



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 1 Nollaig, 2022
Thursday, 1st December, 2022

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the establishment of a redress scheme for homeowners and tenants living in buildings with fire safety and other building defects. — Eoin Ó Broin. [60043/22]

2. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the emergency measures that he is introducing during the winter ban on evictions to avoid significant increase in homelessness when the ban ends on 1 April 2024. — Eoin Ó Broin. [60044/22]

3. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans for social housing on west Cork islands over the past number of years and the years ahead, such as Bere, Dursey, Sherkin, Whiddy, Cape and Long Island. — Michael Collins. [60144/22]

4. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the redress available to tenants who make a complaint to the Residential Tenancies Board regarding breaches of their tenancy rights when it relates to a tenancy with a landlord who fails to engage with the adjudication process; the action that is being taken to address this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [59970/22]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

5. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the development of the register of relevant lands; if the Land Development Agency is on track to complete the register and make it available online by the end of Q4 2022, as per the target date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [59701/22]

6. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the croí cónaithe vacant property refurbishment grant; if the current grant amounts will be reviewed to entice more persons into the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59669/22]

7. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will carry out a review of the planning laws to ensure that they are strong enough to cover the destruction of natural wildlife habitats and biodiversity. — Paul Donnelly. [59813/22]

8. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the percentage rate at which new housing starts are reducing; the steps that his Department is taking to tackle the problem; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [58972/22]

9. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the CALF review. — Eoin Ó Broin. [59798/22]

10. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to review the baseline of self-funding property tax for local authorities like Dublin City and Fingal, in order that they can hold onto 100% of local property tax collected without losing other funds of streaming. — Paul McAuliffe. [59834/22]

11. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has made any decision on modular homes for the homeless or social housing other than for asylum seekers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [59852/22]

12. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update in respect of the new rural housing guidelines; when it is expected that these guidelines will be put out to public consultation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [59858/22]

13. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans, if any, to introduce guidelines, on a statutory basis or otherwise, to protect local media outlets from undue pressure from local authorities in terms of influencing editorial decisions in return for advertising funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [47591/22]

14. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 175 of 27 September 2022, the status of the development of the promised section 28 guidelines for planning in Gaeltacht areas; the timeline for the public consultation; the timeline for the publication of the guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [59700/22]

15. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the impact of the rising number of judicial reviews with regard to the delivery of much-needed housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [59239/22]

16. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the elements of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2022 that are being reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [59142/22]

17. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the work that is being carried out to streamline the planning system in the face of significant needs for infrastructure and housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [58932/22]

18. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide a report on the funding streams from his Department to local authorities; if the local authorities

will be fully reimbursed for the increase in the pay and pension bill by the recent public sector agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [56464/22]

19. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will elaborate on his interpretation of rapid build technology being used to tackle Ireland's housing shortage. — Peadar Tóibín. [57518/22]

20. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department plays any role in the protection of buildings from demolition which are of cultural significance in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [56214/22]

21. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the provision of maternity leave for local authority councillors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [59116/22]

22. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on when the first housing units for persons with disabilities are expected to be completed under the national housing strategy for disabled people 2022-2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59836/22]

23. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department will urgently engage with an organisation (details supplied) regarding vacant housing units which are owned in Macroom, County Cork, to ensure as a matter of urgency that these units can be used for people to live in; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [59865/22]

24. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on funding for local government, given the pressures being faced by local authorities due to energy inflation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [59841/22]

25. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline the supports available to bring back to habitable use derelict houses in both rural and urban areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [59810/22]

26. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the range and nationwide impact of the built heritage investment scheme and the historic structures fund; when the next round of funding will become available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [59867/22]

27. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures that are being taken to alleviate the financial pressures faced by homeowners of defective properties. — Francis Noel Duffy. [48274/22]

28. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the revised wind energy development guidelines will be commenced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [58975/22]

29. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the delivery of affordable housing under Housing For All in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [59369/22]

30. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the provision of affordable housing for County Longford. — Joe Flaherty. [59537/22]

31. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has given consideration to the use of 3D printing technology and the possible benefits of same to the current problems with housing construction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [59147/22]

32. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the changes that are being proposed to the income limits for eligibility for approval on local authority housing lists; the dates when these income limits were last set; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [59622/22]

33. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide the details of the ongoing planning review being undertaken by the Attorney General; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [59240/22]

34. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the details of the actions that he is taking to address dereliction and vacancy in residential properties to bring these units back into use; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [59009/22]

35. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of affordable homes that have been built in County Cork to date in 2022. — Holly Cairns. [59574/22]

36. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the discussions that he has had with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in view of the review that is being carried out by his Department concerning income limits for social housing, given the potential impact on the public finances; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [56462/22]

37. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if changes to income limits for social housing will be backdated; if anyone removed from the list in that period will have their years on the list restored; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59785/22]

38. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the recent record levels of persons accessing emergency accommodation; the action that he is taking to address the matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [58836/22]

39. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the up-to-date position on the review that is being carried out of the income limits for social housing by local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [58976/22]

40. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the engagement that his Department has had with local county councils to ensure that local authority housing departments are properly staffed and resourced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [56907/22]

41. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he will announce new income limits for social housing applications; if he will provide for discretion on compassionate grounds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [59758/22]

42. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he expects the defective concrete blocks scheme to open to affected households in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [59845/22]

43. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline progress to deliver affordable housing schemes for County Mayo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [59842/22]

44. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures that have been taken to counteract the decline in housing commencements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [58931/22]

45. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the recently published EU nature restoration laws; the measures that the Government is putting in place to facilitate engagement on this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [55660/22]

46. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department can financially support Clare County Council in its efforts to take over the running of Shannon Heritage sites in the county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [59501/22]

47. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide details in relation to the announcement that €100 million is being allocated to fund land legacy debt and €125 million is being allocated to establish a land acquisition fund under the Housing Agency; the way that this will assist in the case of Louth County Council and its applicable sites; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59670/22]

48. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status on the croí cónaithe scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [59576/22]

49. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if consideration will be given to increasing the income thresholds for families wishing to apply for social housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [59146/22]

50. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on the possibility of an adapted first-homes scheme for areas such as Dún Laoghaire; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [56906/22]

51. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if, in the light of the new policy approach which recommends that Councils seek to buy homes with tenants in situ when there are social housing support tenants with notices to quit, he has reviewed the capital funding that will be available to local authorities for these purposes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [56756/22]

52. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the uptake of the croí cónaithe vacant property refurbishment grant; if further funding will be available; if there is additional demand for the croí cónaithe vacant property refurbishment grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [59843/22]

53. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on Housing for All; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [59117/22]

54. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider under force majeure that grant aid would be payable for the better of all and the environment for persons who were out of the country or who did not have their septic tanks registered and who have been inspected by the authorities who have found that the septic tank does not reach the required standard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [59851/22]

55. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will ensure that owners of apartments and duplexes with construction defects will receive 100% redress; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [59821/22]

56. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on his efforts to assist the delivery of affordable homes in the Poolbeg SDZ. — Eoin Ó Broin. [59800/22]

57. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures being taken to advance a sewage scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [59864/22]

58. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when it is planned to adjust the local authority boundaries on foot of the recent Census results; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [59830/22]

59. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures that are being taken to increase the number of rental properties on the market in the Cork south west area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [59621/22]

60. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the CREL review. — Eoin Ó Broin. [59799/22]

61. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department is tracking social and affordable commencements; and if there has been any drop-off in such commencements to date in 2022. — Eoin Ó Broin. [59801/22]

62. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the way that the Government plans to encourage 16 to 18-year-olds to pre-register for the electoral register; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [59008/22]

63. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will review two specific cases (details supplied) to ensure that these multi-unit complexes are purchased by local authorities of AHBs, in order that no tenant is made homeless. — Paul Murphy. [59822/22]

64. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has any plans to review the HAP band rate applicable to County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [59844/22]

65. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to reports that homeowners are waiting six months in some instances to receive a response

from engineers in relation to the presence of Mica in their home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [59870/22]

66. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the safeguards that he will put in place to ensure that croí cónaithe aligns with the town centres-first policy and approach; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [59866/22]

67. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps he is taking to address child homelessness. — Holly Cairns. [59573/22]

68. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of his plans to implement a redress scheme for homes affected by fire safety and other building defects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [58837/22]

69. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when income eligibility limits for social housing will be increased in counties Cavan and Monaghan given that existing limits are low at present and are unrealistic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [59575/22]

70. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide a full report on any submissions or discussions that he has had with the Department Public Expenditure and Reform with regard to expanding its capital programme for the acquisition of homes for social and affordable housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [56465/22]

71. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of houses that will be completed by the local authority and by approved housing bodies; the number of affordable housing units that will be completed in County Monaghan in 2023; the corresponding figures for 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [59757/22]

72. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on engagement between his Department and Mayo County Council regarding a scheme for the remediation of the 17 social houses that have tested positive for the existence of Pyrite in County Mayo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59835/22]

73. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the progress that has been made to date in reforming the method of providing Exchequer funding from his Department of local authorities for the years from 2024, taking into account the abolishment of the equalisation fund and revaluation under the local property tax; the criteria that will be used to determine the allocation to each local authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [59620/22]

74. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the plans in place to support tenants when the eviction ban ends in March 2023, given the stark increase in notices-to-quit issued. — Paul Donnelly. [59812/22]

75. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the new rural housing guidelines will protect the right of those living in remote areas to build a home near their families and workplaces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [59144/22]

76. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of homeowners who have applied for the vacant property refurbishment grant, in each county; the number of applications which have been refused; and the number which have been successful in tabular form. — Peadar Tóibín. [58971/22]

77. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which he is in a position to augment and accelerate the housing for all programme with a view to making serious impact on the number of families seeking to avail of local authority or affordable housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [59779/22]

78. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the date from which croí cónaithe will apply to rural one-off derelict buildings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [56891/22]

79. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 103 of 10 May 2022, if he has concluded consultations with other Departments on Ireland's possible accession to the Antarctic Treaty system; if he has formulated a recommendation for consideration by Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [48911/22]

80. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will review the local government fund base which was set in 2014 and needs to be updated to factor in the different costs which have arisen over the past eight years; if he will ensure that adequate support is provided for the smaller local authorities which have a small rates base and a limited ability to raise their own revenue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [59811/22]

81. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the survey conducted by an organisation (details supplied) of quarries in County Donegal. — Eoin Ó Broin. [59802/22]

82. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to provide cost rental accommodation in Dublin 9 and 11; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [59833/22]

83. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the new initiatives that he can take to assist those seeking to acquire a home; if modular or other system-built housing can be considered, with a view to making a further and serious contribution to the provision of attainable housing in the short to medium-term; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [59780/22]

84. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the way that he decided the capital allocation for housing given that Housing for All targets are being missed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [48392/22]

85. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to change planning objections to ensure that each person who lodges an objection proves their identity before submitting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [59869/22]

86. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider expanding the repair-and-lease scheme to include properties renovated for affordable private rental; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [56892/22]

87. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will issue a circular to all local authorities to ensure that they will buy homes if tenants are in receipt of notices to quit where the tenants would be eligible for social housing or cost-rental housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59786/22]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

88. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the capital funding to unlock student accommodation projects and deliver approximately 3,000 student beds, currently at advanced stages of planning but unable to progress; if he will ensure that this accommodation is affordable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59803/22]

89. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will engage with the PhD researcher unions (details supplied) to ensure that all PhD research students receive a living wage income or above via their stipend; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [60122/22]

90. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason that such little progress has been made in clearing the backlog of apprentices waiting to access off-the-job training in further education colleges and technological universities, given that 4,937 apprentices have currently been waiting over six months to be given a date to begin off-the-job training; the steps that he is taking to facilitate apprentices accessing training close to home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59804/22]

91. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the progress that is being made on the delivery of the new STEM building for the Galway Campus of the Atlantic Technology University; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [60119/22]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

92. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update regarding the HEA call for expressions of interest to create more places for student vets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [59397/22]

93. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the position regarding an announcement of the funding allocations being made available under PATH 4, phase 1; the institutions that have applied for this funding; if the quantum of funding will be sufficient to meet the demand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [59617/22]

94. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will engage with PhD researcher unions (details supplied) to ensure that all PhD research

students receive a living wage income or above via their stipend; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [59820/22]

95. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will detail the work that is currently being undertaken by his Department in relation to workforce planning and future training of students in the area of disability services, particularly occupational therapists, speech and language therapists and child psychologists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [59172/22]

96. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to ensure that students have access to affordable accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [59753/22]

97. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will retain the €1,000 reduction in fees for the 2023-2024 college year given the cost of living; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [59850/22]

98. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the position regarding an engagement that he has had with the offshore renewable sector; if he is conscious of the need to ensure a steady pipeline of qualified graduates for this sector; if he will consider establishing a training centre of excellence in a college (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [59452/22]

99. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if SUSI criteria of full-time in attendance course could be expanded to include blended courses, for example online and in-person training, given the current student accommodation difficulties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [59863/22]

100. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views with respect to the campaign led by personal assistants working in institutes for further education for better working conditions and pay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59672/22]

101. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps that his Department is taking to financially support those undertaking PHD studies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [59309/22]

102. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the announcement made in July 2022 regarding the additional 50 bursaries of €5,000 for the most disadvantaged students including those with a disability, mature students, lone parents and further education award holders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [59396/22]

103. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will examine the position of students who must repeat a year of their degree course; if he will ensure that they receive supports available to others such as the reduction in registration fees previously announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59784/22]

104. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update surrounding recent announcements on the new FET colleges of the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [59840/22]

105. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he continues to identify and meet the demand in the higher education sector, with particular reference to identification of the areas now most urgently requiring employees; if he is satisfied that sufficient supply of appropriately qualified graduates continues to be available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [59782/22]

106. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the new further education strategy will provide for increased and enhanced cross-border co-operation and collaboration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [59815/22]

107. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide a report on the way in which IT Carlow is integrating into the South East Technological University. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [59818/22]

108. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide details of SUSI grants appeals; the number of appeals which are still outstanding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [59868/22]

109. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a report has been done on the number of students not taking up college places due to the cost-of-living and housing crises; and the support that can be given to students who find themselves in this position. — Paul Donnelly. [59816/22]

110. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the National Access Plan 2022-2028; the progress that has been made to date since the plan was implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [59856/22]

111. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of the development of the new campus of the Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest at Coonagh, County Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [59486/22]

112. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the level of cross-Departmental engagement that his Department is engaged in, particularly in respect of the critical skills occupation list, within the context of the OECD skills review that his Department has commissioned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [59616/22]

113. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when it is proposed to publish a new further education strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [59814/22]

114. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his proposed timeline to implement proposals relating to a new model whereby the State would assist in relation to the provision of student accommodation. — Matt Carthy. [59759/22]

115. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will outline progress to address the student accommodation shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [59839/22]

116. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of the proposed new further education and training campus on the grounds of a location (details supplied) in Galway city; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [59698/22]

117. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if one-off payments in Budget 2023 will be included as income in household income means testing for SUSI applications for 2023/2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [59862/22]

118. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will commit to associate membership of CERN; if so, if he will outline a timeframe for joining; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59806/22]

119. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 91 of 18 October 2022, if the operational guidelines working group has presented its report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [59831/22]

120. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of students and the sectors of the economy that will benefit from his excellent recent announcement of the redevelopment of the former Pretty Polly site in Killarney as a further educational campus and centre of excellence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [59788/22]

121. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department intends to calculate or record the number of students from ethnic minority groups such as the Travelling community who are entering further or higher education per annum; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [58974/22]

122. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to ensure that clinical, educational and counselling psychologists are all able to become fully qualified with funded MAs, PhDs and necessary placements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [59754/22]

123. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the progress that his Department is making to reduce third level fees for students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [59308/22]

124. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the progress on an adult education tutors pay scale; and when the relevant trade unions (details supplied) can expect a Department of Public Expenditure and Reform sanctioned proposal from his Department. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [59725/22]

125. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will outline his engagement with the Minister for Health to increase the number of graduates from clinical therapies, including but not limited to, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, and psychology, to address shortages in disability services. — Holly Cairns. [59577/22]

126. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps that he is taking to provide supports for part-time students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59805/22]

127. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will detail the plans in relation to facilitating those with disabilities and special needs to access further and higher education; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [59173/22]

128. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if it is his intention to seek a specific budget line in next year's estimates process for third level and further education through the medium of Irish in view of the legal obligations on the State arising from the enactment of the Official Languages (Amendment Act) 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [59618/22]

129. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide details in relation to the National Access Plan and the way that his Department plans to monitor participation and successful inclusion; if there will be specific targets for individual groups, people with disabilities, students who are socio-economically disadvantaged and students who are members of Irish Traveller and Roma communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [59483/22]

130. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will ensure that every undergraduate and post-graduate student, including those that are not on SFI and IRC funding, will receive the two €500 cost-of-living measures before the end of 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [59752/22]

131. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department has examined the role that the National Maritime College of Ireland can play training students and upskilling staff to service the emerging offshore wind industry in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [59832/22]

132. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department collates data on the number of students who drop out of third level education each year; and if so, if the data will be provided in tabular form. — Peadar Tóibín. [58973/22]

133. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an outline on future capital works relating to further education and training institutes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [59237/22]

134. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais, Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta cad iad na céimeanna atá sé chun glacadh lena chinntiú go mbeidh soláthar dóthanach de chúrsaí rite trí mheán na Gaeilge i ngach cuid den chóras ardoideachais agus breisoideachais; agus an ndéanfaidh sé ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [59619/22]

135. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will outline his plans to further develop further and higher education and training for the hospitality sector to entice more persons to consider the sector as a long-term career opportunity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59671/22]

136. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the development of Cavan Institute as a hub for further education and training. — Niamh Smyth. [59580/22]

137. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason that he has not instructed third level colleges to facilitate more online tutors which would eliminate a certain amount of students requiring accommodation in areas where housing is scarce and not available to rent or where rents are high given the housing crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [59849/22]

138. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will address the exorbitant costs of graduate entry medicine courses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [59755/22]

139. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the uptake of the Erasmus programme for the 2022/2023 academic year among students in Irish third-level institutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [59115/22]

140. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the progress that has been made regarding the efforts to move towards common entry to a range of college course to reduce the pressure of the points race on Leaving Certificate students; and if he will outline the other steps which his Department might take to facilitate Leaving Certificate reform. — Richard Bruton. [58930/22]

141. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the work of his Department in supporting third-level institutions in their building of student accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neale Richmond. [59114/22]

142. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way in which he will address the chronic shortage of veterinary medicine places; if he will outline a timeframe for delivering additional places; if he will instruct the Higher Education Authority to include a criterion of regional balance as part of the expression of interest; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59807/22]

143. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to develop a policy to address the deficit in sustainable transport and spatial planning expertise, in particular to support level 8 and 9 study programmes in these areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [59860/22]

144. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if special consideration will be given to SUSI grant applications in cases in which one of the parents or guardians of the applicant is being treated for or is recovering from a serious illness (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [59695/22]

145. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider establishing a fund for which sectoral organisations should submit proposals to develop a coordinated approach to recruiting apprentices, which would make it easier for those contemplating an apprentice career to source a sponsoring employer. — Richard Bruton. [58929/22]

146. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he continues to identify and cater for the demand in terms of graduates in the academic or technical areas, with a view to ensuring the availability of sufficient qualified persons to meet the needs of the marketplace; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [59781/22]

147. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an estimated timeframe for the introduction of new contracts for academic staff working in technological universities in order to develop research capacity; if he will provide an update on his engagement with trade unions and other stakeholders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59808/22]

148. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the online learning hub on sexual consent, launched in January 2022; if there will be stakeholder engagement and follow up with further and higher education institutions on the way that the hub could, if necessary, be further improved and continually updated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Carroll MacNeill. [59482/22]

149. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide the details of any plans to increase the availability and affordability of student accommodation. — Holly Cairns. [59578/22]

150. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of his Department's efforts to increase mental health supports in education settings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [59238/22]

151. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the proposal for the inclusion of a provision under the rent-a-room scheme to allow pensioners who are medical card holders to avail of the scheme without the possibility of losing their medical card; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [59857/22]

152. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide details of plans for any additional on-campus student accommodation to be built at the University of Limerick, the Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest and Mary Immaculate College, Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [59487/22]

153. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to increase the number of apprenticeships; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [59696/22]

154. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on increasing transfer rates from FET to degree programmes; if he will outline in particular any progress made in increasing transfer rates from courses such as pre-nursing and pre-law into degree courses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59809/22]

155. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to his very positive recent announcement, if he will provide a timeline regarding the future

redevelopment of the former Pretty Polly site in Killarney as a further educational campus and centre of excellence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [59787/22]

156. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department has a target with regard to increasing the number of students enrolled in veterinary medicine. — Matt Carthy. [59760/22]

157. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the position regarding the long-term plan for the location of Bray Institute of Further Education; the timeline for this project to be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [59010/22]

158. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will clarify the conditions under which a student can be deemed to be estranged from their parents for the purposes of the SUSI grant. — Louise O'Reilly. [59726/22]

159. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to increase on-campus accommodation for students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [59697/22]

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.

*160. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will examine the case of a teacher (details supplied) who teaches an autism class in a school which has four other unfilled teaching posts due to a teacher shortage in which the person faces losing their position due to a refusal to issue a work permit to them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59914/22]

*161. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if non-EU applicants can apply for positions advertised on a website (details supplied); if she plans to change current work permit legislation in relation to teaching positions given the current crisis in filling positions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59915/22]

*162. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to make grants available to SMEs to ensure that their websites are accessible for those with disabilities; if it will become a requirement of the trading online voucher scheme that websites are accessible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [59907/22]

*163. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the case of a person (details supplied) who has been refused a work permit to continue working as an SNA will be examined; if any exceptional circumstances or discretion can be applied by his Department to allow this person to continue working in the school given the crisis in attracting and retaining staff in this sector and the difficulties faced by the school in replacing this person; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59910/22]

*164. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if teaching jobs advertised for teaching staff on a website (details supplied) which receive applications from persons from non-EU states residing in Ireland must also be advertised on another website to comply with current work permit regulations relating to positions not deemed critical skills; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59911/22]

*165. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he intends to revise current regulation and legislation regarding work permits and categories of critical skills in relation to teaching staff in primary and post primary schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59912/22]

*166. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department has any flexibility in relation to the issuing of temporary work permits for jobs not deemed critical skills jobs in cases in which an applicant (details supplied) has commenced work in a position and where their removal from that position will result in extreme hardship to vulnerable people reliant on their continued employment in that position; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59913/22]

*167. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he can detail any steps taken by his Department to date to ensure the ERO for the security sector is enforced and implemented; the advice he has received in relation to the current injunction in implementing this ERO; if he can detail any meetings he or his Department have had with interested stakeholders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59917/22]

*168. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60080/22]

*169. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide clarity on sections 6 and 9 of the County Enterprise Boards (Dissolution) Act 2014; if it is Enterprise Ireland that takes the place of a local enterprise office in any legal proceedings after the transfer of function, oversight and liability; and the number of breaches of EU state aid law that have occurred since 2020 in his Department under article 107, 108 and 109 and associated EU treaty provisions. — Catherine Murphy. [60098/22]

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

*170. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will instruct his Department to investigate a case (details supplied) in relation to the warmth and wellbeing pilot scheme in 2017; if he will ensure that this person's heating is repaired at no cost to them and the original installation company held responsible for their faulty work. — Paul Murphy. [59921/22]

*171. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if any windfall tax will be applied to electricity generation companies for 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59926/22]

*172. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if any windfall tax will be applied to the owners and operators of the Corrib gas field for 2022; if so, the estimated

revenue that will be generated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59927/22]

*173. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on a report (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59982/22]

*174. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60081/22]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*175. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide clarification on a matter (details supplied) in relation to an application for a rebate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [59894/22]

*176. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of a Safe Routes to School Programme 2021 for a school (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [59908/22]

*177. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of funding that has been provided for cycling facilities in Kildare in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59961/22]

*178. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to address the extraordinary delay for drivers seeking to book a national car test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59962/22]

*179. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress being made with the Athy distributor road; the target date for the opening of the road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59984/22]

*180. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide a report on the provision of a new Coast Guard station in Killaloe, County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [60029/22]

*181. To ask the Minister for Transport the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60091/22]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*182. To ask the Minister for Finance if it is possible to introduce a service cheque (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [59919/22]

*183. To ask the Minister for Finance if he can arrange for the capacity to upload photos to be increased on Revenue.ie current given that the maximum is 5mb which is inadequate. — Patricia Ryan. [59946/22]

*184. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on Louth County Councils plans to develop phase 1 of the Northern Cross Route in Drogheda using NTMA funding; if he will provide an update on recent discussions with Louth County Council on the proposed plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59954/22]

*185. To ask the Minister for Finance if the VAT rebate that is paid to a farmer in relation to the VAT on the sale of timber from a site is based on the gross price received for the timber; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [60028/22]

*186. To ask the Minister for Finance the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60082/22]

*187. To ask the Minister for Finance the way in which the State implements the EU Directive on Payment Accounts' Directive 2014/92/EU obligation that "payment accounts with basic features are available to the widest possible range of consumers" and that "they should be offered free of charge or for a reasonable fee"; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [60096/22]

*188. To ask the Minister for Finance the way that the State protects the consumers' right to use cash as a means of payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [60097/22]

*189. To ask the Minister for Finance the way that a person (details supplied) can deal with a letter received from the Revenue Commissioners in respect of property tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60143/22]

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

*190. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will provide an update on the long-awaited transfer of ownership of the historic Westgate House, Drogheda County Louth; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59955/22]

*191. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60087/22]

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

*192. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these

contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60090/22]

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

*193. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures that are being taken to protect fish stocks within the River Barrow and other waterways from the proliferation of cormorants; if cormorant numbers are monitored or controlled; the policies and procedures that National Parks and Wildlife Service is using to monitor or control cormorants and other invasive species; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59942/22]

*194. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if data on the number of cormorants on the River Barrow and other waterway systems is available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59945/22]

*195. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans for serviced sites in west Cork and their locations. — Michael Collins. [60145/22]

*196. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the progress that is being made under project Tosaigh to bring sites with outstanding permissions forward to deliver homes at affordable prices. — Richard Bruton. [56961/22]

*197. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures, if any, under the remit of his Department that he proposes to introduce to address the needs of persons arriving from Ukraine. — Richard Bruton. [56962/22]

*198. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the work of the shared island local authority development funding scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [53385/22]

*199. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding awarded to cross-Border projects recently under the Shared Island Local Authority Development Funding Scheme. — Neale Richmond. [49695/22]

