



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 4 Bealtaine, 2023

Thursday, 4th May, 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 Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

1. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on development plans for the ports. — Martin Kenny. [20789/23]

2. To ask the Minister for Transport the urgent actions his Department is taking to address the huge infrastructural deficits at Ireland's ports; the level of funding his Department will be providing to ports to prepare for offshore wind energy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [21013/23]

3. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on safety measures for staff and passengers onboard public transport. — Martin Kenny. [20790/23]

4. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the work of his Department to increase and support the use of E10 fuels; if he is aware of any safety or incompatibility concerns with respect to E10 fuels in certain models of cars and vehicles; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [20630/23]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

5. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide details of the fines for service failures over the past two years for Dublin Bus and Go Ahead; and the reasons and rationale for deciding these fines. — Mark Ward. [20734/23]

6. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps that are being taken to improve suburban rail services in Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [20769/23]

7. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will develop plans to target EV grants towards lighter, smaller vehicles to encourage a market for the types of electric vehicles frequently observed in other European cities, which would generally be priced lower than the €14,000 threshold that is set for eligibility for grants in Ireland, with a view to ensuring that the new vehicle fleet is as efficient as possible and less of a safety risk to pedestrians and cyclists than heavier SUV model vehicles; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [20804/23]

8. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider instructing the NTA to delay the closing date for submissions on BusConnects Cork STC routes pending publication of traffic data. — Thomas Gould. [20744/23]

9. To ask the Minister for Transport if he can clarify any plans to remove or penalise workers who avail of car parking spaces in their workplace; how any scheme aimed at removing or charging for such places might affect frontline workers or those with no viable public transport option due to their shift patterns and workplace location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [20771/23]

10. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the implementation of camera enforcement as part of the BusConnects programme; if this measure will be brought forward as part of a road-safety strategy by his Department, as outlined to the Oireachtas Committee of Public Accounts in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [20240/23]

11. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has considered that free access to shared cars or hourly car library schemes should be part of free public transport; what he anticipates the impact of this could be on reducing private car ownership and use; if this was taken into account by a report (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [20785/23]

12. To ask the Minister for Transport the discussions his Department has had with regards to the development of a Freezone area at Rosslare Europort; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [20815/23]

13. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on his Department's engagements to date in relation to the re-opening of Killucan train station, Westmeath. — Sorca Clarke. [20741/23]

14. To ask the Minister for Transport the basis on which funding will be made to local authorities to fund mobility hubs for the different elements which can be provided; and when he expects that the first ten such hubs will be in place. — Richard Bruton. [20732/23]

15. To ask the Minister for Transport if he agrees with the view of Transport Infrastructure Ireland that the Mallow Relief Road project is consistent with relevant objectives of national policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [20728/23]

16. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update regarding the progress of a park-and-ride facility in the Dunkettle area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [20679/23]

17. To ask the Minister for Transport when he received a Public Service Obligation application from the Shannon Airport Group in respect of a proposed Shannon to Amsterdam Schiphol route; if this application is congruent with state aid rules; when he expects to make a decision on this application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [20802/23]

18. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of extra carriages that have been allocated on the Dublin to Waterford train and the Waterford to Dublin train; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [20801/23]

19. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will engage with Bus Éireann to increase the frequency of 101 bus services at peak times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [20825/23]

20. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the delivery of additional rail carriages for the Dublin - Sligo line to immediately address the overcrowding on many services on this line. — Robert Troy. [20685/23]

21. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the Finglas roundabout scheme. — Paul McAuliffe. [20738/23]

22. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide sufficient funding in 2023 to permit the N2 Ardee-to-Castleblayney road project to proceed to the next stage. — Matt Carthy. [20523/23]

23. To ask the Minister for Transport when the Government will reinstate funding for the Derry to Dublin airlink in a partnership between his Department and the shared island unit. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [20746/23]

24. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on progress since November 2022 on the implementation of red-light cameras across the road traffic network and the stated commitment to further develop camera-based enforcement by An Garda Síochána, including at junctions and for management of bus/cycle lanes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [20239/23]

25. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the N4 upgrade from Mullingar to Rooskey; and if he will address the funding fears for the project. — Joe Flaherty. [20730/23]

26. To ask the Minister for Transport if he can detail any plans to provide funding for the installation of bike bunkers in urban areas; the funding that might be allocated to such schemes; if there are any plans to roll out such projects; if the recent withdrawal of plans by Dublin City Council can be reversed by Department policies aimed to encourage active travel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20794/23]

27. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has sought an update from Iarnród Éireann on the present state of the railway line from Claremorris to Collooney, including the length of the line that has existing track on it; the condition of the fencing on it; when the last clearance of growth off the line took place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [20618/23]

28. To ask the Minister for Transport how it is proposed that the N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road scheme will be progressed this year, as due to changes in Government policy and design standards, additional design works are needed, and the project team has indicated that more funding will be required to close out and complete the current Phase 3 design process but TII has not indicated that more funding will be forthcoming; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [20753/23]

29. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the status of the business case for Cork light rail; the amount spent to date on consulting and engineering fees;

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when a route will be announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [20822/23]

30. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which plans for the electrification of the Dublin-Maynooth line are actively in hand; when the project is likely to be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20736/23]

31. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will outline a timeline for the commencement of the Metro North/Metro Link. — Martin Kenny. [20792/23]

32. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on whether a report (details supplied) on free public transport is correct in its estimate of the impact of free public transport; the reason similar fare-free public transport schemes in other cities and regions have had a significantly greater impact than that suggested by the report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20793/23]

33. To ask the Minister for Transport the plans he has to maintain reduced public transport fees further, and to introduce reduced fares on other modes of transport and routes across the public transport network; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [20823/23]

34. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will make available the necessary funding to ensure that the N4 road can progress to the next stage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [20684/23]

35. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on future plans with respect to rail transport in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [20827/23]

36. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the publishing of a Departmental ten-year strategic plan for the haulage sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [20814/23]

37. To ask the Minister for Transport if he would consider the expansion of the interdepartmental group work programme on identifying key enablers and barriers to transit-oriented design, as outlined in the Climate Action Plan Annex of Actions, to focus beyond the four Dublin local authorities to the regional cities, in order to consider transit-oriented development as a way to achieve balanced regional development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [20807/23]

38. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the rollout of EV charging points for the northwest; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [20791/23]

39. To ask the Minister for Transport the current pass and fail rates for driving tests in County Kerry, in tabular form. — Pa Daly. [20799/23]

40. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of public EV charging points that have been installed in counties Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal and Roscommon from 2020 to April 2023; and if he has new proposals on incentives in conjunction with the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media on the roll out of such important infrastructure to assist local rural

economies and attract people with EV vehicles to stay and holiday in rural Ireland. — Frankie Feighan. [19759/23]

41. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will give consideration to adding a second track to a rail line (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [20826/23]

42. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps he is taking to increase the number of sheltered bus stops in Cork South West. — Holly Cairns. [19972/23]

43. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an outline of the realignment and improvement projects that can be expected on the N71 in County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [20665/23]

44. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are plans to significantly increase funding for the local transport network in rural areas amid an increasing uptake of the service, as well as demands for more frequent services and larger buses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [20731/23]

45. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on how the provision of reduced funding for the N24 Cahir-Limerick Junction road project, compared to what was requested by Tipperary County Council for 2023, aligns with his focus on bringing market towns back to life and prioritising projects which provide for local bypasses and compact growth in Ireland’s towns and villages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [20817/23]

46. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the planned improvements to pedestrian safety on the M1/R104 in Dublin 9. — Paul McAuliffe. [20739/23]

47. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to increase funding to the National Transport Authority and Bus Éireann to enable them to increase the capacity of overprescribed bus routes such as the 109x Dublin to Cavan bus route; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [20808/23]

48. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will outline the improvements for active travel and public transport after the construction of the Macroom bypass; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [20748/23]

49. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 54 of 2 March 2023, if he will provide a status update on the promised feasibility study for light rail in Galway; the timeline for the feasibility study; the status of the specialist team tasked with assisting the National Transport Agency in the updating of the Galway Transport Strategy; the membership of the specialist team; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [20667/23]

50. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the current situation with the upgrading of the N53, particularly in relation to CPOs, decisions on which are awaited from An Bord Pleanála; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [20754/23]

51. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the implementation to BusConnects in the Rathcoole and Newcastle, County Dublin. — Eoin Ó Broin. [20742/23]

52. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is satisfied with the progress in preventing air traffic disruption from drones. — Richard Bruton. [20733/23]

53. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 66 of 2 March 2023, if he will provide a status update on the rollout of park-and-ride facilities in Galway; if he will provide a further status update on the consultation process between the Park and Ride Development Office and Galway City and County Councils on the draft park-and-ride strategy for Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [20666/23]

54. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional funding will be provided for the Non-National Roads Programme for 2023, due to the very substantial increase in road maintenance and construction costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [20751/23]

55. To ask the Minister for Transport if work is being done to increase the frequency of the service of the 424 bus to Ceantar na nOileán and Iorras Aithneach, or to provide a Local Link service between Leitir Mealláin or Carna and an Cheathrú Rua; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [20740/23]

56. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the Connecting Ireland projects due to be delivered in 2023 in Galway - routes 438, 423, 424, 547, 350, and 425A; if these are on track to be delivered on the schedule set out earlier this year; and if he will provide details of the design of these projects. — Mairéad Farrell. [20332/23]

57. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the next phase of BusConnects in Dublin mid west; the improvements that are planned; and when they will be implemented. — Mark Ward. [20735/23]

58. To ask the Minister for Transport the current waiting times for a driving test in County Kerry, in tabular form. — Pa Daly. [20798/23]

59. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the criteria by which greenway routes are selected in relation to their capacity to help achieve modal shift in adjacent towns and villages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [20806/23]

60. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to ensure the preservation of all disused railway lines in the ownership of Iarnród Éireann, where they have not already been legally given over for use as a greenway, as railway lines and to re-open them on a phased basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [20617/23]

61. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps he is taking to support Local Link services. — Holly Cairns. [19973/23]

62. To ask the Minister for Transport the engagements his Department has had with the National Transport Authority on the issue of illegal taxi operators over the past 12 months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [20818/23]

63. To ask the Minister for Transport the preparations his Department is making at Irish ports to have the infrastructure for the development of offshore wind; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [18787/23]

64. To ask the Minister for Transport the provisions his Department is taking to increase roads maintenance funding to Wexford County Council following his visit to the county on 10 February; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [20812/23]

65. To ask the Minister for Transport the efforts being made to improve port infrastructure in order to support the offshore wind sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [10975/23]

66. To ask the Minister for Transport the up-to-date position on safety improvement scheme works for the N22 junctions between Macroom and Ballincollig; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [20747/23]

67. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the Southern Relief Road in Carlow and the Relief Road for Tullow. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [20800/23]

68. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the Northern Ring road in Cork. — Thomas Gould. [20745/23]

69. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has had any engagement with the Dublin Airport Authority, Irish Aviation Authority, An Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council regarding the current operations at Dublin Airport on the use of the new north runway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [20821/23]

70. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department has discussed the establishment of a Garda public transport unit with the Garda Commissioner; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [20749/23]

71. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the progress in relation to the construction of the new greenway in Glanmire; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [20680/23]

72. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will develop plans to target EV grants to certain cohorts of the population based on socio-economic or geographic criteria to ensure that those who need private car travel the most are in a position to switch from an ICE vehicle to an electric vehicle (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [20805/23]

73. To ask the Minister for Transport his Department's plans to construct new train stations in the Cork metropolitan region; if a timeline for the proposed new stations outlined in CMATS is available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [20820/23]

74. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration will be given to the construction of the Northern Distributor Road in Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [20768/23]

75. To ask the Minister for Transport the current earliest projected timeline for completion of the N2 Clontibret-to-the-border project; and if he will provide additional funding for this scheme and ensure that such funding is not dependent on EU co-financing. — Matt Carthy. [20522/23]

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76. To ask the Minister for Transport when BusConnects in Dublin south west will be rolled out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [20784/23]

77. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the completion of national road projects in County Cork, including the N73 Clogher Cross-Waterdyke scheme, the Dunkettle Interchange, and the N22 Macroom-Ballyvourney Scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [20819/23]

78. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional funding will be provided to Cavan and Monaghan local authorities for the Non-National Roadworks Programme in 2023, due to the importance of this particular road network for both counties and the substantial increase in costs for road maintenance and construction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [20752/23]

79. To ask the Minister for Transport if he can detail the position in relation to public transport companies hiring bus drivers; if shortages in staff are being addressed; the current number of staff shortages affecting Bus Éireann, Go Ahead and Dublin Bus; if he or his officials have had any discussion with these companies on plans to attract and retain staff, specifically in relation to improvements in pay and conditions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20796/23]

