



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 14 Meitheamh, 2023

Wednesday, 14th June, 2023

**CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS**

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

1. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the Government's response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2022. — Mary Lou McDonald. [22488/23]
2. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the Government's response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2022. — Ivana Bacik. [25769/23]
3. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the Government's response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2022. — Neasa Hourigan. [25953/23]
4. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the Government's response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2022. — Brendan Smith. [26404/23]
5. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the Government's response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2022. — Aindrias Moynihan. [28081/23]
6. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the Government's response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2022. — Joe Flaherty. [28109/23]
7. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the Government's response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2022. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [28115/23]
8. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the Government's response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2022. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [28603/23]
9. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the Government's response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2022. — Paul Murphy. [28611/23]
10. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health is next due to meet. — Neasa Hourigan. [25680/23]
11. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [27246/23]
12. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health is next due to meet. — Aindrias Moynihan. [28080/23]
13. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health is next due to meet. — Joe Flaherty. [28111/23]

14. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health is next due to meet. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28116/23]

15. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health is next due to meet. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [28290/23]

16. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will meet next. — Alan Dillon. [28354/23]

17. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Mary Lou McDonald. [28322/23]

18. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health is next due to meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [28606/23]

19. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health is next due to meet. — Bríd Smith. [28609/23]

20. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health is next due to meet. — Paul Murphy. [28612/23]

21. To ask the Taoiseach the various Cabinet committees dealing with urgent issues that have met the least in the past twelve months. — Bernard J. Durkan. [25907/23]

22. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on recent meetings of Cabinet committees, with particular reference to the Committees on Housing, Children and Education and Health. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [25992/23]

23. To ask the Taoiseach the various Cabinet committees dealing with urgent issues that have met the least in the past twelve months. — Cian O’Callaghan. [27436/23]

24. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on recent meetings of Cabinet committees, with particular reference to the Committees on Housing, Children and Education and Health. — Cian O’Callaghan. [27437/23]

25. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee on Government Co-ordination will next meet. — Alan Dillon. [28359/23]

26. To ask the Taoiseach which Cabinet sub-committees will meet before the summer recess. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [28607/23]

27. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Brexit and Northern Ireland will next meet. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25560/23]

28. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the wellbeing framework for Ireland, overseen by his Department. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25561/23]

29. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his Department’s Public Sector Duty Equality and Human Rights Assessment. — Mary Lou McDonald. [25562/23]

30. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the first progress report for Q1 2023 of the Climate Action Plan. — Ivana Bacik. [25770/23]

31. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Investment will next meet. — Mick Barry. [26400/23]

32. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on the Economy and Investment will next meet. — Alan Dillon. [28358/23]

33. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the meeting of the European Political Community on 1 June 2023. — Mick Barry. [26401/23]

34. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the meeting of the European Political Community in Moldova on 1 June 2023. — Seán Haughey. [27438/23]

35. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the recent meeting of the European Political Community, held in Moldova. — Mary Lou McDonald. [28323/23]

36. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meetings in Moldova and any issues arising therefrom. — Bernard J. Durkan. [28327/23]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA **QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER**

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

*37. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied) who submitted an application to the foreign birth register and urgently needs it for travel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [28627/23]

*38. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when an application by a person (details supplied) for foreign birth registration will be completed, given that the application was submitted some time ago; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [28663/23]

*39. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when a decision will be made in respect of an application by a person (details supplied) for foreign birth registration; the reason for the delay in making a decision on said application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [28694/23]

*40. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if the passports for two children (details supplied) will be expedited. — Paul McAuliffe. [28706/23]

*41. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when a person (details supplied) who applied to the foreign birth register will have their application processed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [28716/23]

*42. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if a passport application (details supplied) will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [28717/23]

*43. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of a foreign birth registration (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [28722/23]

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

*44. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the new actions that are being put in place in advance of the UN SDG High Level Political Forum in New York in July, to ensure Ireland reaches the furthest behind in Irish society first; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [28700/23]

*45. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will outline the short- and medium-term plans for emergency electricity generation in counties Laois and Offaly; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [28661/23]

*46. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will outline the measures being taken to reduce the cost of electricity for households; if he will outline the other measures his Department is considering to reduce the cost of domestic energy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [28662/23]

*47. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on his work to ensure that all households with a waste collection service are provided with an organic waste bin by their waste collection company by the end of 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [28667/23]

