



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 27 Aibreán, 2023

Thursday, 27th April, 2023

**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 Tánaiste agus Aire Gnóthaí Eachtracha: To the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the stakeholders that will be invited to participate in the Consultative Forum on International Security Policy; the criteria that will be applied to select these stakeholders; if the forum will make findings; if so, how those findings will be agreed; if a report will be published arising from the forum; who will author such a report; and if he proposes any further actions of the forum, other than the announced public meetings. — Matt Carthy. [19793/23]

2. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the outcome of recent discussions he had with the President of the United States and the US authorities during the recent visit to Ireland regarding the need to regularise the status of the undocumented Irish in the United States and have an appropriate visa programme put in place to protect them and the progress made in relation to securing citizenship for them; if he will consider appointing an Irish Government representative who will be solely responsible for dealing with this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [19795/23]

3. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the measures in place to ensure that a backlog of passport applications does not emerge in 2023; and the measures he will take to ensure that passports, including for first-time applicants, can be secured in an accelerated manner in urgent and emergency cases. — Matt Carthy. [19792/23]

4. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will outline the European Council meetings at which Ireland agreed to participate in, and fund, the European Peace Facility and the EU Military Assistance Mission to Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [19794/23]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

5. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on the measures in place to ensure the safety and protection of Irish citizens in Sudan. — Matt Carthy. [19749/23]

6. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent of his efforts to restore the Northern Ireland Institutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [19926/23]

7. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the situation in Sri Lanka; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [19764/23]

8. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if his attention has been drawn to the fact that passport applications that are unsuccessful are not looked at until the end of the 'estimated issue date'; the reason the applicant could not be informed of the problem within the first week of the Passport Office receiving the application in order to speed up the process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [19890/23]

9. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his current assessment of the situation with regard to Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [19703/23]

10. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he perceives opportunities to advance the letter and the spirit of the Good Friday Agreement in the aftermath of the visit of President Biden, and to reenergise the Good Friday Agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [19860/23]

11. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps his Department is taking to condemn and seek an end to human rights abuses in China. — Peadar Tóibín. [19705/23]

12. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his latest engagement with Dóchas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [19765/23]

13. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his recent engagement with representatives of the British government. — Matt Carthy. [19752/23]

14. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his recent meeting with the Serbian Foreign Minister; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [19766/23]

15. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the measures Ireland has taken at EU and international level regarding the ongoing civil unrest and humanitarian crisis in Sudan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [19755/23]

16. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his Department's plans for contingency planning for the evacuation of Irish citizens from Sudan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [19892/23]

17. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his engagement with President Joe Biden and his administration during his recent visit to Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [19774/23]

18. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has any recent discussion with the British government in relation to Northern Ireland legacy issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [19707/23]

19. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if Ireland will propose further measures to target Russia in response to its invasion of Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [19894/23]

20. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he is aware that human rights campaigners that will be outside the AGM of a company (details supplied) in Ballsbridge on 28 April 2023 to highlight the appalling impact of the company's operations in Colombia on the land rights of the indigenous Misak people, on the environment and on human rights; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [19869/23]

21. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 126 of 21 March 2023, if he will provide an update on Ireland's efforts at EU and UN levels to stop the war in Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [19871/23]

22. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on the implementation of the Windsor Framework agreed between the European Union and the United Kingdom; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [19494/23]

23. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has raised concerns that there are Irish citizens in Northern Ireland on remand for over three years who were refused bail and are awaiting trial; if so, the response he received; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [19770/23]

24. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his assessment of the implementation of the Windsor Framework; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [19598/23]

25. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on the efforts of the Irish Government to secure the release of a person (details supplied) who is currently imprisoned in Iran. — Matt Carthy. [19753/23]

26. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 88 of 21 March 2023, if he will provide an update on his bilateral engagement to-date in 2023 with his Israeli counterpart with regard to the ongoing demolition and seizure of Palestinian property in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, as well as the recent escalation in violence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [19870/23]

27. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the measures being undertaken by his Department to ensure that there are sufficient staffing numbers in passport services in order that the current processing times for passport applications are maintained, given the spike in volume of passport applications received by passport services often occurs in the lead up to and during the summer months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [19747/23]

28. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on his plans for a consultative forum on international security policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [19493/23]

29. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the deteriorating situation in Sudan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [19867/23]

30. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he expects any further sanctions against Iran in view of the Iranian government's ongoing repression of protestors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [19704/23]

31. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the current waiting time for persons applying for passports under the foreign birth registrations; and if he is satisfied with the length of time applicants have to wait for their case to be considered. — Frankie Feighan. [19769/23]

32. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has spoken to his counterparts in the EU on the situation in regard to China and Taiwan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [19868/23]

33. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the average waiting time for a first passport in Cork. — Thomas Gould. [19790/23]

34. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the engagement he has had with the Sudanese ambassador regarding the civil unrest and humanitarian crisis in Sudan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [19754/23]

35. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will outline how his Department is supporting returning Irish immigrants who wish to re-settle in Ireland but face difficult barriers in terms of housing, driving licences, opening bank accounts, educational and work opportunities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [19780/23]

36. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will engage with the President of the United States to ensure that families of those who lost their lives in the Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 737 Max ET302 crash in 2019, including a person (details supplied) from County Clare, are not hindered in their pursuit for justice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [19628/23]

37. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has brought to the British government's attention the concerns of the family of a person (details supplied) who was killed by the RUC in 1973 and their desire for a public inquiry into the killing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [19447/23]

38. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his most recent engagement with EU Commission Vice President; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [19690/23]

39. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of meetings that have been held with the Israeli ambassador about the dramatic increase in violence in Palestine. — Thomas Gould. [19789/23]

40. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the current waiting times for paper passport applications only, including new applications, children's and renewals; and if his Department would consider any way of expediting certain paper applications that are required urgently for emergency travel. — Frankie Feighan. [19768/23]

41. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on any recent discussions with the political parties in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [19708/23]

42. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has had recent discussions with the British government in relation to the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill; if he has outlined again that it is unacceptable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [19776/23]

43. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on his recent engagement with the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [19767/23]

44. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the degree to which he expects to take on board the various views arising from the recent and necessary focus on Northern Ireland, the Good Friday Agreement, the Northern Protocol and the Windsor Agreement and the advice and comments from national and international politicians, in order to continue and consolidate the peace process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [19859/23]

45. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on the most recent EU Foreign Affairs Council meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [19624/23]

46. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has met with the Russian ambassador recently; the current complement of staff at the embassy at present; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [19895/23]

47. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the proposed timeframe to honour the Government commitment to recognise the state of Palestine. — Matt Carthy. [19750/23]

48. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will outline the efforts being made to engage with the EU to progress the recognition of the State of Palestine among EU member states; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [19775/23]

49. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if the EU policy towards China has been impacted by the war in Ukraine; and if he will indicate the emerging approach that is to be adopted in the future. — Richard Bruton. [19319/23]

50. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his response to the actions of Israel at the al-Aqsa Mosque; and if he has raised this matter at EU-level. — Matt Carthy. [19751/23]

51. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has raised concerns with the Northern Ireland and British authorities that there are Irish citizens there awaiting over eight years for a trial; if so, the response he received; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [19771/23]

52. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will detail his Department's support for the Irish humanitarian effort in Sudan, given the deteriorating situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [19851/23]

53. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will call in the Israeli ambassador to Ireland to establish the steps that are being taken in relation to the escalating violence by Israel on Palestinians; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [19618/23]

54. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the timeframe for the Consultative Forum on International Security Policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [19691/23]

55. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will outline his views on a one-state solution for the situation in Palestine and Israel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [19865/23]

56. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his assessment of the current situation in Nicaragua; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [19925/23]

57. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his response to the recent issuing by the International Criminal Court of an arrest warrant for the President of the Russian Federation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [19623/23]

58. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide details of Ireland’s role as a co-facilitator of the upcoming SDG summit; the specific actions his Department is taking to ensure the successful implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, both domestically and internationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [19891/23]

59. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has had any recent discussions with the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and with the political parties in Northern Ireland in relation to the need to have the Assembly, Northern Ireland Executive and the North-South Ministerial Council restored without further delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [19777/23]

60. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will urge the EU institutions and countries to collect information and intelligence of the forcible transfer of Ukrainian children to Russia and sanction Russian officials involved in these crimes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [19781/23]

61. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if any further sanctions are planned against Russia for its illegal war against Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [19711/23]

62. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on his latest engagement with the Russian ambassador in view of the recent presence of Russian commercial vessels in international waters off Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [19748/23]

63. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how Ireland is helping Moldova cope with the impact of the war on Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [19712/23]

64. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on his engagement with the United Kingdom government in relation to the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [19710/23]

65. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he is tracking the emerging situation in Myanmar; and if he will indicate what leverage the international community can exercise to ensure citizen rights are respected. — Richard Bruton. [19320/23]

66. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the Climate Finance Report prepared by Irish Aid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [19852/23]

67. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the efforts that have been made by his Department to restore Stormont. — Peadar Tóibín. [19706/23]

68. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the discussions he has had in relation to the restoration of Northern Ireland Executive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [19709/23]

69. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he would consider reissuing a copy of the Good Friday Agreement to all households on its 25th anniversary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [19893/23]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

70. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will outline the engagements, if any, the Commissioner for the Regulation of Utilities has had with energy providers here to ensure reductions in wholesale prices are passed on to customers; the measures he will take to ensure that the super-excess windfall profits of those companies for all of 2022 will be captured in the planned windfall tax measures and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [19966/23]

71. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he can clarify the position in relation to proposals to build an LNG terminal in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20127/23]

72. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how he intends to maximise compost and recyclable waste; if he recognises that charges and increasing charges are a disincentive in this regard, but a logical consequence of the privatisation of waste collection services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [19967/23]

73. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of offshore wind turbines he expects to be off the Irish Coast by the end of 2024, 2025 and 2026, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Berry. [20209/23]

74. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the Government intends to declare its intent to leave the Energy Charter Treaty, given the widely criticised EU Commission reforms to the Treaty. — Joan Collins. [20140/23]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

75. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the details of a windfall tax on energy companies and how the additional revenue generated will help households

with the cost-of-living crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [11383/23]

76. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the work of the National Youth Assembly on Climate. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [19740/23]

77. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has considered a re-introduction of public service bin collections to reduce its impact on fly-tipping and dumping. — Thomas Gould. [11502/23]

78. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the rollout of the National Broadband Plan to include the number of premises passed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [19763/23]

79. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has been notified of An Post's decision to sell its share in the National Lottery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [18000/23]

80. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason the coastal waters off County Clare designated for off-shore wind energy are much smaller in area than County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [19631/23]

81. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is aware of the issue that houses that have outer leaf repairs carried out under the Mica redress scheme may not qualify for SEAI home energy efficiency schemes grants; if it is the case they are prohibited from applying; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [11940/23]

82. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how he intends to act on the recommendations of the Energy Security Review; if he has assessed the environmental, social and economic impact of State-owned gas storage versus commercial LNG; if he will rule out the introduction of commercial LNG; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [19962/23]

83. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications in view of the inadequacy of the review of the proposed North-South Interconnector carried out in 2018, given that it did not take into account the concerns of householders, farmers and communities in relation to a number of aspects of this proposed project, if he will ensure that the concerns of local communities will be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [19846/23]

84. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will clarify reports on the Government support for LNG of some sort in the State and specifically how such a proposal is compatible with the State's climate obligations and targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [19782/23]

85. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he intends to engage with community representatives along the route of the North-South Interconnector to hear their concerns in respect of the current approach of EirGrid. — Matt Carthy. [19743/23]

86. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the up-to-date position regarding the roll out of the National Broadband Plan in Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [19902/23]

87. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the progress of the public warning system. — Willie O'Dea. [19900/23]

88. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the up-to-date position regarding efforts to strengthen Ireland's energy security; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [19903/23]

89. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if current Government policy which sees large tracts of the State licenced for mining for rare elements and minerals in order primarily to facilitate the electrification of the private car fleet is sustainable or environmentally sound; if any reappraisal of the one million EV targets would result in a changed policy with regard to licencing mining operations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [19785/23]

90. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to respond to recommendations 72 and 73 relating to energy production under section 1.10 of the Report from the Citizens Assembly on Biodiversity Loss; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [19850/23]

91. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if a person with stone-wall cladding can access SEAI retrofitting grants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [19787/23]

92. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of retrofits completed under the SEAI one stop shop and warmer homes schemes in Q1 2023, and for the pre-BER, post-BER of completed projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [19963/23]

93. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if Ireland is on track to meet the goal of generating 80% of its electricity from renewable energy by the end of the decade. — Jim O'Callaghan. [19715/23]

94. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when he plans to publish and implement the national hydrogen strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [19898/23]

95. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress made to date in upgrading the Irish electricity transmission system to carry the proposed wind energy output, onshore and offshore, due to come on stream by 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [19772/23]

96. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the supports for renewable energy under the National Development Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [10259/23]

97. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the rollout of highspeed broadband in County Carlow. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [19739/23]

98. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the review of the Security of Energy Supply of Ireland's Electricity and Natural Gas Systems; when will this report be published; what policy statement will be prioritised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [19778/23]

99. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he intends introducing legislation equalising the standing charge for domestic electricity between urban and rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [19773/23]

100. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has considered the policy implications of the ESRI assessment of the embodied emissions in Irish imports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [19322/23]

101. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the expected deadline for the NBI rollout of fibre broadband across the State; if he is satisfied with the current rate of the rollout with 109,000 out of 569,000 premises connected after the third year of the plan; how he plans on ramping up delivery of the rollout, particularly across the west, where areas are disproportionately in the 'survey pending' stage compared to other areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [19922/23]

102. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will tax the windfall profits of electricity companies for 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [19873/23]

103. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of the review of the security of energy supply of Ireland's electricity and natural gas systems for the period to 2030; the timeline for the publication of the review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [19864/23]

104. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason for the continued delay by his Department in issuing a money message or a reasoned response following the request from the Oireachtas Committee on Climate Actions and this Deputy in relation to the Petroleum and Other Minerals Development (Amendment) (Climate Emergency Measures) Bill 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [19888/23]

105. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if grants will be made available for schools, community buildings and other groups that wish to install small scale anaerobic digesters for cooking purposes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [19853/23]

106. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has received the final report of the Citizens Assembly on biodiversity loss; the way in which his Department will respond to the report and its recommendations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [19961/23]

107. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he can outline supports that energy users can expect in the coming period to deal with high gas and electricity bills; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [19848/23]

108. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when the geothermal study conducted at Carlinn Hall, Dundalk, County Louth, in 2022 will be completed; what the plan is when the study results are known; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [19762/23]

109. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how his Department is supporting and encouraging the development of floating offshore wind power generation; his future plans for the development of floating offshore wind power generation nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [19861/23]

110. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he intends to expand the Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce to bring ports, the ORE industry and State agencies together to improve readiness to deliver offshore wind, including through the possible introduction of an Irish strategic port investment model; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [19964/23]

111. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures his Department is taking to assist new build property owners who are not eligible for the solar electricity grant; if consideration will be given to the provision of additional financial supports to assist new build property owners purchase and install solar PV systems, where the properties were built and occupied after 1 January 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [19742/23]

112. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps he is taking to address literal and illegal dumping. — Holly Cairns. [19761/23]

113. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will commission a full independent assessment of the potential for undergrounding the North-South Interconnector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [19744/23]

114. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications in view of the total opposition of communities in counties Cavan, Monaghan and Meath to the present proposals regarding the proposed North-South Interconnector, with particular reference to the concerns about transmission cables being put overground, if he will ensure that if the project proceeds, the transmission cables are put underground, as proposed for other major energy projects in the European Union; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [19845/23]

115. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update of the rollout for the National Broadband Plan for Cork east; the number of homes that have been connected to date for the same area; the number of homes that remain to be connected in the Youghal area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [19889/23]

116. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the Atlantic Marine Energy Test Site (AMETS) located off Annagh Head, west of Belmullet; when will this site be connected to the national grid given that it is an integral component of Ireland's Ocean Energy Strategy; if this site will be developed in accordance with

the national Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (OREDPP); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [19779/23]

117. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how the rights of disabled people are respected, protected, and fulfilled in the design, development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of all climate policies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [19897/23]

118. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the work his Department has undertaken on requiring a certain amount of floor space in supermarkets of a certain size to be reserved for reuse and refillable products, following recommendations to the Oireachtas Committee on Environment and Climate Action in 2021. — Mairéad Farrell. [19923/23]

119. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps his Department is taking to tackle food waste. — Jim O’Callaghan. [19716/23]

120. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what role the proposed EU nature restoration law will play in meeting Ireland and the EU’s climate commitments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [19899/23]

121. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when Ireland will develop a national strategy on the use of ammonia and hydrogen fuels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [19630/23]

122. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he can outline the wait times from application to completion of works under the SEAI scheme; the measures being taken to address long waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [19745/23]

123. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what engagement he or his Department has had with Galway City and County Councils to-date in 2023 with regard to the development of their Local Authority Climate Action Plans, and in particular in relation to the development of their decarbonising zones; the expected timeline for the implementation of the decarbonising zones; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [19863/23]

124. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on a windfall tax on energy companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [10974/23]

125. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when he intends to launch a public consultation into the use of direct lines and private wires; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [19746/23]

126. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on designating the post office network as the offline gateway of choice for citizens availing of State services. — Holly Cairns. [19760/23]

127. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the rollout of the national broadband plan in the west Muskerry area. — Aindrias Moynihan. [19325/23]

128. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which he continues to ensure a balance between meeting emission reduction targets and ensuring the future of the agri-food sector, ensuring the future of the agricultural production sector while meeting carbon reduction targets to the greatest possible extent; if he is satisfied that neither will progress at the expense of the other, that food security for the future is assured and that everything possible is being done to reduce emissions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [19857/23]

129. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his attention has been drawn to studies showing that Government policies to tackle climate change are causing a mental health crisis among farmers (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [19714/23]

130. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will report on the roll-out of the National Broadband Plan; the number of premises that were passed and connected as of March 2023; the way that he plans to accelerate the delivery of the plan and if he could provide, in particular, connection details for counties Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon and Donegal. — Frankie Feighan. [19758/23]

131. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the rationale behind the virement of €1.5 million in Just Transition funding to support climate finance activities of the United Nations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [19713/23]

132. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of connections under the National Broadband Plan in County Mayo; how that compares to revised targets; the sanctions against the contracted company; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [19872/23]

133. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps his Department is taking to put in place a mobile phone-based emergency text alert system on a national scale, which is mandatory under the European Electronic Communications Code. — Willie O'Dea. [19901/23]

134. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the immediate plans for the North-South Interconnector; the legal basis on which agencies intend to access private lands; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [19965/23]

135. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the roll out of the National Broadband Plan in Cork; the total number of premises falling under the NBP remit in Cork; the total number of premises that are now available to pre-order/order broadband and the total number of premises still pending survey; if these figures are on target with the number of premises to be passed in Cork by 31 March 2023; his plans to accelerate the delivery of the programme, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [19741/23]

136. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which broadband provision throughout the country is progressing as intended; if efforts continue to bridge communication gaps that have become obvious; if he can see a means whereby the provision of broadband throughout all the regions can be maximised in early date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [19858/23]

137. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he can detail proposals to increase the staff numbers and expertise working in the Commission for Regulation of Utilities specifically in order to deal with the administration of a proposed windfall energy tax on profits; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [19786/23]

138. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department engaged disabled people in meaningful, informed and effective consultation with regard to climate policy-making; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [19896/23]

139. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will report on the work his Department is doing to reduce emissions from the energy sector in the context of our climate action targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [19150/23]

140. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will indicate the processes which he has put in place to set sectoral targets under Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [19321/23]

141. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to adapt future iterations of the Climate Action Plan to integrate the Biodiversity Action Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [19849/23]

142. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if recent statistics released by the SEAI on retro fitting programmes are compatible with the targets for deep retro fitting previously announced by the Government; if he has any concerns on the nature of most of the work that has been carried out; if such work will result in any substantial or verifiable reduction in CO2 emissions from energy use; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [19784/23]

143. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will explain the rationale for granting ten prospecting licenses to an Australian mining corporation in east Mayo in view of the potential negative impacts this could have on water quality in the area. — Bríd Smith. [19783/23]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*144. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if there are new procedures in place that create complexity in transferring a pension paid from the UK to Ireland; and if there

is any public agency which could advise citizens of how this can be done without incurring disproportionate costs. — Richard Bruton. [20073/23]

*145. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which Ministers posted abroad for St. Patrick's Day celebrations continue to be successful in promoting Ireland as an attractive investment centre for job creation and modern technology. — Bernard J. Durkan. [13904/23]

*146. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he and his European colleagues continue to monitor the situation in Ukraine with particular reference to the ongoing implications for European peace and security including food security; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [14099/23]