80. To ask the Minister for Transport the rationale and reasoning behind the issuing of a Section 24 letter to Transport Infrastructure Ireland as part of the 2023 roads allocation to Cork County Council, which effectively overrules TII's proposal to fund the Mallow Relief Road project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [20729/23]

81. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has any plans to publish legislation that would restrict or ban private jets from Irish airspace; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [20824/23]

82. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware that the ongoing collapse of bus services in the lower Ballyfermot area, specifically the Number 60 route, is driving people away from public transport options and undermining confidence in public transport; if he is further aware of the refusal of the NTA to revise its failed plans; the issues that have arisen with BusConnects in relation to similar withdrawn or reduced services in other areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20795/23]

83. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the electrification of the train line to Hazelhatch via Clondalkin, Lucan, and Adamstown. — Eoin Ó Broin. [20743/23]

84. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures he will take to ensure that ports are prepared to deliver on Ireland's offshore renewable potential; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [20372/23]

85. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on bus route 981 in Sligo, which runs from Coolaney – St. Angela's College; and if the Maugheraboy area of Sligo will be included in this route without further delay, as was promised when the route was announced and was included in all media releases at that time. — Marian Harkin. [20373/23]

86. To ask the Minister for Transport the plans that will be put in place to address the unacceptable long delays in the National Car Test system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [20813/23]

87. To ask the Minister for Transport given the recent increase in reports of anti-social behaviour, the measures his Department is taking to ensure the safety of passengers on the Dublin and commuter belt transport networks. — Jim O'Callaghan. [20750/23]

88. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which passenger capacity is being or can be improved on the north Kildare commuter lines such as Naas-Sallins, Hazelhatch, Kilcock, Maynooth, Leixlip and Confey; if park-and-ride facilities are likely to be provided/extended on these very busy routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20737/23]

89. To ask the Minister for Transport if he intends to introduce legislation, regulations and/or guidelines for experimental road-traffic orders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [20371/23]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*90. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the action his Department has taken to date regarding the evacuation of Irish citizens from Sudan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21036/23]

*91. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if people on a cultural exchange from Palestine to Ireland will need additional documentation when travelling from Dublin to Belfast; to outline the additional documentation that will be needed including costs that may apply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [20919/23]

*92. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of people who were considered in appointing the Chair of the Consultative Forum on International Security Policy; the selection process and criteria involved in selecting the Chair; which other persons were considered as part of the selection process for the role; the methods were taken to publicise expressions of interest in the position; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [20940/23]

*93. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will give further consideration to the re-introduction of a programme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [20941/23]

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

*94. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will outline the process to support County Mayo to secure the multi-million-euro investment it needs for

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offshore windfarms and ancillary development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [20839/23]

*95. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how he intends to promote investment in floating windfarms with generating electricity capacity along the coast of County Mayo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [20840/23]

*96. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will comment on reports that Bord na Móna have imported wood chips from Brazil for use in its power station in Edenderry. — Claire Kerrane. [20861/23]

*97. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a breakdown of the budget allocations for each programme under the subhead B4 of the Revised Estimate for 2023. — Darren O'Rourke. [20958/23]

*98. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will specify the amount of the targeted 0.9 MtCO₂eq abatement by 2025 (vs 2018) under the theme of the National Retrofit Plan within the residential built environment sector of the Climate Action Plan 2023 is anticipated to be delivered by the retrofitting of 120,000 dwellings to BER B2 cost optimal or carbon equivalent specifically. — Darren O'Rourke. [20959/23]

*99. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a breakdown of the amount of the targeted 0.9 MtCO₂eq abatement by 2025 (vs 2018) under the theme of the National Retrofit Plan – as outlined in the built environment section of the Climate Action Plan 2023 – is anticipated to be delivered through the retrofitting of 120,000 dwellings to BER B2 cost optimal or carbon equivalent standard and the installation of heat pumps in 45,000 existing dwellings. — Darren O'Rourke. [20960/23]

*100. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of homes that have achieved a B2 cost optimum standard in each of the years 2020 to 2022 and to-date in 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20961/23]

*101. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a breakdown of the budget allocations for each programme under the subhead B4 of the Revised Estimates for 2022, the March Supplementary Estimates for 2022 and the post-March Supplementary Estimates for 2022, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20962/23]

*102. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a breakdown of the average cost to retrofit a home to a BER cost optimum standard for each retrofit scheme under subhead B4 in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20963/23]

*103. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a breakdown of the average cost to retrofit a home to a BER cost optimum standard for each retrofit scheme under subhead B4 in each of the years 2020 to 2022 and to-date in 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20964/23]

*104. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if a study into the heat loss indicator criteria for the installation of heat pumps has concluded and whether a determination has been made regarding the efficacy of installing a heat pump in homes with a heat loss indicator of >2.3 and ≤2.6 W/K m². — Darren O'Rourke. [20965/23]

*105. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of homes in the State that could have the potential to connect to district heating at the present time or in the short to medium-term. — Darren O'Rourke. [20966/23]

*106. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of homes in the State that are currently heat pump ready. — Darren O'Rourke. [20967/23]

*107. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of homes that have been retrofitted to a B2 cost optimum standard under the One-Stop-Shop scheme also had a heat pump installed in 2022 and to-date in 2023, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20968/23]

*108. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the current or future potential of households to connect to district heating is a criterion in determining eligibility for supports that subsidise heat pumps and retrofitting work under the One-Stop-Shop or better energy homes schemes. — Darren O'Rourke. [20969/23]

*109. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the amount of new renewable energy capacity is expected to be delivered in each of the years 2023 to 2030, specifying the breakdown between onshore wind, solar pv and offshore wind, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [20970/23]

*110. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the amount of new renewable energy capacity is expected to be delivered in each of the years 2023 to 2030. — Darren O'Rourke. [20971/23]

*111. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to specify whether EU law or domestic law require the separation of ESB's generation and supply arms and to specify the specific provisions in the relevant legislation. — Darren O'Rourke. [20972/23]

*112. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when will the property owner (details supplied) be able to avail of high-speed broadband. — Robert Troy. [20980/23]

*113. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what actions are planned to address the gap in pensions for An Post workers employed after 1984, as opposed to those employed pre 1984 who will receive a Public Service Pension; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [20982/23]

*114. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if any supports are offered by energy companies to assist customers with an illness (details supplied) with more expensive energy bills; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [20985/23]

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

*115. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the measures his Department is taking in order to improve and strengthen Ireland's cybersecurity defence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21037/23]