*48. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will review correspondence from a person (details supplied) which expresses the concerns that the deposit return scheme will have on their small brewery business; the steps he will take to address these concerns; if he will be elaborating on any support mechanisms or mitigating measures that are being considered to assist small businesses in adapting to the scheme while minimising any potential adverse effects on their operations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [28693/23]

*49. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has read a report (details supplied); and if he will meet with the report's author to discuss its findings and recommendations. — Ivana Bacik. [28699/23]

*50. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the circumstances surrounding the death of a critically endangered sturgeon in the River Suir in Clonmel (as confirmed by Inland Fisheries Ireland) (details supplied); the cause of death; if fishing activities – including hooking, netting or removal from the water – were a factor in the fish's death; the reason the rare fish was disturbed; and if action will be taken against anyone found to have contributed to the death. — Paul Murphy. [28715/23]

*51. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures or reliefs that he could consider or put in place to prevent pensioners, and others on low fixed

incomes being further energy impoverished by ‘standing charges’ imposed on them by gas providers, even when there is no gas being used, as a €20 standing charge per month is a significant sum out of a pensioner’s income; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [28787/23]

*52. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide details on when the low-interest loan for retrofitting will be available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [28810/23]

*53. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when the energy review report will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [28811/23]

*54. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will detail the information collated by his Department on the energy usage by data centres; how this information is used; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [28812/23]

*55. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will comment on the report by the EPA which states that Ireland is on course to miss its climate targets; what actions can be taken now to correct this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [28858/23]

*56. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is aware of the practical research carried out by Farm Zero C in West Cork in conjunction with Irish universities, their success in creating a model for a more sustainable farm; if further funding for these types of projects is available in order to ensure that Ireland meets its 2030 environmental target; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [28859/23]

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

*57. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of non-disclosure agreements that have been signed with members or former members of the Defence Forces in each year from 2010 to 2022, and to date in 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [28626/23]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*58. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will examine a matter for a retailer (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [28646/23]

*59. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide details on the crash barriers TII is putting in place in Glenbeigh, County Kerry (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [28658/23]

*60. To ask the Minister for Transport if an examination has been carried out on active travel and public transport connections in higher education institutions, including in rural colleges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [28672/23]

*61. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ask the Luas provider to address the concerns raised in correspondence (details supplied), including what steps the provider will take to tackle the problems raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [28674/23]

*62. To ask the Minister for Transport the cost of accessibility facilitation works across Bus Éireann, Dublin Bus, DART and Irish Rail services, including the annual maintenance cost of lift access at all DART and commuter stations. — Martin Kenny. [28687/23]

*63. To ask the Minister for Transport the annual spend on disability accessibility works undertaken across all public transport services between 2017 and 2022, in tabular form. — Martin Kenny. [28688/23]

*64. To ask the Minister for Transport the annual spend on the safe routes to school scheme between 2017 and 2022, in tabular form. — Martin Kenny. [28689/23]

*65. To ask the Minister for Transport the annual spend on the Connecting Ireland scheme in 2021 and 2022. — Martin Kenny. [28691/23]

*66. To ask the Minister for Transport the estimated cost of deferring the upcoming toll increases. — Martin Kenny. [28692/23]

*67. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps that Iarnród Éireann will take to ensure that older people with no credit cards or computer skills will still be able to pay cash for refreshments onboard Iarnród Éireann Intercity trains. — Alan Kelly. [28695/23]

*68. To ask the Minister for Transport in relation to the booking system for NCT testing if he will ensure that no money is taken from applicants by a company (details supplied) until the week of the NCT appointment. — Paul Murphy. [28761/23]

*69. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will instruct the National Transport Authority to reply to email communication (details supplied) regarding the proposed bus gate on Rathmines Road Lower, Dublin 6 under the plans for the Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor. — Peadar Tóibín. [28770/23]

*70. To ask the Minister for Transport to ensure that the Bus Éireann Routes 236 and 237 incorporate a stop in Ballinhassig County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [28809/23]

*71. To ask the Minister for Transport if he was consulted regarding the announced increase in toll charges from 1 July 2023; if he intends to intervene in relation to the charges given the financial pressures experienced by households at the current time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [28815/23]

*72. To ask the Minister for Transport if a person (details supplied) in County Clare who applied for a driving test 24 November 2022, will be given a date for a driving test; if the unacceptable delays at this test centre will be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [28863/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*73. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a definition of cannabinoid products as they relate to Parliamentary Question No. 214 of 30 May 2023. — Emer Higgins. [28659/23]

*74. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 229 of 23 May 2023, the average VRT band, and the average emissions from the average car registered in 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023 for internal combustion engine vehicles only, that is, excluding electric vehicles and hybrid vehicles; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [28675/23]

*75. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will ensure that recommendations 7 and 8 from the Film Tax Credit Report from the Oireachtas Committee on Budgetary Oversight will be implemented in order to ensure that actors and performers have their copyrights afforded proper protection in line with national and European law. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [28831/23]

*76. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider expanding the rental tax credit for families who pay rent on multiple properties, allowing them to claim a credit for each property, particularly in cases of families who are paying for student accommodation for 3rd level students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [28832/23]

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.