*200. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his proposals relating to financial assistance packages for first-time buyers or renovators that have been brought to his Department for costing and consideration; if he is giving consideration to any such packages; if so, when they will be available for drawdown; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [48068/22]

*201. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will review the income thresholds for social housing for Mayo County Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [56923/22]

*202. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the intended timeframe in which he intends to bring forward proposals to extend the eligibility applicable to local authorities regarding housing supports. — Matt Carthy. [56643/22]

*203. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on the work that has been carried out in recent months on developing the Narrow Water Bridge; and the current projected timeline and costs. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [48260/22]

*204. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the plans if any he has to increase the grants payable under the housing aid for older people scheme and the housing adaptation grant for people with a disability; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [59902/22]

*205. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total number of local authority-leased homes, broken down by local authority between new first tenancies and existing properties, including leases by bodies such as the Dublin region homeless executive, for the period 2017 to Q2 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [59939/22]

*206. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the long-awaited and much-delayed Westgate vision plan for Drogheda; the expected key project timeline; the expected cost of the initial proposal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59941/22]

*207. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the National Parks and Wildlife Service monitors the number of cormorants on the River Barrow and other waterway systems; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59944/22]

*208. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of private rent inspections that took place in County Kildare in 2021 to date in 2022; the number of private rent inspections as a percentage of overall private rental units; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59949/22]

*209. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the long-awaited new fire station for Dunleer, County Louth; the location and details of the development; the key project expected timelines; the total number of staff expected to be employed once complete; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59971/22]

*210. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding available to local authorities to support the community response forum in each area to coordinate local measures welcoming Ukrainians; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59983/22]

*211. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of part V lease agreements that have been agreed to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [59998/22]

*212. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the caravan loan scheme for Traveller families was extended nationwide; if this is based on the objective need to provide replacement caravans and new caravans for Travellers who either live in mobile homes or caravans already or due to family formation need a caravan loan now; if not, if there was a cap put on the number of caravan loan applications that could be approved by each local authority despite the fact that assessments have identified a much greater need than this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [60031/22]

*213. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of cases raised by the Ombudsman with his Department in relation to Travellers living in very poor mobile homes or caravans in the past five years; the response by his Department to these cases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [60032/22]

*214. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if Galway City Council was instructed by his Department that it could only grant three caravan loans in 2022 despite a long-standing objective assessment that there is an immediate need for more than 20 such loans; if he intends rescinding this restriction to meet all proven demand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [60033/22]

*215. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding that is available from his Department to help local authorities deal with outstanding issues of mould and damp in council flats; if retrofitting funding related to climate action can be provided in such circumstances, for example to help with costs of new windows in blocks; if not, if other sources of funding are available to local authorities to deal with these issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [60041/22]

*216. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which he expects to improve opportunities for qualification for home loans for those currently on local authority housing waiting lists but who cannot qualify due to the low-income threshold which prevents them from being housed by the local authorities but does not allow them buy on the housing market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60055/22]

*217. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which he expects to meet future housing demand at all levels notwithstanding the existence of many challenges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60056/22]

*218. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider waiving the deposit for home loan applicants who have been meeting and paying rental payments for a number of years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60057/22]

*219. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which he might provide serviced sites to local authorities at a reasonable cost in an effort to meet the ongoing housing need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60058/22]

*220. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which the various housing schemes put forward by his Department in the Housing For All package can be improved to meet the increasing challenges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60059/22]

*221. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which he expects to be in a position to improve or augment the various schemes encompassing the Housing For All programme with a view to identifying the best way that these might be improved to meet the challenges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60060/22]

*222. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the way that the various housing bodies including approved housing bodies and local authorities can improve to focus specifically on various target groups who are currently not able to access the housing market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60061/22]

*223. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his proposals to address the issue of homelessness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60062/22]

*224. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which the various categories of housing applicant continue to be met or are likely to be met throughout the Housing For All programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60064/22]

*225. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which the various categories of housing applicant including those hoping to house themselves continue to be met or are likely to be met throughout the Housing For All programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60065/22]

*226. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps that can be taken by the local authorities to facilitate the granting of planning permission for rural applicants who have a need of rehousing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60066/22]

*227. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the degree to which he expects to be in a position to meet rural housing requirements in all counties where there is an obvious need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60067/22]

*228. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if each local authority might be required to provide a specified number of local authority houses on publicly owned lands in the shortest time possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60068/22]

*229. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of local authority houses built on contract in each local authority area for rent or sale purposes to qualified applicants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60069/22]

*230. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of exclusively publicly owned sites in the various local authority areas throughout the country in which houses are being built or will be built in the near future for persons seeking local authority housing, affordable housing or serviced sites; the extent to which these might make positive impact on the housing market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60070/22]

*231. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures that he will take to address the most serious housing shortages within the shortest possible period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60071/22]

*232. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of affordable and social houses that are due to be completed within the next two years, by local authority; the number of affordable and social houses completed in the past two years, by each local authority area; the number of affordable and social houses for which planning permission is currently sought; the projected dates of completion, by each local authority area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [60102/22]

*233. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of houses in new developments purchased by local councils and housing agencies in each of the past three

years, broken down by local authority area; the number of houses purchased by local councils and housing agencies in new developments, where such purchases represented 50% or more of the total development, by council area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [60103/22]

*234. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the investigations or steps he is taking to consider the pricing differences between the cost of building materials in Europe and in the United Kingdom as opposed to those pertaining in Ireland at present (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [60115/22]

*235. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps that he is taking to address the significant delay issues in terms of house building companies securing engagement and agreement from Irish Water in domestic water supply and wastewater connection agreements which is delaying approved planning developments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [60116/22]

*236. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status that should apply to a castle structure (details supplied) which forms part of a private landholding; the State funding that is available without requiring private contributions to provide refurbishment works to protect the existing structure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [60118/22]

*237. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the current position in regard to the proposal to alleviate traffic congestion in Naas, County Kildare by way of inner or outer relief roads (details supplied); if the funding involved continues to be made available in line with the request of the majority of local authority representatives; the stage the plans are at in relation to the urgently required provision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60125/22]

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

*238. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if a passport will be expedited given that the issue date is three days after the applicant (details supplied) is due to travel to a European football tournament with their team. — Paul McAuliffe. [59909/22]

*239. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if his attention has been drawn to the case of a person (details supplied) who it is alleged has been imprisoned in Pakistan for the crime of blasphemy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [59977/22]

*240. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60083/22]

*241. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will ensure two passports will be processed on time for date of travel for siblings (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [60099/22]

*242. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will defer the decision to reopen the Irish Embassy in Tehran given the ruthless suppression of human rights by the regime in Iran, the murder of women and children by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and the Iranian support for

Russia in the latter's ongoing invasion of Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [60106/22]

*243. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs when a passport will be made available in the case of a person (details supplied); if all documentation required has been supplied; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60127/22]

Chun an Aire Cosanta: To the Minister for Defence.