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Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*116. To ask the Minister for Transport how he intends to tackle licensing for a plethora of vessels from smaller workboat type to large construction vessels, as well as standards and certification for seafarers, in particular those who may wish to transition from fishing certificates to merchant marine qualifications to support offshore renewable opportunities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [20841/23]

*117. To ask the Minister for Transport the process that is in place for those who hold Ukrainian driving licences to be assessed by the NDLS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20948/23]

*118. To ask the Minister for Transport if the deployment of additional permanent driver testers is now complete; if he will confirm the current number of active driver testers; if the ongoing backlog in driving tests has been evaluated as requiring further additional resources at this present time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [21014/23]

*119. To ask the Minister for Transport the efforts he is making to support the financial viability of the Irish haulage sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [20631/23]

*120. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason a person (details supplied) has to wait eight months for her full driving licence test. — Kathleen Funchion. [20832/23]

*121. To ask the Minister for Transport how port infrastructure in the State is being supported to enable the development of both floating and fixed-bottom offshore wind technology; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [19862/23]

*122. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will report on any recent meetings of the Shannon Heritage Working Group. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11033/23]

*123. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional driver testers will be deployed to the Kerry test centres to reduce the 30-week waiting time for driving test invitations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20910/23]

*124. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on whether a load line survey application has been applied for with respect to the hebble dredge ship which is long overdue to be removed from the River Boyne in Drogheda following its sinking in 2022; if he will provide any further details with regards to the projected dates of removal and any details around the application and certification that is required prior to release; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [20923/23]

*125. To ask the Minister for Transport if any further progress has been made to source and secure an appropriate site to recommence driver testing in Drogheda, the largest town in Ireland, with the largest waiting time in the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [20924/23]

*126. To ask the Minister for Transport the plans, if any, currently in hand to reduce waiting times to sit a driving test, with some individuals waiting at least six months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20925/23]

*127. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans, if any, to increase the number of carriages serving the North Kildare rail commuter routes, or alternatively, increasing the frequency of trains, thereby improving the service for commuters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20926/23]

*128. To ask the Minister for Transport if adequate consideration has been given to the provision of adequate parking adjacent to railway stations, with a view to ensuring the availability and convenience of rail services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20927/23]

*129. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which he and his Department will encourage the modernisation of rail transport infrastructure, with particular reference to ensuring long-term investment which can be relied upon to meet the rail transport needs of the public well into the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20928/23]

*130. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which he expects public transport to play a major role in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20929/23]

*131. To ask the Minister for Transport his proposals for the enhancement of rural transport throughout County Kildare, with particular reference to the interlinking of the public and private sectors where possible, and the introduction of new services to include any areas, urban or rural not served by existing areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20930/23]

*132. To ask the Minister for Transport the degree to which the commuter towns of North Kildare can expect improved rail and bus services in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20931/23]

*133. To ask the Minister for Transport the discussions he has had with stakeholders in the transport sector, with a view to maximising a changeover to the use of non-fossil fuels while maintaining best economic focus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20932/23]

*134. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which he and his Department continue to monitor the throughput of passengers at the various stations on the Maynooth line; the extent to which demand has grown and his proposals to accommodate the demand in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20933/23]

*135. To ask the Minister for Transport the total number of vehicles currently using the M4 for commuting purposes on a daily basis; the future plans in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [20934/23]

*136. To ask the Minister for Transport the schemes and initiatives his Department has introduced to benefit rural Ireland since 2020. — Cathal Crowe. [21006/23]

*137. To ask the Minister for Transport if the bus and rail networks servicing rural areas have expanded since 2020; and if so, if he will provide examples of such expansion. — Cathal Crowe. [21007/23]

*138. To ask the Minister for Transport if more frequent direct Kerry-to-Dublin train services will be introduced; if more frequent Kerry connections will be facilitated on high-speed Cork-to-Dublin services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [21008/23]

*139. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is concerned by the high number of road fatalities to date in 2023; the measures that can be taken to prevent more tragedy on Irish roads; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [21009/23]

*140. To ask the Minister for Transport if support or a grant is available to an organisation (details supplied) for staff who experience severe trauma following on from a deliberate road traffic accident/ suicide by an oncoming driver and are then suffering mentally from the incident; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [21023/23]

*141. To ask the Minister for Transport the action his Department is taking to improve modes of public transport, in particular the national bus service, given that passenger numbers have in some cases exceeded pre-Covid levels, resulting in capacity issues on many bus routes across the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21032/23]

*142. To ask the Minister for Transport the action his Department is taking to ensure stronger security measures across all Irish airports in light of recent events of drone activity at Dublin Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21033/23]

*143. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department is committed to funding a specific grant application from Mayo County Council for further works on the R312; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [21041/23]

*144. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will support the inclusion of the N84 Ballinrobe bypass in the revised NDP, in line with the Government's Towns Centre First policy where in 2023, priority is being given to the ongoing progression of local bypasses to facilitate more people-friendly development and ensuring that towns can thrive and develop without 24/7 car congestion; if he will support the provision of funding to Mayo RDO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [21042/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*145. To ask the Minister for Finance the increased supports, if any, that businesses will receive in tackling the cost-of-living crisis as they struggle to pay bills at this time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20942/23]

*146. To ask the Minister for Finance the supports available to any of the 65,000 firms around the country faced with tax-debt warehousing repayments dating back to the earlier stage of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, that may struggle to pay back this debt with the climate of increased costs at this time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20943/23]

*147. To ask the Minister for Finance if he or his Department have had any discussions with the banks in respect of speeding up the process of small businesses meeting with banks, and in particular, reducing the time period for dealing with such loan applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20944/23]

*148. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider opening an emergency fund for further future unforeseen events that may hit Ireland's economy and hurt its businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20945/23]

*149. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is aware that the Finance Act 1995 prevents retailers from setting a margin on the sale of tobacco, as they can on every other product, instead, they are obliged to sell product at the price set by the tobacco companies; and whether he has considered allowing a higher price be set even if he is unwilling to allow any discounting from the RRP. — Richard Bruton. [20977/23]

*150. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason the temporary business energy support scheme is based on the difference in electricity costs one year ago and not two years ago as the main increase in price occurred between early 2021 and early 2022 when they levelled off at their continuously high price; whether he intends to amend the scheme to deal with the ongoing high price of electricity in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [20989/23]

*151. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to review in consultation with the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the way in which the yield from betting duty and betting intermediary duty is distributed and or used. — Catherine Murphy. [21026/23]

*152. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a schedule of the yield from traditional betting, betting duty and betting intermediary duty in each of the years 2018 to-date in 2023; and if he will clarify whether 68(1)(a) of the Finance Act is still applicable. — Catherine Murphy. [21027/23]

*153. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a schedule of the amount collected from all betting duties in the past five years to date in respect of interest is due on late payments of betting duty; the number of enforcements initiated by the Revenue Commissioners in respect of the non-payment of duties and non-payment of interest due on late payments of duties over that same time period; and the number of those enforcements that have been settled to date. — Catherine Murphy. [21029/23]

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.