*77. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the cost of flood protection works carried out by the Office of Public Works in the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [28724/23]

*78. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the details of planned flood protection works to be carried out by the Office of Public Works in the next five years; the costs associated with same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [28725/23]

*79. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 250 of 22 November 2022, the current status of the review his predecessor directed in relation to the issue of the discriminatory position (details supplied); the legal statutory basis for such discriminatory treatment; the times and dates that the review team have met since November 2022 to review this issue; the list of attendees at each meeting; where the agenda and minutes of such meetings can be located in compliance with the Transparency Code; and when he expects to receive a report from the review team and act on the issue. — Patrick Costello. [28763/23]

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

*80. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if funding is available for a project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [28670/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*81. To ask the Minister for Education the annual spend on the school transport scheme between 2017 and 2022, in tabular form. — Martin Kenny. [28690/23]

*82. To ask the Minister for Education if she will advise regarding a school building project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [28666/23]

*83. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on an ASD class for a school (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [28668/23]

*84. To ask the Minister for Education when the ICT grant for the school year 2022/2023 will be sent to schools. — Mattie McGrath. [28696/23]

*85. To ask the Minister for Education if a child (details supplied) in County Mayo can avail of the school transport pick-up point which is located closer to their home and is in a much safer location than the proposed pick-up point; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [28726/23]

*86. To ask the Minister for Education if “You’ve Got This”, book 1 is a Junior Cycle SPHE text book for children in schools; if students will be taught that gender identity is separate from sex and that this is the only correct answer allowed according to this book; if she agrees that children in 1st year should be taught this, as the book states that sex is “assigned at birth”, but that they can decide their own gender; if she agrees that students should be taught as the book states that students are told to undertake ‘matching activities’ where people not feeling gender confusion are described as ‘cisgender’; if she can reference the scientific basis for this education; and if she will detail whether she has undertaken any impact assessments of these changes in the curriculum. — Peadar Tóibín. [28766/23]

*87. To ask the Minister for Education when approval and funding will be given to a school (details supplied) for the provision of modular accommodation which is required to be in place for 30 August 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [28780/23]

*88. To ask the Minister for Education the reason that a school (details supplied) is to lose a teacher for the coming school year, resulting in the two largest classes having to be divided up, despite enrolment numbers in excess of 25 for the past two years; if anything can be done to prevent this; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [28786/23]

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

*89. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will confirm how much money has been allocated to soccer clubs, sporting clubs (details supplied) and rugby clubs under the sports capital grant for the past four rounds of grants; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28911/23]

*90. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total amounts of funding allocated to soccer clubs and soccer organisations around the country through the sports capital funding programme, by year since its inception, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [28629/23]

*91. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total amounts of funding allocated to rugby clubs and rugby organisations around the country through the sports capital funding programme, by year since its inception, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [28630/23]

*92. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total amounts of funding allocated to athletics clubs and athletics organisations around the country through the sports capital funding programme by year since its inception, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [28631/23]

*93. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total amounts of funding allocated to boxing clubs and boxing organisations around the country through the sports capital funding programme by year since its inception, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [28632/23]

*94. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total amount of funding provided by the State to a sporting body (details supplied) in each of the years 2000 to 2023, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [28647/23]

*95. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total amount of funding provided by the State to a sporting body (details supplied) in each of the years 2000 to 2023, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [28648/23]

*96. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total amount of funding provided by the State to a sporting body (details supplied) in each of the years 2000 to 2023, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [28649/23]

*97. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total amount of funding provided by the State to a sporting body (details supplied) in each of the years 2000 to 2023, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [28650/23]

*98. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will ensure that recommendations 7 and 8 from the Film Tax Credit Report from the Committee on Budgetary Oversight will be implemented in order to ensure that actors and performers have their copyrights afforded proper protection in line with national and European law. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [28830/23]

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

*99. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the capital expenditure cost of providing one staffed additional family refuge space; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Lou McDonald. [28773/23]

*100. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline the scope under the National Islands Policy 2023-2033 to enable the construction of clusters of houses on offshore islands; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [28807/23]

