22]

119. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of service providers that dropped out of the early childhood care and education scheme for the 2022/2023 year; the number that did not register; the number that have indicated that they will not re-register for the 2023/2024 year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50212/22]

120. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to a report (details supplied) published that states that the Irish protection system is in crisis, that there has been a serious and unprecedented breakdown in Ireland's reception system and that a whole-of-Government response is required; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [50635/22]



121. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he intends to bring forward the completed anti-racism strategy soon; the way in which he envisages that the strategy will be implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [50214/22]

122. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if youth workers can have a professional body identity similar to social care workers who are regulated by CORU, in relation to their pay scales; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [50736/22]

123. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 83 of 7 July 2022, the status of the review of projected timelines for the implementation of a White Paper to end direct provision and to establish a new international protection support service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50721/22]

124. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the little book bag initiative; the number of books that have been distributed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [50209/22]

125. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the review taking place on equality legislation; if he can share any initial findings from the public consultation element; the timeline by which he expects amending legislation to be ready; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [50734/22]

126. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the way that his Department has re-organised to effectively meet the demands of the Ukrainian crisis; if he will provide the total cost of the response to date and any other relevant information; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [50210/22]

127. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of persons from Ukraine who are being provided with accommodation by the State per county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50290/22]

128. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the transfer of functions for specialist disability services from the Minister for Health will be entirely completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [50433/22]

129. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline the way core funding has operated since coming into operation; the number of childcare services that have signed a core funding contract; his plans with regard to expanding the scheme in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [50607/22]

130. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of Ukrainian International Protection applicants; the total number of applicants who are in IPAS sources accommodation since the crisis commenced; if he will also provide details on whether independent advocates are available to applicants to support them if they require assistance with respect to their accommodation placement or provider; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [50211/22]

131. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his Department's plans, if any, to expand the provision of youth services across County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [50383/22]

132. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the steps that he is taking to engage with survivors concerning the forthcoming intervention at the Tuam site under the Institutional Burials Bill 2022. — Holly Cairns. [50329/22]

133. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on establishing an independent review of the testimony given by survivors to the Confidential Committee of the Commission of Investigation into Mother-and-Baby Homes and certain related matters. — Holly Cairns. [50331/22]

134. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline the implementation thus far of the Gender Pay Gap Reporting Act 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [50735/22]

135. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his Department has any plans to provide capital funding for the multi-functional community hub at Tullow Road, Carlow to remedy the serious lack of community facilities such as childcare, community, youth and family in the Tullow Road area in Carlow with a key partner (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [50111/22]

136. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the pilot little-baby bundle initiative; when it is anticipated that the scheme will be rolled out nationwide; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [50390/22]

137. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the plan to abolish direct provisions centres across the State. — Sorca Clarke. [50732/22]

138. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of the work of the disability stakeholder group; the number of times that the group has met in 2022; the dates of these meetings; if the group has considered a report (details supplied) to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50720/22]

139. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on whether school premises could make a greater contribution to support development of children in early childhood and outside of school hours; and if he will consider funding some demonstration projects for schools willing to be pioneers in developing a campus of activities to meet community needs. — Richard Bruton. [50641/22]

140. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the timeframe for the transfer of disability from the Department of Health to his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [50603/22]

141. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when parents who avail of childcare through a childminder can expect to avail of the reduction in childcare fees announced in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [49691/22]



142. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the progress that has been made to date in advancing reforms to the operating model for childcare in Ireland; the timeline that he expects the proposed agency to be established by; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [50386/22]

143. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline the way childcare costs will be reduced for families in the coming year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50618/22]

144. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the consideration that he has given to a review of the legislation underpinning Section 47 reports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50590/22]

145. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the constitutional challenge by a ward of court as referred to by him during the pre-legislative scrutiny of the Assisted-Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [50737/22]

146. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the progress that has been made to date under the Childminding Action Plan; the way in which it is anticipated that childminders may ultimately avail of national childcare scheme benefits; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [50389/22]

147. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline progress to date on the development of a legal ban on the practice of conversion therapy; when he expects legislation to be ready for introduction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [50620/22]

148. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline details of a new scheme under the Childminding Action Plan to simplify registration of childminders to help parents access Government subsidies under the national childcare scheme. — Alan Dillon. [50708/22]

149. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his Department is engaging with relevant stakeholders to ensure that refugees placed in accommodation in isolated areas will have access to transportation for basic requirements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50619/22]

150. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans, if any, to deliver a sustainable, affordable early learning and pre-school sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [49960/22]

151. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the impact that the Budget 2023 changes on childcare costs will have for parents in Dún Laoghaire having regard to the unduly high costs currently incurred there; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [50032/22]

152. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if there are sufficient staff involved in the online operation of the information and tracing services under the Birth Information and Tracing Act 2022 at birthinfo.ie; his views on persons claiming to have been

dealt with abruptly after contacting Tusla by phone due to issues with the online system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [50743/22]

153. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the plans to increase childcare places in the Dublin 9 and 11 areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [50622/22]

154. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he has had discussions recently with representative organisations concerning the impact of recent changes in relation to the core funding model given that concerns have been experienced by some ECCE childcare providers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [50623/22]

155. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when he will publish the final report by the National Disability Authority on the operation of the Irish Sign Language Act 2017 that was provided to the Minister in July 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [50632/22]

156. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will consider requesting an assessment from each county childcare committee of the balance between supply and demand in different areas of childcare; if he will request that they make a formal submission to the revision of each county development plan on the matter; if he will provide an update on existing supply constraints; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [50637/22]

157. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the newly announced pay rates for the childcare sector will include recognition of long service or an incremental pay scale; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [50311/22]

158. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated savings to parents following the introduction of supports for children in Budget 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50534/22]

159. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when childminders will be added to the national childcare scheme; if an interim measure will be introduced in order that parents who utilise a childminder could avail of the reduction in childcare fees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50213/22]