*154. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if his Department still supports the statement in the environmental impact assessment report to the River Bride (Blackpool) certified drainage scheme that flooding in Blackpool is primarily fluvial; if restricting the river channel in Blackpool by constructing hard flood defences will also restrict pluvial flow; if the scheme has been designed to meet the risks presented by pluvial flooding events, such as that of October 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [21395/23]

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

*155. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will review the effectiveness of the Local Enterprise Office system in making businesses aware of Government

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grants and schemes available to them, as only 30,000 businesses took up the TBESS scheme over the winter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20947/23]

*156. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he would consider simplifying the process for businesses to be able to access the information regarding the Government schemes available to them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20950/23]

*157. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is aware of the impact of inflation on breast feeding baby formula which has increased by up to 25%; if he is also aware of reports by the European Central Bank that corporate profiteering has been one of the biggest contributors to price increases; what options are available to help parents in the face of these price hikes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [20995/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*158. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 91 of 2 February 2023; the progress, if any, that has been made on the review of guidelines on the use of school buildings outside of school hours; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [20831/23]

*159. To ask the Minister for Education the criteria that has been used to determine the position the SNA allocation in respect of a school (details supplied) for the coming school term; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [20833/23]

*160. To ask the Minister for Education the progress of a school building project (details supplied); if the required three temporary classrooms will be available for occupation in September 2023; the next steps by her Department in respect of this project; if school management will be informed of the status of the project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [20834/23]

*161. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider a request (details supplied) for school transport; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [20835/23]

*162. To ask the Minister for Education the funding streams that are available for a school (details supplied) to assist with the cost of rising energy costs for the school. — Mary Lou McDonald. [20837/23]

*163. To ask the Minister for Education the current position in respect of a primary school (details supplied) that requires additional accommodation, given that the number of students attending the school for the academic year commencing in September 2023 will increase dramatically, and also in view of the fact that her Department has sanctioned the two special classes that will also require additional accommodation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20843/23]

*164. To ask the Minister for Education the date and mechanism which an organisation (details supplied) was formally requested by her Department to extend its remit and support post-primary parents and the engagement before said date with the individual member organisations of the National Council of Public-Private Partnerships. — Sorca Clarke. [20917/23]

*165. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the progress of an application by a school (details supplied) for major capital works; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [20936/23]

*166. To ask the Minister for Education if she will clarify whether funding for children with additional needs is being considered for a school (details supplied); and if so, when it is expected to receive such funding. — Francis Noel Duffy. [20938/23]

*167. To ask the Minister for Education if she would consider a new school programme, which would encourage young people to join training programmes; the additional supports in place to assist those who opt for training in trades; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20951/23]

*168. To ask the Minister for Education in relation to the Schools Reconfiguration for Diversity process, the selection process for the initial pilot phase areas; the number of phases included under the guidelines of the process; the number of schools that have undergone successful reconfiguration and divestment since 2012; the target for Divestment under this process by 2030; if this target is likely to be achieved; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [20954/23]

*169. To ask the Minister for Education further to previous Parliamentary Questions on the same issue, if a place will be approved for a child (details supplied); if the full range of services and supports required in this case have now been provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [20957/23]

*170. To ask the Minister for Education if she will amend eligibility under the terms of the school transport scheme to include regard for children to attend post primary level where they reside not less than 4.8 km from and are attending their nearest co-educational post primary school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [20979/23]

*171. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 521 of 18 April 2023, if he will provide an update on an additional school accommodation application for a school (details supplied); if her Department has all of the necessary documentation to make a decision on this application; when a final decision will be issued; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [21001/23]

*172. To ask the Minister for Education the steps her Department has taken for rural Ireland since 2020. — Cathal Crowe. [21002/23]

*173. To ask the Minister for Education the efforts that are being made by her Department and the NCSE to provide an appropriate school place that will meet the needs of a person (details supplied) as per their obtained assessment report. — Eoin Ó Broin. [21025/23]

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

*174. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will examine a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [20830/23]

*175. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if he has or plans to engage with the Ministers for Finance and Agriculture, Food and the Marine in respect of accessing the revenues raised from the betting duty and betting intermediary duty for his use in the context of funding sport, sport Ireland, the sports capital grant scheme and the large-scale infrastructure scheme. — Catherine Murphy. [21028/23]

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

*176. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has any plans to reduce the cost of monthly rent paid by tenants who are already in cost rental homes and are struggling to pay the amount charged to them, given their current incomes; if those in current cost rentals will see a reduction with such plans; if so, the timeframe involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [20836/23]

*177. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if delays in An Bord Pleanála may affect projects under the Cork area commuter rail programme in meeting deadlines for European and other funding opportunities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [20862/23]

*178. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if grant assistance is available to homeowners to carry out renovations (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20875/23]

*179. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 505 of 21 March 2023, if he will examine including the widower's or surviving civil partner (contributory) pension as a qualifying payment for the tenant purchase scheme considering it is contributions-based and has the same rates as the State pension (contributory) which does meet the minimum income threshold; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [20893/23]

*180. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the analysis into the availability of land for the delivery of social and affordable homes through to 2030 will be published; what is the additional land need in hectares broken down by local authority to deliver 24,000 social homes between now and 2030; to state how much is in the current land acquisition fund; the applications that have been made to this fund; and if the fund will be increased if demand exceeds the initial allocation. — Eoin Ó Broin. [20920/23]

*181. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the Youth Homeless Strategy 2023-2025 commitments to offer LGBTI+ Youth Homelessness Training Workshops for service providers to ensure a better understanding of LGBTI+ issues and the various forms of discrimination; and to develop privacy and safety strategies for young LGBTI+ people using emergency accommodation, informed directly by LGBTI+ youth, which could be implemented by the homeless service providers. — Mary Lou McDonald. [20975/23]

*182. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of local authority home loans that have been issued by each respective local authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [20981/23]