*101. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to engage with an organisation concerning the provision of housing on an off-shore island (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [28808/23]

*102. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the full estimated cost of implementing the Youth Homelessness Strategy over its three-year life course; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [28676/23]

*103. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated cost of the Supported Housing for Youth pilot project per young person, per year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [28677/23]

*104. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of a report in the media (details supplied) relating to alleged hare coursing activities during a burial at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Thurles, County Tipperary, which reportedly left a hare dead after the animal was savaged by a released greyhound; and if the NPWS division of his Department will investigate and take appropriate action against those involved. — Paul Murphy. [28711/23]

*105. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 229 of 5 July 2022, if, the NPWS carried out a review of the issue of pigeon damage to crops during the summer months, including the collection of new scientific data, with a view to informing decisions for future declarations; if the findings of the review will be published; and if he will immediately reverse the decision to allow the continued shooting of these birds until the end of the year. — Paul Murphy. [28713/23]

*106. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if, given the findings of a NPWS study which revealed that coursed hares fared worse than uncoursed hares when released back to the wild (details supplied), and in view of majority support for a coursing ban in both rural and urban areas, he will refuse a 2023-24 licence for hare coursing. — Paul Murphy. [28714/23]

*107. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has received reports from local authorities on the waiting lists to adapt their properties to meet the needs of tenants with a disability; and if he would consider extending the grant scheme which applies to privately owned properties to these homes with the tenant's fair share of costs not met by the grant capitalised into an annual addition to the rent. — Richard Bruton. [28767/23]

*108. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the provisions relating to substitute consent (Part XA) and section 37L of the Planning and Development, Maritime and Valuation (Amendment) Act 2022 will be enacted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [28781/23]

*109. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount of additional funding that has been given to Kildare County Council to purchase homes under the 'tenant-in-situ' scheme since the lifting of the 'no fault' eviction ban on 1 April 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [28788/23]

*110. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on extending the planning exemption for conversion of certain former commercial properties to housing to be applied to offshore islands; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [28806/23]

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

*111. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for clarification on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [28628/23]

*112. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason that the General Registrar's Office at Werburgh Street, Dublin 8, is only open to the public for one day a week; if she is aware of plans to extend the opening hours to assist the public; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [28664/23]

*113. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost of extending the free travel scheme from five to ten years after returning to work for those previously in receipt of payments (details supplied). — Martin Kenny. [28673/23]

*114. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an application by a person (details supplied) for carer's benefit, now under review, will be expedited and approved; and if the information provided of the care being given will be considered. — John McGuinness. [28736/23]

*115. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost to the Exchequer of additional increases of €10, €12, €15, €20 and €25 per week to payments disability allowance, domiciliary care allowance and carer's allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [28772/23]

*116. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total cost of the Data Protection Impact Assessment conducted by a company (details supplied) in respect of the PSC; if the assessment was forwarded to the office of the Data Protection Commissioner and or was it provided to it by way of request; and if not, the rationale for not sharing the findings with the DPC. — Catherine Murphy. [28860/23]

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

*117. To ask the Minister for Justice if her attention has been drawn to the difficulties being experienced by those utilising the atypical visa process including delays in processing which is causing difficulties particularly to those working in the nursing home sector; the steps he will take to address the obstacles within the atypical department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sorca Clarke. [28618/23]

*118. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide a definition of cannabinoid products as they relate to Parliamentary Question No. 500 of 30 May 2023. — Emer Higgins. [28660/23]

*119. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of prisoners in the prison system that are there on remand; the percentage this represents of the whole prison population; the steps taken through the provision of resources to reduce this number; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [28798/23]

*120. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of prisoners released on parole in each year since 2013; the average sentence served of these prisoners, including the number released to date this year and the average years served by them; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [28799/23]

*121. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of charged persons who are awaiting trial for criminal offences for more than two years, and for more than five years. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [28800/23]

*122. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons on remand for more than two years; the extra resources being provided to the various services to ensure long remands are not a feature of the justice system; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [28801/23]

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

*123. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the engagement he has had with other Government Departments regarding the European Commission's Copernicus Emergency Management Services (EMS) issuance of a warning on 8 June 2023 stating that Ireland is at an extreme risk of wildfires; the contingency plans that are in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sorca Clarke. [28619/23]

*124. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of Irish sheep meat plants that have formally applied for approval to export to the US; if he will confirm the number of plants given approval; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [28703/23]