*147. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he continues to have discussions with the representatives of all groups in Northern Ireland in the aftermath of the visit of President Biden, with particular reference to the need to engage with likeminded interests in the pursuit of the objectives of the Good Friday Agreement. — Bernard J. Durkan. [18058/23]

*148. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to indicate any new initiatives he has in mind towards achieving the fulfilment of the Good Friday Agreement. — Bernard J. Durkan. [18073/23]

*149. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he expects to encourage cooperation, mutual respect and interaction between the various communities in Northern Ireland, and including North/South relations, with a view to building on trust and understanding in a manner which enhances the ideals of the Good Friday Agreement. — Bernard J. Durkan. [18074/23]

*150. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will outline the 10th package of EU sanctions on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [14091/23]

*151. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will outline additional supports provided by the Irish Government to support Ukraine's offensive against Russia; if he supports the investigations by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court and for the creation, in The Hague, of an international centre for the prosecution of the crime of aggression against Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [14092/23]

*152. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he perceives opportunities to advance the letter and the spirit of the Good Friday Agreement in the aftermath of the visit of President Biden with particular reference to avail of any dividend from President Biden's visit to reenergise the Good Friday Agreement. — Bernard J. Durkan. [18276/23]

*153. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the degree to which he expects to take on board the various views arising from the recent and necessary focus on Northern Ireland, the Good Friday Agreement, the Northern Protocol and the Windsor Agreement and the advice and comments from national and international politicians, in order to continue and consolidate the peace process and the necessity to avail of all opportunities in this regard. — Bernard J. Durkan. [19268/23]

*154. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the engagement he had on his St. Patrick's Day visit to the United States; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [13383/23]

*155. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will confirm the functions of Ireland's foreign consulates; the reason a person (details supplied) was not able to obtain a travel document; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20011/23]

*156. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on the work being done to secure the release of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [20136/23]

*157. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if a passport will issue in time for a student (details supplied) in Donegal travelling on a school trip that was submitted in January 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [20144/23]

*158. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which Ireland's overseas aid continues to be involved in various projects such as assisting with the provision of water supplies in countries affected by drought and lack of infrastructure for drinking water; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20148/23]

*159. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to what extent overseas aid remains engaged with organisations involved in the provision of basic services such as water and/or food supplies at various locations that are particularly affected in Africa and other locations across the globe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20149/23]

*160. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the bilateral aid programme continues to identify with and assist countries and communities that continue to be affected by various shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20150/23]

*161. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the multi-lateral overseas aid programme continues to interact directly with communities most seriously affected by conditions such as war, hunger and drought; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20151/23]

*162. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he and his Department continue to offer support and sustenance to those affected by war or famine globally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20152/23]

*163. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which this country is adequately equipped to meet emergencies from time to time, both within and outside Europe with particular reference to emergencies emerging in the Sudan/Horn of Africa; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20153/23]

*164. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the European Union is alert to the threats to the security of the Union and possible future members; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20154/23]

*165. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the international community continues to monitor the activities and development of Al Shabaab and Boko Haram; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20155/23]

*166. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which Irish embassies abroad, diplomatic missions or other representatives continue to promote Irish trade throughout the world; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20156/23]

*167. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to indicate notwithstanding the tragic experiences in the western Balkans, the extent to which safe havens or other security enclaves can be provided for refugees from various locations of war and conflict; if the vulnerability of such refugees can receive humanitarian reception/treatment regardless of their location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20157/23]

*168. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the international community has made commitments and kept them in respect of various disaster areas throughout the globe; the actions in place to ensure an active and positive response; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20158/23]

*169. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he and his Department, through the EU and UN, continue to press for a serious investigation into the numerous human rights violations now taking place throughout the globe with particular reference to the ongoing war in Ukraine perpetrated by Russia; if Ireland's position on the UN Security Council can be used to press these issues in early date; if the international criminal courts in the Hague can be utilised in this context; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20159/23]

*170. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20185/23]

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

*171. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures that have been brought forward by his Department to increase the allocation frequency of eircodes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [19756/23]

*172. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the rollout of the National Broadband Plan in rural areas. — Cathal Crowe. [19248/23]

*173. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will indicate the benchmarks which he uses to assess the extent to which green criteria have impacted public procurement; and whether he can indicate how Ireland compares with other EU member states in this respect. — Richard Bruton. [9534/23]

*174. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the national retrofit scheme. — Thomas Gould. [11503/23]

*175. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the engagement his Department has had with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the interactions between the proposed Planning and Development Bill 2022 and the Aarhus Convention. — Thomas Gould. [19788/23]

*176. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if there are any moves being made to stop good food being destroyed at a time when there are thousands of people who cannot afford food (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [19947/23]

*177. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when the high-level offshore wind phase 2 ORE designated areas will be determined; if he will outline the criteria for determining the phase two ORE designated areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [15993/23]

*178. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will report on his communications with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in respect of radon. — Ivana Bacik. [19990/23]

*179. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will report on the implementation of the national radon control strategy; and if he will report on plans for financial supports for radon remediation works, in particular. — Ivana Bacik. [19991/23]

*180. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his plans to raise public awareness of the radon risk map which is available at www.radon.ie; the number of monthly visits to the website in each month since the radon risk map was published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [19993/23]

*181. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the total number of retrofits completed under all SEAI schemes; the total number per scheme; and the total per post-conversion rating, per scheme in 2022 and in Q1 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20012/23]

*182. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the total number of retrofits completed under the better energy warmer homes scheme; and the total per post-conversion rating, per scheme in 2022 and in Q1 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20013/23]

*183. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the total number of fully funded retrofits completed under the better energy warmer homes scheme and the better energy warmth and wellbeing scheme; and the total per post-conversion rating, per scheme in 2022 and in Q1 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20015/23]

*184. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the total number of retrofits completed under the better energy warmth and wellbeing scheme; and the total per post-conversion rating, per scheme in 2022 and in Q1 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20017/23]

*185. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the total number of retrofits completed under the better energy homes; and the total per post-conversion rating, per scheme in 2022 and in Q1 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20018/23]

*186. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the total number of Solar PV's completed under the SEAI scheme; and the total per post-conversion rating, per scheme in 2022 and in Q1 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20019/23]

*187. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the total number of retrofits completed under the one-stop shop (National Homes retrofit); and the total per post-conversion rating, per scheme in 2022 and in Q1 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20020/23]

*188. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of fines issued for dog-fouling in each local authority area in the past ten years and to date in 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [20085/23]

*189. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of fines issued for littering in each local authority area in the past ten years and to date in 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [20086/23]

*190. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide details on the work that has been carried out on studies regarding the extra weight of electric vehicles in car parks (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [20123/23]

*191. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the ongoing steps to support remote working through the roll-out of high-speed fibre broadband internet connections, with particular reference to blackspot-prone rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20160/23]

*192. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which his Department continues to explore electricity generation from non-fossil fuels by way of wind, wave or solar; the full extent of the investment to date in each element of the sector; the degree to which he expects such investment to materialise in each of the next five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20161/23]

*193. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which the national waste management plan continues to address the relevant issues, with particular reference to reduction, reuse and recycle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20162/23]