*183. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the schemes and initiatives his Department has introduced to benefit rural Ireland since 2020. — Cathal Crowe. [21004/23]

*184. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many new builds have been completed in rural areas since 2020. — Cathal Crowe. [21005/23]

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

*185. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the supports available for the hospitality sector which is struggling to recover its staff levels from pre-pandemic levels; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20949/23]

*186. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her attention has been drawn to the withdrawal of the community welfare office service in Mountmellick, County Laois; if she will make appropriate arrangements to reinstate the service as soon as possible; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [20847/23]

*187. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a pension increase is due to a person (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [20856/23]

*188. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on the review of a decision on a disability allowance application by a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [20999/23]

*189. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a UK social insurance record has been received to complete the review of an invalidity pension application in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [21000/23]

*190. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on an application for an invalidity pension by a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [21010/23]

*191. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on an application for an invalidity pension by a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [21011/23]

*192. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps that can be taken to provide welfare payments to people who are changing from one type of payment to another for example jobseeker's to carer's allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [21017/23]

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

*193. To ask the Minister for Justice when the regulations on service charges and sinking funds - under Sections 18.17 and 19.9 of the Multi-Unit Developments Act 2011 - which, as per Housing for All, were supposed to be introduced by Quarter 4 of 2022, will be introduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [20953/23]

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*194. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason persons who are in the State on student visas are allowed to work on a casual or part-time basis, but are not allowed to become self-employed and work on a casual or part-time basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [20829/23]

*195. To ask the Minister for Justice if all current general employment permit holders, their employers and agencies have been made aware of amendments to salary requirements when applying for a family reunification visa after one years' service wherein net income per week based on the family income supplement has increased, in view of the fact that employers may not be in a position to increase wages in order to satisfy the eligibility requirements for family reunification; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20844/23]

*196. To ask the Minister for Justice if the Policy Document on Non-EEA Family Reunification 2016 has been amended to reflect the increased salary requirements when applying for a family reunification visa; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20845/23]

*197. To ask the Minister for Justice if he will the number of allegations of child sexual abuse involving any member of the Probation Service that he or his Department or the Probation Service has been made aware of; the process that has been used to investigate any such reports and if any settlements have been made to date involving these issues. — Paul McAuliffe. [20913/23]

*198. To ask the Minister for Justice the measures that will be implemented to improve security in an area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [20955/23]

*199. To ask the Minister for Justice if he will provide an update on an appeal filed by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [21012/23]

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

*200. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the financial support schemes and incentives that are in place to support sheep famers in the Irish sheep sector; if consideration will be given to the provision of additional financial supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20838/23]

*201. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of forestry planting licences granted from the 1 January 2023 to date; when Ireland formally submitted its completed application for state-aid approval to the EU Commission for its national forestry programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [20860/23]

*202. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will set up a nationwide animal cruelty register to help authorities identify breaches of bans on keeping animals and prevent those with animal cruelty convictions from working in environments where they have access to animals. — Joan Collins. [20911/23]

*203. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of greyhounds injured in races and trials to-date in 2023; the nature and date of the injuries at the tracks at which

they occurred; the number killed or euthanised by track vets; the number and causes of additional racing fatalities; and the results of any post-mortems carried out. — Joan Collins. [20912/23]

*204. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the greyhound track attendance figures for 2022 and to-date in 2023 for both GRI and private tracks, with a breakdown of the figures into paid and complimentary entry and entry by adults, children, greyhound owners and trainers, bookmakers, and so on. — Joan Collins. [20914/23]

*205. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the sectors that are involved in the maceration of chicks in Ireland; the number of companies killing chicks in this abhorrent way; the number of chicks killed every year; and if he will introduce a ban on chick maceration. — Joan Collins. [20915/23]

*206. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he is aware that another Irish greyhound has ended up in China (details supplied); if he will investigate if the dog was exported directly or indirectly from Ireland; if action will be taken against those responsible for the export; and if he is aware of other Irish greyhounds exported to China for breeding and racing purposes and if he will urgently ban the export of greyhounds to China. — Joan Collins. [20916/23]

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

*207. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will consider a financial package for childcare for persons who wish to return to work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20946/23]

*208. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to previous Parliamentary Questions on the same issue, if a place will be approved for a child (details supplied); if the full range of services and supports required in this case have now been provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [20956/23]

*209. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children on disability service waiting lists for children's disability networks teams, by CHO/CDNT at the end of quarter 1 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form; the average length of wait; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [20895/23]

*210. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of people on disability service waiting lists for each service type, excluding children's disability network teams, at the end of quarter 1 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [20896/23]

*211. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will confirm that when making provision for the European Accessibility Act (EU Directive 2019/882), he will ensure that every ATM and point-of-sale credit card terminal is accessible to people who are blind and visually impaired, and that this will include provision for audio guides and tactile keyboards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [20935/23]

*212. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline the progress to date on the development of a legal ban on the practice of conversion therapy; when he expects legislation to be ready for introduction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Lou McDonald. [20974/23]

*213. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide a list of the properties which his Department currently has lease arrangements for the provision of direct provision and other accommodation for those seeking asylum; if he will provide a corresponding list of the service providers in each of these properties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [20993/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*214. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that those currently completing a doctorate in counselling psychology at Trinity College, Dublin will now be the only trainee psychologists without any funding; if he will assure that this issue is rectified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [20939/23]

*215. To ask the Minister for Health further to the publication of ‘The Independent Review of the Operation of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018, when the ‘providers’ research’ as referenced in the report will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [20842/23]

*216. To ask the Minister for Health if he will review the arrangement for the Ambulance Service overnight emergency vehicle in (details supplied) in Trim, County Meath which would effectively leave the Trim area with no overnight emergency vehicle; and if he will ensure that the 30% sick leave rate will remain in place to maintain an essential overnight emergency service for the Trim area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [20846/23]

*217. To ask the Minister for Health if homecare will be increased for a person (details supplied) as soon as possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [20848/23]

*218. To ask the Minister for Health the number of over 70’s medical cards in circulation at the end of April for each of the years 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, for each local health area, in tabular form. — Jim O’Callaghan. [20849/23]

*219. To ask the Minister for Health when he intends to meet with an organisation (details supplied) as requested by the organisation. — Paul Donnelly. [20850/23]

*220. To ask the Minister for Health the number of critical care beds currently provided in each public/voluntary hospital, in tabular form. — Jim O’Callaghan. [20851/23]