*244. To ask the Minister for Defence if the Defence Forces Colour Vision Working Group has concluded its review of the colour vision requirements for joining the Defence Forces; if so, the findings and recommendations of same.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [59995/22]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*245. To ask the Minister for Education when school transport will commence for a student (details supplied) with additional needs. — Sean Sherlock. [59896/22]

*246. To ask the Minister for Education the process where a family can ensure siblings (details supplied) with additional needs are in the same school. — Sean Sherlock. [59900/22]

*247. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the provision of a new secondary school in Lisdoonvarna, County Clare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [59925/22]

*248. To ask the Minister for Education if a school place can be facilitated in the case of the son of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [59938/22]

*249. To ask the Minister for Education the progress being made with the new premises for a school (details supplied) in Monasterevin; the target date for opening; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59951/22]

*250. To ask the Minister for Education the target date for the opening of the new secondary school under construction at Magee Barracks, Kildare town; the price paid for the site of the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59967/22]

*251. To ask the Minister for Education the way that the free primary book scheme that was announced in Budget 2023, will be rolled out in a timely and affordable manner. — Jim O'Callaghan. [59978/22]

*252. To ask the Minister for Education if she has consulted with the relevant stakeholders that will be involved in the provision of the free primary book scheme that was announced in budget 2023. — Jim O'Callaghan. [59979/22]

*253. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the difficulty that schools in south Kildare have in contacting the local SENO; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59987/22]

*254. To ask the Minister for Education the number of SENOs in each area of Kildare and north Laois; the number of vacancies in each area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59988/22]

*255. To ask the Minister for Education if additional classrooms will be built in locations in which planning permission is already in place but funding approval is needed for the build as a matter of urgency in view of the fact that Ireland is seeing an increase in the number of children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard O'Donoghue. [60005/22]

*256. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide clarification on the perimeter of a school (details supplied) for the purposes of accessing a green area for the students, which would require a fence around it and need to be beside the school in order to keep the children safe. — Emer Higgins. [60030/22]

*257. To ask the Minister for Education the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60079/22]

*258. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the progress of a school building project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60101/22]

*259. To ask the Minister for Education when access to an autism class in mainstream education can be made available to a student (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60123/22]

*260. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which primary and second level school places as well as adequate special needs classes continue to be made available in such numbers as to meet the demand; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60126/22]

*261. To ask the Minister for Education if a person (details supplied) will be awarded special and close observation in school given their propensity to collapse due to ongoing health issues, who is currently attending a special school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60132/22]

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

*262. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the Roadmap for Social Inclusion objective on the implementation of benchmarking the State pension; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59963/22]

*263. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the Government will reintroduce the enhanced Covid sick pay scheme of €350 per week; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59964/22]

*264. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 440 of 25 October 2022, if she will provide an example of the rate mix of averaging and the total contribution approach which will be used in the State pension (contributory) transition phase from January 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [59874/22]

*265. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the options that are available to a person who cannot go into an Intreo centre to get a public services card due to severe social anxiety; if this person will be allowed to get a photo in a pharmacy similar to a passport application or if there is any other avenue available to them; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [59897/22]

*266. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if clarification will be provided in relation to the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [59918/22]

*267. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person who qualifies for the fuel allowance will lose their entitlement to the allowance if they rent a room to a person who is not in receipt of any qualifying payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59928/22]

*268. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person who is in receipt of the fuel allowance will lose the allowance if they rent a room and provide care to a person who is not in receipt of any qualifying social welfare payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59929/22]

*269. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of an appeal by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [59932/22]

*270. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason that a carer's allowance bonus was paid into the old account of a person (details supplied) and not into the account into which they receive their weekly payment; if arrangements will be made to recall the paid bonus to the incorrect account and reissue it to the account used for their weekly payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [59957/22]

*271. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the actions that are being taken by her Department in relation to pension and employment rights of self-employed contractors at RTÉ given the ongoing WRC action against the public broadcaster; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [59973/22]

*272. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) has sufficient contributions to qualify for an invalidity pension; and if their application will be reviewed as a matter of urgency. — John McGuinness. [60002/22]

*273. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total underspend or overspend against the estimate provided for school meals in 2021 and to date in 2022; the reason for the variation in each case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [60034/22]

*274. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the population in the catchment area of each Intreo office in the country in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [60038/22]

*275. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the criteria for deciding to locate an INTREO office in a particular area. — Sean Sherlock. [60039/22]

*276. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the criteria for making the decision to close an INTREO office in a particular area. — Sean Sherlock. [60040/22]

*277. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60089/22]

*278. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if pro-rata pension might be payable in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60129/22]

*279. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the refusal of an application for a disability allowance will be reviewed in the case of a person (details supplied); if the invalidity pension or disability allowance is more appropriate in this case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60130/22]

*280. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the living alone allowance is payable in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60134/22]

*281. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an appeal will be arranged in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60137/22]

*282. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a person (details supplied) will have a decision on their application for carers allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [60142/22]

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

*283. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the activities that his Department has engaged in to deliver additional accommodation opportunities for those recently migrating to Ireland (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [60117/22]

*284. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of review officers appointed to review decisions under S.I. No. 230/2018 - European Communities (Reception Conditions) Regulations 2018, Article 20.(1)(a) and Article 20.(1)(d); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [59905/22]

*285. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of review decisions issued under Article 20.(1)(a) and Article 20.(1)(d); the outcomes of each of those decisions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [59906/22]

*286. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will introduce a temporary inflation payment scheme for the childcare sector, similar to the nursing home TIPS scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [59922/22]

*287. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to abolish direct provision; when this will be achieved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59948/22]

*288. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the length of time that persons will be accommodated in a hotel (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [60000/22]

*289. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of the work being undertaken to establish a refugee agency as per the White Paper recommendations on ending direct provision; if any persons have been interviewed for positions within the agency; when he expects the agency to become operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [60036/22]

*290. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and the nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60078/22]

*291. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the breakdown by county of the number and cost of the beds that his Department contracted for asylum seekers in hotels, pubs, bed and breakfasts or any similar facilities in each month from 31 May to 31 October 2022. — Joe Flaherty. [60361/22]

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

*292. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of work to address a range of industrial relations issues related to adult education tutors; the reason that this process has not been completed; the timeline that he is working towards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [60113/22]

*293. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the activity that is being considered by his Department and the local authority to target vacant buildings in terms of providing additional student accommodation places in Waterford city given the student accommodation deficit in the city; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [60074/22]

*294. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason that students who qualify for learning supports in primary, secondary and higher education, lose all these supports if they go to further education (details supplied); his views on whether marginalised students deserve the full suite of options that others can utilise to nurture their educational journey and navigate full lives; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [59976/22]