*194. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the degree to which broadband provision is proceeding evenly throughout the country in respect of both primary and secondary areas; the extent to which the two are merging for likely to so do in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20163/23]

*195. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which mobile telephone services remain good when compared with other European Union or adjoining countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20164/23]

*196. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which emission reductions are likely to be achieved by way of alternative methods of electricity

generation in the future; how this is likely to impact on achieving the target; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20165/23]

*197. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which he continues to ensure a balance between meeting emission reduction targets and ensuring the future of the agri-food sector with particular reference to the need to ensure the future of the agricultural production sector while meeting carbon reduction targets to the greatest possible extent; if he is satisfied that neither will progress at the expense of the other, that food security for the future is assured and that everything possible is being done to reduce emissions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20166/23]

*198. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which Ireland's emissions have been reduced in the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20167/23]

*199. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he can ensure that measures to address carbon emissions do not damage the productive agricultural and manufacturing sectors here; if best practice in other jurisdictions to meet such requirements can be followed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20168/23]

*200. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures being taken to ensure that the ESB and other energy providers pass any reduction in price inflation to the consumer as quickly as possible and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20169/23]

*201. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20183/23]

Chun an Tánaiste agus Aire Cosanta: To the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence.

*202. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if he will carry out a survey on the current condition of the Military Barracks at Summerhill, Nenagh, following confirmation that it is now his Department that owns the property. — Alan Kelly. [20054/23]

*203. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the reason his Department will not carry out a survey on the current condition of the Military Barracks at Summerhill in Nenagh following a request to do same; and the reason this will not be facilitated. — Alan Kelly. [19938/23]

*204. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20180/23]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*205. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has plans to incentivise the use of EV vehicles and bicycles across the public service sector in support of the Climate Action Plan towards a more sustainable future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [19944/23]

*206. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide his response to the motion he received from Cork County Council (details supplied) concerning Transport Infrastructure Ireland's grant allocations to the council, including the reduction in funding to the community involvement scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [19956/23]

*207. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will respond to concerns raised by a person (details supplied) in respect of enterprise services on the Irish Rail northern line; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [20048/23]

*208. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will instruct the NTA to extend the deadline of the current public consultation for BusConnects in Cork to ensure traffic data and modelling is published to allow submissions to be informed of same. — Sean Sherlock. [20094/23]

*209. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20194/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*210. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is aware that cross-Border workers who are employed in the State but reside in Northern Ireland are being advised by their credit union that their MYCU debit cards are being cancelled as the new card issuer advises that it is only permitted to offer debit cards to members resident in the European Economic Area (details supplied); if the same will apply to debit cards that are issued by Irish banks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [20038/23]

*211. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will confirm that provision will be made to allow anyone who installed solar panels prior to 1 May 2023 to obtain a refund for the VAT they have previously paid, given that the VAT rate on the supply and installation of solar panels will drop to zero for private dwellings on 1 May 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [20064/23]

*212. To ask the Minister for Finance the total revenue generated by the universal social charge for the 2021 financial year; the total estimated revenue for 2022 and 2023, respectively; if he will provide a breakdown for each category of income threshold; the total number of taxpayers contributing to each category, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20091/23]

*213. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of housing developments approved for funding by Home Building Finance Ireland to date in each county; the number of such developments that have ten units or less; the number of such developments with 20 units or less; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [20107/23]

*214. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20184/23]

*215. To ask the Minister for Finance the total annual amount generated by the USC from taxpayers classed as self-employed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20197/23]

Chun an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí, Seachadta ar an bPlean Forbartha Náisiúnta, agus Athchóirithe: To the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform.

*216. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he has plans to review and increase mileage rates for public servants using an electric vehicle, in light of the costs introduced for public charging facilities and given that this would act to support the wider adoption of EVs across public-service users; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [19941/23]

*217. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he has plans to review and increase mileage rates for public servants using an electric bicycle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [19942/23]

*218. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the analysis that has been carried out of the potential to incentivise a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by adjusting the mileage rates for public servants using cars and bicycles of various categories; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [19943/23]

*219. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when the 3% pay increase granted in February 2022 to public servants under the ‘pay restoration programme’ will be paid out to those workers who have not yet received it. — Brian Stanley. [20005/23]

*220. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the total number and percentage of civil servants who retire at or above retirement age; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [20074/23]

*221. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will outline the potential role that the ERDF could play in financing offshore renewable energy port infrastructure projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [20075/23]

*222. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 208 of 20 April 2023, if his Department will monitor the inclusion of social consideration in regards to apprenticeship in public procurement to ensure that the information note leads to the adoption of this practice; if he will consider bringing in mandatory inclusion of social consideration in regards to apprenticeship in construction projects over a certain size; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [20076/23]

*223. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 209 of 20 April 2023, if he can confirm that he is unable to provide an indicative timeframe for the completion of the review of the capital works management framework which commenced in March 2019; if his Department required additional resources and staff in order to deliver this review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [20077/23]

*224. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 43 of 19 April 2023, if there are limits on the amount of ERDF funds that can be transferred from “More Developed” regions to the Northern

and Western region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [20078/23]

*225. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 44 of 9 November 2022, if the final flood maps and reports were published by the Office of Public Works for the Carnmore and Claregalway area, County Galway; if not, when they will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [20096/23]

*226. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will provide a breakdown of funding on period poverty measures that goes towards each Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20103/23]

*227. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the current status of his consideration of the River Shannon Management Agency Bill 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [20118/23]

*228. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when the €7 million allocated in December 2019 to alleviate constrictions to the flow of water in the Shannon Callows between Athlone and Meelick will be drawn down; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [20119/23]

*229. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to the meeting between the community surrounding Lough Funshinagh and the Minister of State with responsibility for the OPW, if he will outline the progress to date on progressing planning authorisation for an overflow pipe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [20121/23]

*230. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20190/23]

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

*231. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the role, if any, his Department has in the implementation of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [19757/23]

*232. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the regulation that pertained during the existence of the atypical work permit scheme for non-EEA fishers whereby no more than 50% of the crew of an eligible fishing vessel should have consisted of non-EEA nationals still applies in the context of non-EEA nationals currently in the fleet being stamp-4 visa holders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [19979/23]

*233. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the actions he will take regarding the layoff of Irish-based staff by a multinational company (details supplied) to ensure fairness in the redundancy process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [20008/23]

*234. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department will provide more data on the reasons for the refusal of a visa for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [20067/23]

*235. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will intervene with the management of a company (details supplied) to ensure that the employees scheduled to be laid off are treated appropriately; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [20072/23]

*236. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide dedicated Oireachtas Member contact details for all agencies under the aegis of his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [20079/23]

*237. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the obligations that are on employers to furnish employees with payslips; if there is an obligation on employers to provide payslips in paper format where employees cannot access online systems for payslips; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [20083/23]

*238. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a decision on work-permit applications by an organisation (details supplied) in Munster will be reviewed in light of the eligibility of the specialist workers sought by the organisation, and the critical national infrastructure being developed by the organisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20088/23]