*221. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update regarding the payment of the Covid-19 pandemic recognition payment for Section 39 workers; and when this payment is expected to be made to all staff who are eligible. — Ciarán Cannon. [20852/23]

*222. To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital beds, excluding critical care beds, currently provided in each public/voluntary hospital, in tabular form. — Jim O’Callaghan. [20853/23]

*223. To ask the Minister for Health if he will extend CAHMS services to assist further children who have ADS (details supplied).; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [20855/23]

*224. To ask the Minister for Health the budget allocated to each hospital in the Ireland East Hospital in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form. — Jim O’Callaghan. [20858/23]

*225. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE staff in each hospital in the Ireland East Hospital in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022; and 2023, in tabular form. — Jim O’Callaghan. [20859/23]

*226. To ask the Minister for Health the average patient experience time to admission via an emergency department for all patients for quarter 1 and by month for each year 2019-2023, inclusive, statewide and for each location in tabular form; the average for all patients, the average for patients aged under 75 years; and the average for patients aged 75 years or older. — David Cullinane. [20865/23]

*227. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who attended an emergency department in quarter 1 and by month for each year 2019-2023, inclusive, statewide and by location in tabular form; the number and percentage of patients who were admitted via an emergency department; the number and percentage who were waiting 0-6, 0-9, 9-24, and 24+ hours; the number for all patients; the number and percentage for patients aged under 75 years; and the number and percentage for patients aged over 75 years. — David Cullinane. [20866/23]

*228. To ask the Minister for Health the maximum patient experience time to admission registered at each emergency department in quarter 1 and by month for each year 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20867/23]

*229. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who left an emergency department without being seen in each month of quarter 1 and by month for each year 2019-2023, inclusive, by hospital, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20868/23]

*230. To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital-initiated scheduled care cancellations, by appointment type, in quarter 1 and by month for 2023 by hospital group and hospital, in tabular form; and the number for April 2022 and April 2023. — David Cullinane. [20869/23]

*231. To ask the Minister for Health the number of cancer-related appointments and procedures which were cancelled in quarter 1 and by month for 2023, by hospital, for adults and for children, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20870/23]

*232. To ask the Minister for Health the number of acute inpatient beds available at the end of February 2020 and at the end of February 2023, by location, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20871/23]

*233. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1176 of 21 March 2023, the planned number of acute inpatient beds to be added; the number delivered in 2022; the total number at the start and end of 2022; the planned total by year-end 2023; and the number of funded beds remaining to be delivered. — David Cullinane. [20872/23]

*234. To ask the Minister for Health the number of delayed transfers of care in quarter 1 for each year 2019-2023, inclusive, at each location in tabular form; the number of delayed discharges and the number as a percentage of all discharges; the number of bed days lost and the number as a percentage of all bed days available for the period. — David Cullinane. [20873/23]

*235. To ask the Minister for Health the bed occupancy rates of each public and voluntary hospital, by hospital group, for quarter 1 in each of the years 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form; the national average; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [20883/23]

*236. To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against patients at HSE facilities in quarter 1 in each of the years 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20884/23]

*237. To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against staff at HSE facilities in quarter 1 in each of the years 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20885/23]

*238. To ask the Minister for Health the percentage of clinical status 1 ECHO and clinical status 1 DELTA incidents responded to by a patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less in quarter 1 and by month in each of the years 2019-2023, nationally and by ambulance region in tabular form; the average length of such response times nationally and by region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [20886/23]

*239. To ask the Minister for Health the number and percentage of incidents responded to by the ambulance service by clinical status and sub status in January and February in each of the years 2019-2023, inclusive. — David Cullinane. [20887/23]

*240. To ask the Minister for Health the average ambulance turnaround time at each emergency department in quarter 1 and by month in 2023, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20888/23]

*241. To ask the Minister for Health the mean, median, and maximum wait time on NTPF reported waiting lists by speciality by location for quarter 1 and by month in each of the years 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20889/23]

*242. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on NTPF reported waiting lists by specialty by location for quarter 1 and by month in each of the years 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form; and the mean, median, and maximum wait time. — David Cullinane. [20890/23]

*243. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people aged over 65 and over 75 years on NTPF-reported waiting lists by specialty by location for quarter 1 and by month in each of the years 2019-2023, in tabular form; and the mean, median, and maximum wait time. — David Cullinane. [20891/23]

*244. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on primary care and community healthcare waiting lists, for each care service, at the end of quarter 1 2019-2023, inclusive in tabular form; the breakdown by length of wait and by age; the number waiting for initial assessment, initial therapy/intervention, and follow up therapy/ intervention for each specialty; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [20892/23]

*245. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on home support waiting lists at the end of quarter 1 2019-2023, inclusive in tabular form; and the breakdown by length of wait. — David Cullinane. [20894/23]

*246. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on waiting lists for an assessment of need at the end of quarter 1 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form; the number overdue for completion; and the average length of wait. — David Cullinane. [20897/23]

*247. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on CAMHS waiting lists by CHO and length of wait at the end of quarter 1 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20898/23]

*248. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on waiting lists for Jigsaw by CHO and length of wait at the end of quarter 1 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20899/23]

*249. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on diagnostic waiting lists at the end of quarter 1 2023; the number for each quarter of 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [20900/23]

*250. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider sanctioning cancer treatment for an Irish patient (details supplied) overseas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20901/23]

*251. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children with scoliosis and the number of children with spina bifida on waiting lists at the end of quarter 1 for each year 2019-2023, inclusive, by specialty, including the number of suspended cases, in tabular form; and the number waiting 0-6, 6-12, 12-18 and 18+ months. — David Cullinane. [20902/23]

*252. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on paediatric orthopaedic waiting lists for at the end of quarter 1 for each year 2019-2023, inclusive, including the number of suspended cases, by specialty and by location in tabular form; the number waiting 0-6, 6-12, 12-18 and 18+ months; and the average waiting time of all relevant patients on each list. — David Cullinane. [20903/23]

*253. To ask the Minister for Health the number of spinal fusion and other paediatric orthopaedic procedures carried out by Children's Health Ireland in each year 2017-2023 by month at each location in tabular form; the number which have been outsourced; and the location at which they were conducted. — David Cullinane. [20904/23]

*254. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children removed from paediatric orthopaedic waiting lists in November and December 2022 and January and February 2023, by reason for removal; and the number removed without having a procedure and the reason why. — David Cullinane. [20905/23]

*255. To ask the Minister for Health the number of claims before the CervicalCheck Tribunal; the number of claims resolved by the Tribunal; the timeframe for completion of the Tribunal's work; the cost of the Tribunal to date, by cost type; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [20906/23]