*295. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will engage with the Minister for Education on the issue of increasing the cap on primary teacher training places in public HEIs given that the Department of Education is currently in the process of determining the intake on the primary B.Ed. and PME programmes for the 2023-2024 academic year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [59999/22]

*296. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he continues to pursue the objective of providing more academic and technical graduates in the future; if he has identified specific targets in this area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60045/22]

*297. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the most obvious likely shortages of graduates in the future to meet the demands for the technical sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60046/22]

*298. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the most obvious likely shortages of graduates in the future to meet the demands for the academic sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60047/22]

*299. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which fourth level educational qualifications continue to be advanced in line with requirements with particular reference to availability of technical graduates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60048/22]

*300. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which fourth level educational qualifications continue to be advanced in line with requirements with particular reference to availability of academic graduates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60049/22]

*301. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the total number of apprentices currently available; the extent to which this is sufficient to meet requirements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60050/22]

*302. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he continues to liaise with the technical sector in education with a view to ensuring adequate provision in respect of graduates in both areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60051/22]

*303. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he continues to liaise with both the academic sector in education with a view to ensuring adequate provision in respect of graduates in both areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60052/22]

*304. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he continues to research future requirements in the education sector with a view to ensuring an adequate supply of graduates throughout; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60053/22]

*305. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he is satisfied that adequate provision continues to be made arising from his discussions with the academic and technical sectors with a view to meeting demand and job specifications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60054/22]

*306. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied

to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60084/22]

*307. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of the creation of a new further education and training college in Galway to consolidate the provision by the Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board of education in the city and to enable the Board to deliver on the national Further Education and Training Strategy and on his Department's policy mission to develop Ireland's further and higher education and research and innovation system to ensure that they are capable of meeting the diverse needs of all; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [60120/22]

*308. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason that part-time students are excluded from the reduction in student fees outlined in Budget 2023; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that many students are trying to progress their careers in difficult circumstances by pursuing part-time education; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [60121/22]

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

*309. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason for the delay in granting a person (details supplied) recognition under the undocumented scheme, given that their residency pass has been out of date since 5 April 2022. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [59898/22]

*310. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No 26 of 20 October 2022, if the process of contacting proposers, whether to notify them of their progressing to the second stage of the process or to require further information has now concluded; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [59903/22]

*311. To ask the Minister for Justice the total number of successful applications made under the Afghan Admissions Programme; the number of applications now at the second stage of processing; the number refused following a request for further information; the total number of unsuccessful applications; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [59904/22]

*312. To ask the Minister for Justice if she can clarify if the PSA must take account of EROs approved by the Houses of the Oireachtas in its regulating of private security firms; the penalties there are for noncompliance by private security firms of such regulation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59916/22]

*313. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide an update in respect of allowing persons studying in Ireland under a student visa to work more than 20 hours per week during term time in order to assist the hospitality and other sectors to fill job vacancies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59937/22]

*314. To ask the Minister for Justice the total funding awarded over the years 2020 to date through the Dormant Account Funds by funding amount, organisation, and location in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59956/22]

*315. To ask the Minister for Justice if property seized by gardaí and authorised for disposal by the courts can be made available to community groups through the Community Safety Innovation Fund Scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59959/22]

*316. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide an update on the Working Group to Examine the Disregard of Convictions for Certain Qualifying Offences Related to Consensual Sexual Activity between Men; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59960/22]

*317. To ask the Minister for Justice the discussions that she has had to date with unions representing civilian staff working with An Garda Síochána in advance of drafting of the general scheme of the policing, security and community safety Bill; if it is intended to change the terms and conditions of such staff; if she will meet the unions to discuss this issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [59975/22]

*318. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí in County Kildare who have received additional training to deal with domestic violence; the stations these gardaí are based at; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59989/22]

*319. To ask the Minister for Justice the arrangements that have been put in place for persons who want to open a bank account who do not have a passport or driving licence, who before October 2022, were able to get a Garda form ML10 stamped by a member of An Garda Síochána on production of other forms of proof of identity, and it was accepted as proof of identity for financial institutions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [59997/22]

*320. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will clarify the position of a person on a graduate visa 1G; if any restrictions are placed on such a visa holder when applying for jobs in the State; if they can seek an extension of the visa; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [60007/22]

*321. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 293 of 24 November 2022, if a person (details supplied) who has refugee status can avail of an alternative process in order to have their married name reflected on their permission and other documents due to safety issues relating to them contacting their country of origin for an updated passport. — Eoin Ó Broin. [60035/22]

*322. To ask the Minister for Justice the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60086/22]

*323. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of incidents of fraudulent insurance claims reported by the insurance industry to An Garda Síochána in each of the years 2016 to 2021 and to date in 2022, by the insurance industry. — Pearse Doherty. [60105/22]

*324. To ask the Minister for Justice when the retirement age for gardaí at Garda and Sergeant rank will be increased taking into account the need to retain Members in view of the slowdown in recruitment and the urgent need to increase Garda numbers in Garda Divisions throughout the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [60110/22]

*325. To ask the Minister for Justice the recruitment targets for An Garda Síochána set for 2022 and the intake to date; the recruitment target for 2023; if any particular measures will be implemented to increase numbers entering An Garda Síochána; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [60111/22]

*326. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which legally held gun club licence holders are likely to not be impeded by legislation now being considered; if recognition is given to the excellent records of such operators in ensuring the safety and compliance with legislation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60124/22]

*327. To ask the Minister for Justice if stamp 4 status will be awarded to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60131/22]

*328. To ask the Minister for Justice if a person (details supplied) will be granted naturalisation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60136/22]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*329. To ask the Minister for Health if he will ensure that the Health Insurance Authority makes comparisons between valid, existing, to be discontinued policies and other policies available on its website where currently it only presents comparisons between policies which may be purchased for the year ahead but does not provide a comparison tool against a customer's existing policy where that policy has been discontinued in the next year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [60094/22]

*330. To ask the Minister for Health if he will set up a community neuro-rehabilitation team in CHO-5 given that at present only 15% of the entire area of CHO5 has access to neuro-rehabilitation services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [60104/22]

*331. To ask the Minister for Health if emergency status will be awarded in the case of a person (details supplied); if a full medical card will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60135/22]

*332. To ask the Minister for Health the plans if any he has to review the income guidelines for medical cards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [59895/22]

*333. To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional CDNT psychologists that would be required in the north Tipperary area to clear the current waiting list of 339 children in a twelve-month period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [59920/22]

*334. To ask the Minister for Health if a person who is in need of a carer to assist them in their home but who is unable to source any carer and lives in an island setting has any entitlement to additional supports from her Department in terms of accessing home help and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [59930/22]

*335. To ask the Minister for Health if urgent residential living and or care can be facilitated in the case of a child (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [59931/22]