*239. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of mergers and acquisitions that were delayed or prevented by the CCPC in 2021 and 2022 respectively; if he will provide a breakdown of the reasons for the CCPC intervention in each case; if he is concerned with the rate of intervention by the CCPC in any scenarios; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20089/23]

*240. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will forensically review the role of the CCPC in a failed merger involving a company (details supplied) in County Kerry; if he will consider the reasons for the intervention of the CCPC; his views on whether the actions of the CCPC in this scenario were anti-enterprise, unduly drawn out, and excessive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20090/23]

*241. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department has been notified about proposed layoffs at a company (details supplied) in Dublin; if he will meet with representatives of the company in relation to these layoffs; the supports available for the workers facing redundancy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20145/23]

*242. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20182/23]

*243. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of people employed in Enterprise Ireland-supported companies in Kerry in the past five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20200/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*244. To ask the Minister for Education the amount of funding which has been drawn down for solar photovoltaic panels as part of the summer works scheme; and the amount drawn down by each school, in tabular form. — Ivana Bacik. [20066/23]

*245. To ask the Minister for Education if provision will be made to enable persons aged 70 years and over, subject to appropriate medical checks, to drive public service vehicles and vehicles employed on State contracts as difficulties are arising in many areas, such as school transport with shortage of qualified drivers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [20124/23]

*246. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide advice to the family of a young person (details supplied) who has been unable to obtain a school place for first year in their locality and further afield, and who is advised it is unlikely they will obtain a place in an appropriate school at this stage of the year. — Eoin Ó Broin. [19933/23]

*247. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on secondary school capacity in Dublin Mid-West; if her Department have ascertained the full picture of capacity issues in the area; if she is aware that there are still a number of young people in the area without an appropriate school place for the coming school year; and the action her Department is taking to ensure school places for young people in this situation. — Eoin Ó Broin. [19934/23]

*248. To ask the Minister for Education her views on whether current trainee educational psychologists should only have to accept to work in an organisation in exchange for the number of years for which funding has been offered, for example, one year of funding in exchange for one year work post-qualification (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [19957/23]

*249. To ask the Minister for Education whether she has any plans to re-open the residential institutions redress in order to accommodate those people who, due to the nature of their personal trauma, were unable to apply before the deadline; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [19975/23]

*250. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide funding for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [19977/23]

*251. To ask the Minister for Education the next steps in the process for the scoping inquiry into historical sexual abuse in schools run by religious orders; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [19985/23]

*252. To ask the Minister for Education the number of additional post-primary school places that will be provided in the south Clondalkin area in September 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [19986/23]

*253. To ask the Minister for Education if she will investigate the reason two school transport applications for post-primary students (details supplied) who are otherwise eligible for school transport but are attending their second nearest school and have applied for school bus tickets to their second nearest school were denied bus tickets by Bus Éireann due to their not attending their nearest school; if she will clarify and confirm the criteria Bus Éireann should use in such circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [19999/23]

*254. To ask the Minister for Education if a child (details supplied) in County Kerry will qualify for the July Provision; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20004/23]

*255. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 361 of 28 March 2023, the school in the Dublin mid-west area that has had one new special class at post-primary level approved for the 2023-2024 school year; the schools in this area that have engaged with the NCSE to establish a special class; if she will provide an update on their engagements to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [20007/23]

*256. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to The Fair Employment (School Teachers) Bill passed in the Northern Ireland Assembly in March 2022; if similar legislation is under consideration by her Department for this jurisdiction; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [20010/23]

*257. To ask the Minister for Education how the panel system for the appointment of primary teachers operates; how it differs from the supplementary panel; if she will detail how the various criteria for inclusion on both the panel and supplementary panel work; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [20047/23]

*258. To ask the Minister for Education when the minor works grant will be paid to schools for the current school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [20049/23]

*259. To ask the Minister for Education the reason the timelines for when schools receive grants to maintain school buildings, pay for utilities and cleaning services, and to pay staff have been revised several times this school year; if she will provide additional funding to schools adversely impacted by her Department's delays; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [20050/23]

*260. To ask the Minister for Education if the Covid cleaning grant will be given to schools for term three of this school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [20051/23]

*261. To ask the Minister for Education the number of students who have been expelled from primary schools by county in 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Sorca Clarke. [20055/23]

*262. To ask the Minister for Education the number of students who have been expelled from secondary schools by county in 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Sorca Clarke. [20056/23]

*263. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 64 of 19 April 2023, if additional student funding supports, separate to those already announced for trainee educational psychologists, will be considered as part of the interim recommendations of the working group; the exact timeline she is working towards; the estimated date for completion of the final report; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [20063/23]

*264. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide details of the funding that is going towards period poverty in schools; if she will provide a breakdown of that funding, in tabular form, as the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform

has indicated that the funding of implementation measures for period poverty needs to be funded separately via each Department's vote; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20101/23]

*265. To ask the Minister for Education if a child can be deemed eligible for school transport to their second closest school when there is no bus service to their closest school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20117/23]

*266. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the severe pressure on secondary school places in Wexford town for the coming academic year; if she will set out a timeline for the construction of the new post-primary school in Wexford town (details supplied); if she will make contact with each of the post-primary schools in Wexford town to ensure the maximum possible first-year intake in September 2023 to reduce the pressure on students without a place this year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [20139/23]

*267. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide a timeline on when the updated deferred Leaving Certificate criteria will be announced. — Gary Gannon. [20142/23]

*268. To ask the Minister for Education if additional time is to be granted to Ukrainian students sitting Junior and Leaving Certificate examinations to ensure that they can make all necessary translations. — Gary Gannon. [20143/23]

*269. To ask the Minister for Education when a second level school place will be offered in the case of a student (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20172/23]

*270. To ask the Minister for Education when admission to a special autism class might be referred in the case of a person (details supplied) her condition; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20176/23]

*271. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 260 of 23 March 2023, if her Department's school transport section will contact the family (details supplied) and provide them with an update on their request; if a permanent arrangement can be put in place with the bus service provider to facilitate the dropping-off of the child concerned to the centre for the ongoing dates as required while the child is attending school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [20177/23]

*272. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide a list of contracts her Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20181/23]

*273. To ask the Minister for Education when a building project (details supplied) will proceed to the next stage; if she will ensure that this project progresses as quickly as possible in view of the urgent need to provide additional accommodation at this school for the next school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [20203/23]

*274. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the building works programme for a school (details supplied); if she can commit to prioritising this school based on health and safety matters; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [20204/23]

*275. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the building works programme for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [20205/23]

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

*276. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the grant aid opportunities available for sport equipment (details supplied) for children who need special, and therefore, more expensive visual aids, so as to allow them to participate in their chosen sport; if there are any plans to provide more grant aid opportunities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [19940/23]

*277. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media how sporting bodies will be held accountable for not reaching the 40% quota for female representation on their boards by the end of 2023; the person or body responsible for examining whether the quota has been reached; how penalties for not reaching the quota will be discharged; if penalties will include restrictions on funding and by how much; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [19968/23]

*278. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will provide information and or a date for when payment of the sports capital funding will be issued to a sports club (details supplied) given that all bank details and information have been provided to her Department. — Joe Flaherty. [20044/23]