*256. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists on the dental treatment services scheme at the end of quarter 1 of each year 2019-2023 by LHO in tabular form; the number of dentists who submitted claims, the total number of claims in quarter 1 of each year and each full year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [20907/23]

*257. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults and children on HSE dental and orthodontic waiting lists at the end of quarter 1 of each year 2019-2023, broken down by standard waiting times and by area, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [20908/23]

*258. To ask the Minister for Health when community facilities which are currently being used as vaccination centres will be discontinued; if he agrees that such vaccination hubs are no longer necessary and the cost of renting such facilities no longer constitute value for money; and the continued use of some vaccination hubs is interfering with community use of buildings. — Robert Troy. [20921/23]

*259. To ask the Minister for Health the funding spent on tobacco cessation measures in each of the past ten years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [20922/23]

*260. To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify the reason that the community neurorehabilitation team in CHO7 has not progressed, despite funding being made available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [20937/23]

*261. To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date in having an appointment made (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [20952/23]

*262. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that a trend has been developing whereby cigarettes are being sold in larger packs than the standard 20 pack, and that this allows a lower unit price be charged, and encourages more consumption; and if he has considered any restrictions on this, or a requirement to have the same unit price regardless of the pack size. — Richard Bruton. [20978/23]

*263. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 175 of 1 March 2023, the progress that is being made in developing an evidence base for service models or formal treatments for avoidant restrictive food intake disorder; if a standard approach is being taken across the acute hospital sector and HSE community healthcare divisions to treat ARFID; if not, to specify if one is being developed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [20983/23]

*264. To ask the Minister for Health the measures he is taking to ensure that children diagnosed with ARFID are being treated for the condition they are diagnosed with rather than being treated for a different condition such as anorexia nervosa or similar conditions; the measures he is taking to develop a specific model of care for people with ARFID; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [20984/23]

*265. To ask the Minister for Health if any supports are offered by energy companies to assist customers with an illness (details supplied) with more expensive energy bills; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [20986/23]

*266. To ask the Minister for Health if he will carry-out an independent review of radiation therapy to deal with recruitment and retention in the sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20990/23]

*267. To ask the Minister for Health the measures that his Department and the HSE are taking to address recruitment and retention in the radiation therapy sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20991/23]

*268. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department will develop a long-term strategy which will assist in the radiation therapy sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [20992/23]

*269. To ask the Minister for Health if following the National Maternity Strategy, if a national policy has been agreed on the role of GPs in relation to homebirths; if a review of the maternity and infant scheme has taken place in relation to homebirths; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [20994/23]

*270. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of the impact of inflation on breast feeding baby formula which has increased by up to 25%; if he is also aware of reports by the European Central Bank that corporate profiteering has been one of the biggest contributors to price increases; what options are available to help parents in the face of these price hikes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [20996/23]

*271. To ask the Minister for Health if the staff at health facility (details supplied) are entitled to the pandemic special recognition payment; and if so, when they will receive said payment. — Louise O'Reilly. [20997/23]

*272. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a hospital appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [20998/23]

*273. To ask the Minister for Health the steps his Department has taken for rural Ireland since 2020. — Cathal Crowe. [21003/23]

*274. To ask the Minister for Health the number of surgery's cancelled in Tullamore Hospital in January, February and March 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [21015/23]

*275. To ask the Minister for Health if ozempic will be made available to medical card patients who have had gastric by-pass/sleeve surgery and who are regaining weight due to lack of consultation since Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [21016/23]

*276. To ask the Minister for Health if he will expedite surgery for a person (details supplied). — Patricia Ryan. [21018/23]

*277. To ask the Minister for Health the reason utrogesten 100ml tablets are no longer available under the DPS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [21019/23]

*278. To ask the Minister for Health how many psychiatrist positions and how many mental health nurses are available to persons in the Athy area of south County Kildare. — Patricia Ryan. [21020/23]

*279. To ask the Minister for Health what funding is available for mental health services in the Athy area of south County Kildare. — Patricia Ryan. [21021/23]

*280. To ask the Minister for Health if the home support legislation which provides home care supports for all will make sure older people are equal in inclusion of supports (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [21022/23]

*281. To ask the Minister for Health if staff in an organisation (details supplied) will be included in Covid funding; if so, when they will receive their payments, given staff continued to provide a full range of services on behalf of the HSE to service users during the pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [21024/23]

*282. To ask the Minister for Health the reasons for the further delay to the HSE Home Support Tender 2023; the steps he is taking to ensure that the tender is not delayed any further; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [21034/23]

*283. To ask the Minister for Health the funding proposals he has considered for the HSE Home Support Tender 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [21035/23]

*284. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to make orally inhaled levodopa (details supplied) available under the long-term illness scheme to treat Parkinson's symptoms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [21038/23]

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

*285. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when funding for an organisation will be released (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [20909/23]

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

*286. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide a list of all projects supported by her Department since 2019 under the outdoor recreation infrastructure scheme to include all projects which received funding of €100,000 or more, the current status of each of these projects the date each project was completed, the expected completion date for each remaining project, by county in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Frankie Feighan. [20878/23]

*287. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide a list of all projects supported by her Department since 2019 under the town and village renewal scheme to include all projects which received funding of €100,000 or more, the current status of each of these projects, the date each project was completed, the expected completion date for each remaining project, by county, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Frankie Feighan. [20879/23]

*288. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide a list of all projects supported by her Department since 2019 under the LEADER Programme to include all projects which received funding of €100,000 or more, the current status of each of these projects, the date each project was completed, the expected completion date for each remaining project, by county, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Frankie Feighan. [20880/23]

*289. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide a list of all projects supported by her Department since 2019 under the Rural Regeneration and

Development Fund to include all projects which received funding of €100,000 or more, the current status of each of these projects, the date each project was completed, the expected completion date for each remaining project, by county, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Frankie Feighan. [20881/23]

*290. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide a list of all projects supported by her Department since 2019 under the CLÁR Programme to include all projects which received funding of €100,000 or more, the current status of each of these projects, the date each project was completed, the expected completion date for each remaining project, by county, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Frankie Feighan. [20882/23]

*291. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail an bhfuil iarratas faighte ag a Roinn le scrúdú a dhéanamh ar oibreacha mara ag Céibh an Chóra, in Inis Meáin, má tá cé na hoibreacha atá i gceist agus an costas measta atá orthu; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [20988/23]