*336. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the case of a child (details supplied) who, following a GP referral to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Limerick, has yet to receive an appointment date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [59934/22]

*337. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update with respect to the progression of the 50-bed St. Joseph's Hospital development in Ardee, County Louth; when the project is

expected to be completed; if he will supply any other relevant information; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59940/22]

*338. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address the exodus of dentists from the dental treatment services scheme; his plans to deal with the long waiting lists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59947/22]

*339. To ask the Minister for Health the average response time of ambulances in County Kildare; the number ordinarily based at each location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59950/22]

*340. To ask the Minister for Health the amount that his Department and the Health Service Executive have provided to organisations (details supplied) in relation to nursing and midwifery recruitment in each of the years 2019 to 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [59958/22]

*341. To ask the Minister for Health if the contract of the midland youth drug and alcohol service will be extended beyond December 2022; his plans to ensure that such services are available in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59965/22]

*342. To ask the Minister for Health the progress being made in filling the vacancy of the CEO of the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59966/22]

*343. To ask the Minister for Health the reason that Covid-19 testing is being wound down in the midlands given that we are heading into winter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59968/22]

*344. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be allocated a placement. — Sean Sherlock. [59969/22]

*345. To ask the Minister for Health if the capacity of the new building of Monasterevin day care will exceed the current capacity of the service; his plans to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59985/22]

*346. To ask the Minister for Health the number of service users that will be able to be accommodated in the new building of Monasterevin day care; if investment will be made to enable the service to open for more than two days; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59986/22]

*347. To ask the Minister for Health the current use of the building owned by the HSE at Patrick St. Portarlinton, County Laois at the intersection of the R420 and R419; if it will be made available for community use or housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [59990/22]

*348. To ask the Minister for Health the considerations that have been given to the establishment of a long-Covid clinic in the Southeast; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [59991/22]

*349. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the provision of a long-Covid clinic for Cork University Hospital; the staffing resources and vacancies for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [59992/22]

*350. To ask the Minister for Health if progress has been made with respect to recruitment of occupational therapists in County Louth; if neighbouring areas with suitable levels of occupational therapists could transfer or redirect services; if persons will be offered appointments in neighbouring areas, in order to deal with the absolutely unacceptable void in services in the Louth area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59993/22]

*351. To ask the Minister for Health the policies that are in place for the protection of employees (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [59994/22]

*352. To ask the Minister for Health the number of facilities that have closed and ceased operations by name and location since the payments were awarded, of the recent TAPS payments of nearly €150 million distributed to nursing homes throughout the country to help manage the response to Covid-19; if any nursing homes voluntarily returned monies to his Department for any reason in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [59996/22]

*353. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [60001/22]

*354. To ask the Minister for Health the number of Irish trained doctors and Irish trained nurses employed by the HSE in UHL hospital group in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, in tabular form. — Richard O'Donoghue. [60003/22]

*355. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of doctors and nurses from all nationalities that have left the UHL hospital group in each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, in tabular form. — Richard O'Donoghue. [60004/22]

*356. To ask the Minister for Health the options that are available to a person whose general practitioner does not provide smear tests; if the HSE keeps a list of general practitioners that offer the service; the frequency with which this list is updated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [60006/22]

*357. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the potential closure of a GP service in Blarney, County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [60027/22]

*358. To ask the Minister for Health if he will ensure that health services are not reduced at a healthcare facility (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [60075/22]

*359. To ask the Minister for Health the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60085/22]

*360. To ask the Minister for Health if a person or couple receiving care under the nursing homes support scheme/fair deal scheme can rent out a room in their primary residence within the terms of the rent-a-room relief scheme without incurring the 40% rental income charge on their primary residence under the nursing homes support scheme or fair deal scheme. — Louise O'Reilly. [60100/22]

*361. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a breakdown of security costs associated with the HSE facility (details supplied) from 2019 to 2022 inclusive, including the projected cost for the remainder of 2022; if he will set out in detail the decorum security services provided at that cost; the name(s) of the security firm(s) providing the services, and details of any tendering process that may have applied to the granting of those contracts; and if security is paid for by the HSE in any other mental health facility in Cork and Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [60107/22]

*362. To ask the Minister for Health if any other HSE mental health facilities in Cork and Kerry, aside from (details supplied) are subject to security costs and, if they are, if he will provide detail on those, name of service, location, amount of donation, rationale for this service need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [60108/22]

*363. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider setting up a community neuro-rehabilitation team in CHO-9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [60109/22]

*364. To ask the Minister for Health the steps that are being taken to ensure that persons are made aware of the risks of respiratory syncytial virus to vulnerable groups, such as babies; the details of the communications campaign; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [60112/22]

*365. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a campaign by non-consultant hospital doctors (details supplied); his response to same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [60114/22]

*366. To ask the Minister for Health if a person (details supplied) can qualify for emergency treatment, currently not available under the GMS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [60133/22]

*367. To ask the Minister for Health if ambulances are being redirected to Drogheda accident and emergency from Navan, Kells and Trim areas on an informal basis (details supplied). — Peadar Tóibín. [60138/22]

*368. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that both Navan and Drogheda accident and emergencies are under enormous pressure in terms of the number of patients that are attending them; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that hospital corridors and accident and emergency waiting rooms are full at the moment with patients (details supplied). — Peadar Tóibín. [60139/22]

*369. To ask the Minister for Health the average accident and emergency waiting time in each accident and emergency in the country for the month of November 2022; the number of patients that have been placed on trolleys and chairs in each accident and emergency in the country during November 2022. — Peadar Tóibín. [60140/22]

*370. To ask the Minister for Health if permission was given to the HSE for a two-part closure of Navan accident and emergency; if permission was given to the HSE to redirect ambulances from Navan hospital accident and emergency to Drogheda hospital accident and emergency from mid-December 2022; his views that it would be safe to partially close Navan accident and emergency in the middle of the winter surge; and if he has asked the clinicians in Drogheda hospital for the reason that they opposed this decision. — Peadar Tóibín. [60141/22]

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

*371. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his proposals to ensure the availability of horticultural peat for use in the domestic horticultural sector. — Matt Carthy. [56644/22]

*372. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if land (details supplied) will be deemed uphill land and be exempt from individual fencing if a landowner is applying for a premium on a single farm payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [60026/22]

*373. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 607 of 15 November 2022, which of the listed non-expiry licence are currently operational; the dates on which the competent authority made its statutory environmental determinations under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive in relation to the listed non-expiry fish culture licences; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [60037/22]

*374. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and the nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60077/22]

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

*375. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if he will immediately release funds from the small-scale capital works programme in order to bring public toilets at a location (details supplied) up to standard and or back in use. — Catherine Murphy. [59933/22]

*376. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2020, 2021 and to date in 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [60088/22]