*279. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will consider altering the restrictions on the Decade of Centenaries Historical Strand expenditure (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20046/23]

*280. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if free public golf greens and pitch-and-putt holes will be included in the forthcoming round of the sports capital and equipment programme as eligible projects, such as a facility (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20087/23]

*281. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will provide a list of contracts her Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20193/23]

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

*282. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the specific policy or piece of legislation that prevents the afforestation of lands designated as geological sites in county development plans with species composition comprising 80% conifer and 20% broadleaves; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [20114/23]

*283. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the specific policy or piece of legislation that prevents the afforestation of land designated in the County Galway development plan as a county geological site with species composition comprising 80% conifers

and 20% broadleaves; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [20115/23]

*284. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of units permitted under the lease and repair scheme, by local authority, in the past two years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [19927/23]

*285. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department will build modular homes in any location to mitigate the effects of the housing crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [19928/23]

*286. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide details of the waiting time for accessing funds from the clearing house fund; if he will provide a breakdown of the funds paid out; the average length of time from application to decision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [19935/23]

*287. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if it is intended to replicate in the Draft Planning and Development Bill 2022 the provision of the current Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2021 which in s.10(2) requires that the plan include objectives for the preservation of public rights of way which give access to seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other place of natural beauty or recreational utility, given that s.51(2) of the draft Bill published by his Department includes these in a list of objectives which are optional but not mandatory; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [19937/23]

*288. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide his response to a report (details supplied) from the Heritage Council's CTCHC Programme, Tipperary Town Revitalisation Task Force, and Tipperary County Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [19950/23]

*289. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if there is any level of discretion applied to the €53,000 household net annual income limit for the cost rental tenant in-situ-scheme, such as for a one-off bonus; if the reckonable income is based solely on 2022 or over a longer period; if overtime is not included in reckonable income; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [19959/23]

*290. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to address radon exposure in housing stock; and if he will report on his communications with the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications in respect of radon. — Ivana Bacik. [19989/23]

*291. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide a breakdown by category of the €1 billion underspend on housing, compared with the budget for 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [20001/23]

*292. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the exact date on which the first-home affordable purchase shared equity scheme will be open for applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [20003/23]

*293. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a protocol has been put in place to facilitate inter-council tenant-in-situ purchases in cases where the tenant is living in a council area other than where their social housing list is based. — Eoin Ó Broin. [20006/23]

*294. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of affordable housing units delivered via the Cost Rental Equity Loan, the Affordable Housing Fund and Project Tosaigh in the Constituency of Dublin south west in each of the years, 2016 to 2022; and the number planned to be delivered in 2023; the breakdown of units per scheme; and the average price of unit by unit size, in tabular form. — Seán Crowe. [20053/23]

*295. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 267 of 20 April 2023, if he will instruct all local authorities to provide the total number of construction technical professionals, including architects, engineers, quantity surveyors and so on, employed by each local authority to perform functions such as overseeing construction projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [20082/23]

*296. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures he plans to put in place to compensate for the loss of 27,000 homes (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [20109/23]

*297. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the flow rate measurements north and south of Athlone and Meelick weirs over the past 30 days; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [20120/23]

*298. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20188/23]

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

*299. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress made on proposed new legislation which would give workers who have been laid off a higher rate of jobseeker's allowance depending on their previous income in the period following their loss of employment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20146/23]

*300. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on whether those who lose their driving licence due to a diagnosis of epilepsy or breakthrough seizures should be automatically given access to a free travel pass; if so, if she will ensure that this is actioned; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [19996/23]

*301. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will address the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [20022/23]

*302. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a carer's allowance appeal will issue in respect of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20036/23]

*303. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there is an obligation on a participant of a CE scheme to continue to engage with Turas Nua whilst being on the scheme if they are working 19 hours per week; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [20068/23]

*304. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when an invalidity pension application will be processed for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [20110/23]

*305. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which a disability allowance payment is likely to be affected by participation in part-time employment in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20170/23]

*306. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress in relation to a pension top-up on foot of contributions or otherwise in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20174/23]

*307. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an application for illness benefit in the case of a person (details supplied) will be referred for an oral hearing given the history of illness in the case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20175/23]

*308. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide a list of contracts her Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20192/23]

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

*309. To ask the Minister for Justice the steps he is taking to address post separation abuse experienced by survivors of gender-based violence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [19952/23]

*310. To ask the Minister for Justice the steps he is taking to ensure that all persons within the policing and justice system who interact with survivors of gender-based violence have been provided with specialised training; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [19953/23]

*311. To ask the Minister for Justice the steps he is taking to collate and publish anonymised data from family courts concerning gender-based violence cases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [19954/23]

*312. To ask the Minister for Justice if she is aware of a specific type of abuse, post-separation abuse; if he will ensure the implementation of reporting in all family court cases to investigate the extent of the problems within the current system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [19980/23]

*313. To ask the Minister for Justice if he will take appropriate measures to deal with delays in the Dublin coroner's office in undertaking post-mortems which can cause unnecessary distress for bereaved families; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [20000/23]

*314. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 1097 of 21 March 2023, if the e-vetting of applicants for 2023 is being processed ahead of applicants for 2021 and 2022; the reason this is happening; the length of time the e-vetting process will take for 2021 and 2022 applicants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20111/23]

*315. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 304 of 20 April 2023, the reason data protection prohibits him from stating the number of charges and convictions in each year under the Acts concerned, given that the names of those charged and convicted would have been a matter of public record at the time and not subject to any restrictions on reporting or publication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [20113/23]

*316. To ask the Minister for Justice the oversight that is in place for GSOC operations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20126/23]

*317. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of vehicles that are in the operation of GSOC; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20128/23]

*318. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of people employed by GSOC; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20130/23]

*319. To ask the Minister for Justice in light of the financial pressure experienced by a person (details supplied) if his Department will agree to renew his stamp 4 on a two or three-yearly basis rather than annually; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [20135/23]

*320. To ask the Minister for Justice if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20189/23]

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

*321. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on the establishment of the Food Vision Tillage Group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [19949/23]

*322. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when an agency (details supplied) in County Mayo will be provided with more resources in order to be able to provide a service to all the people that require it in County Mayo, in view of the need for this service and the importance of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [20002/23]

*323. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on the expenditure on the Food Dudes programme since it commenced in 2009, broken down annually in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [20069/23]

*324. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the measures that will be put in place to ensure the funding that should be spent for the next 12 months on planting, roads and so on (details supplied) will be spent; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [20105/23]

*325. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20178/23]

*326. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the procedure regarding grants in respect of an agricultural holding during probate; if the new farmer can retrospectively claim payments in respect of the probate time period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20199/23]

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

*327. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a full response will issue to correspondence (details supplied) sent in March 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [19978/23]

*328. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the way his Department supports the provision of new child care and crèche facilities in rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [20100/23]

*329. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the average waiting times for occupational therapy for children in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20201/23]

*330. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total number of children on the Clare children's disability network team waiting list, by length of time, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [19910/23]

*331. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the building of modular homes by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [19929/23]

*332. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide a breakdown of the full costs associated with his Department's building of modular homes, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [19930/23]

*333. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of people that have relocated to a county (details supplied). — Michael Ring. [19939/23]

*334. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the situation of a person (details supplied) requested to leave their allocated IPAS accommodation. — Eoin Ó Broin. [19946/23]

*335. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of entries made to the Contact Preferences Register which expressed a preference not to have contact; and the proportion of registrations with a preference for no contact which came from an adopted person, a person whose birth was illegally registered, a person who was resident in an institution, a person who was boarded or nursed out, relatives of such persons, adoptive parents, persons who provided care to a child in a care arrangement, persons who were a relevant guardian of an adopted person, and persons who are a daughter or son or other next of kin of an adopted person, in tabular form. — Ivana Bacik. [19998/23]

*336. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will publish the report from the Working Group on transport supports for people with disabilities; if

he will confirm whether the report includes proposals to put in place a fit-for-purpose primary medical certificate for people with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [20045/23]

*337. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total number of accommodation providers to his Department awaiting payment for provision of accommodation to Ukrainian refugees; the number of providers waiting longer than one month, two months, three months, four months, five months, and six months, respectively; the amounts outstanding in each time category; the efforts being made to clear the backlog and pay each provider the up-to-date amounts due to them respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20092/23]

*338. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the grant aid, if any, available from his Department to support the building of new child care facilities and crèches; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [20099/23]

*339. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will meet with a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [20122/23]

*340. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he can clarify the reason an application for the building blocks grant from (details supplied) was rejected; if such service providers have any right to appeal such decision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20132/23]

*341. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he can detail in relation to the building blocks grant scheme, the total number of applicants who applied for these supports; the number of applicants who failed to receive the grant; the number of successful applicants in tabular form per county council area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20133/23]

*342. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 421 of 21 January 2023, when he will publish findings of the consultation to examine the functioning and effectiveness of the Equality Acts, which was expected early this year. — Mary Lou McDonald. [20147/23]

*343. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20179/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*344. To ask the Minister for Health the timeline for unwinding the FEMPI cuts to pharmacists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [20125/23]

*345. To ask the Minister for Health the protocol for an area where a GP does not have an out-of-hours or locum agreement in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [19909/23]

*346. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 15 of 20 April 2023, if he plans to provide additional accommodation for CAMHS at a location (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [19931/23]

*347. To ask the Minister for Health if he will expedite an appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [19932/23]

*348. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a proposal by an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [19945/23]

*349. To ask the Minister for Health the number of BreastCheck screenings that were undertaken in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, tabular form; when he expects the pre-pandemic service levels will be restored; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [19948/23]

*350. To ask the Minister for Health when the new elective hospital in Cork will go to tender; if he can anticipate when construction will begin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [19974/23]

*351. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2076 of 8 September 2022, if he will provide an update on the payment of the pandemic bonus payment to nursing home staff (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [19976/23]

*352. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of documents (details supplied) outlining an organisation's plan for sustainable national physiotherapy services for people with multiple sclerosis and other neurological conditions; if he agrees with the business case put forward; if he will ensure that the suggestions are implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [19984/23]

*353. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on his communications with the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications in respect of lung cancer caused by radon exposure; if he is satisfied with the adequacy of Government policy in respect of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [19994/23]

*354. To ask the Minister for Health if any assistance can be provided for an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [19997/23]

*355. To ask the Minister for Health if a pilot outpatient ARFID service or feeding clinic, similar to the one established in England in 2019, is being considered by his Department and the HSE; what has been learned from this pilot; what is being applied here as a result; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [20009/23]

*356. To ask the Minister for Health the future plans of the HSE for the use of romosozumab in Ireland; if he will consider a meeting request (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [20034/23]

*357. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be called for hip surgery. — Robert Troy. [20071/23]

*358. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of DTSS contractors registered on the scheme in Mayo in each year since 2006; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [20080/23]

*359. To ask the Minister for Health the total allocation and spend on e-Health since 2018, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [20081/23]

*360. To ask the Minister for Health if the new-build community nursing home in Nenagh, County Tipperary, will include a dementia unit, or provide beds for people with dementia and Alzheimer's; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [20093/23]

*361. To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify plans for the future of a GP practice (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [20097/23]

*362. To ask the Minister for Health the number of medical cards associated with a GP practice (details supplied); and the costs associated with running the practice. — Cathal Crowe. [20098/23]

*363. To ask the Minister for Health when all remaining eligible non-HSE and Section 39 workers who worked in healthcare settings during the Covid-19 pandemic who have not received the pandemic recognition payment will receive this payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20104/23]

*364. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the cessation of 24-hour services at certain clinics providing sexual assault treatment services for children (details supplied); the reasons that led to this decision; his views on the transfer of similar services from a certain location to another location; if there are plans to address this shortfall in services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [20108/23]

*365. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people under the age of 70 years who held GP-only medical cards for each year from 2016 to 2022; the total number of GP visits made by the holders of these cards in each year; the number who visited the GP more than five times in each year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [20112/23]

*366. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 24 of 20 April 2023, the details of the alternative location being considered as a possibility for the Community Nursing Unit in Cashel, originally planned for St. Patrick's Hospital; to provide the location of the site in question; to provide a detailed account of the issues concerning parking space on the current St. Patrick's site and access to the building; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [20116/23]

*367. To ask the Minister for Health the plans, if any, he has to roll out a regular medicine use review service through the pharmacies for the medical card, DPS and long-term-illness schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [20137/23]

*368. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update and timeline for works to be carried out on side A of Abbeyleix Hospital to cater for discharges from Portlaoise Hospital; and the current position regarding the recruitment of staff, including a consultant geriatrician, for the unit. — Brian Stanley. [20141/23]

*369. To ask the Minister for Health when a medical card will issue in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20171/23]

*370. To ask the Minister for Health when a medical card will issue in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20173/23]

*371. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20187/23]

*372. To ask the Minister for Health when subvention payments will be increased for nursing homes, particularly for smaller-scale nursing homes, in view of the substantial increase in costs over recent years in providing nursing-home care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [20196/23]

*373. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for admission to the National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dún Laoghaire; the measures he is taking to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20202/23]

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

*374. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science who funds workers (details supplied) at an organisation; if their pay comes from his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [20084/23]

*375. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps he is taking to reform the student grant scheme. — Holly Cairns. [20052/23]

*376. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide details of the funding that is going towards period poverty at third level; if he will provide a breakdown of that funding, in tabular form, as the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform has indicated that the funding of implementation measures for period poverty needs to be funded separately via each Department's vote; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20102/23]

*377. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide a list of contracts his Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20186/23]

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

*378. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide her response to a report (details supplied) from the Heritage Council's CTCHC Programme, Tipperary Town Revitalisation Task Force, and Tipperary County Council; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [19955/23]

*379. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the sources of funding available for an organisation (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20138/23]

*380. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide a list of contracts her Department currently has with a company (details supplied); and the estimated value of those contracts. — Louise O'Reilly. [20191/23]