*125. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will set out the exports (details supplied), on a monthly basis in tabular form since the deal on bilateral veterinary certification with the USA was announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [28707/23]

*126. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of horses injured and killed at the 2023 Punchestown horse racing festival; the nature of the injuries; how many horses had their final race at the festival and were later killed elsewhere; and if consideration will be given to ending State funding to Horse Racing Ireland in view of the growing number of horse deaths at tracks around Ireland. — Paul Murphy. [28708/23]

*127. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the six-month portion that a one-year jockey licence withdrawal (which was suspended on condition that no further breaches occurred), will now be reimposed given that racecourse stewards suspended the jockey in question for 21 days in May for a separate matter (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [28709/23]

*128. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the actions being taken by him and his Department to support and encourage exports to a market (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [28710/23]

*129. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to outline the position in relation to an application (details supplied); when a survey will be carried out to progress matters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [28793/23]

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

*130. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a child (details supplied) in County Donegal can expect an assessment for autism to be carried out. — Pearse Doherty. [28702/23]

*131. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will consider intervening in the very serious case of a young mother (details supplied); the measures he can take to help this woman and her family; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [28789/23]

*132. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if there are plans to alter the eligibility for the ECCE scheme, given that the current cut-off dates for the scheme can lead to a child falling outside the eligibility by a couple of days thus having to wait a year to access the ECCE scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [28665/23]

*133. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 508 of 28 March 2023, his views on whether there needs to be an investigation to establish what is and is not the children's burial ground before the words 'children's burial ground' are used to describe the memorial garden; and if he will ensure that these investigations are carried out in a timely manner, without delay. — Paul Murphy. [28701/23]

*134. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for further information on proposed refund to parents who are forced to seek private assessments for their children if waiting lists are not shortened; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [28723/23]

*135. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware that there are huge gaps in the provision of services within the CDNT based in Tuam, with only one occupational therapist for over 700 children and only one speech and language therapist for 700 children; the immediate plans that are in place to provide the correct level of supports for children with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [28734/23]

*136. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will consider introducing a financial support scheme for parents to engage private therapists where none exists within the public service to serve the needs of children with a disability; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [28735/23]

*137. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated first- and full-year cost to increase the foster care allowance to €500 for the under-12s cohort and the over-12s cohort. — Kathleen Funchion. [28782/23]

*138. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to outline the process by which properties are inspected regarding their suitability to accommodate people before they are used to house refugees. — Holly Cairns. [28802/23]

*139. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will set out the period of time during which the Inter-Departmental Committee concerning the

Referendums on Family, Care and Equality will consider the submissions made to that committee before producing its findings and/or making recommendations to Government. — Mary Lou McDonald. [28862/23]

*140. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the first and full-year cost to increase the minimum wage (€13 p/h) for early years staff to €15 per hour; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [28864/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*141. To ask the Minister for Health if he will engage with an organisation (details supplied) regarding concerns it has for future funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28620/23]

*142. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department has considered the introduction of a flat-fee model of care being reimbursed at €6.50 per medicine; if his Department has costed this proposal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28621/23]

*143. To ask the Minister for Health if he has plans to expand the scope of practice for pharmacists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28622/23]

*144. To ask the Minister for Health if he and his Department will engage with the community pharmacy sector to discuss a new contract and enhance its role in the delivery of healthcare in the community, as per the commitment in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28623/23]

*145. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); and when the person concerned can expect an appointment for admission. — Barry Cowen. [28624/23]

*146. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); and when the person concerned can expect an appointment for admission. — Barry Cowen. [28625/23]

*147. To ask the Minister for Health when he will be reviewing pharmacy services and funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [28651/23]

*148. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the expenditure levels of new medicines and new uses of existing medicines in 2022 on an in-year basis under the oncology drug management system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28652/23]

*149. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the expenditure levels of new medicines and new uses of existing medicines in 2022 on an in-year basis under the high-tech scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28653/23]

*150. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the expenditure levels of new medicines and new uses of existing medicines in 2022 on an in-year basis under the general medical scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28654/23]

*151. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the expenditure levels of new medicines and new uses of existing medicines in 2022 on an in-year basis under the long-term illness scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28655/23]

*152. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the expenditure levels of new medicines and new uses of existing medicines in 2022 on an in-year basis under acute spending; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28656/23]

*153. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 738 of 30 May 2023, if he could outline the planned publication date for the PCRS December 2022 Performance Report referred to; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [28657/23]

*154. To ask the Minister for Health if he request that a case of a person (details supplied) will be investigated (details supplied) who is an inpatient in hospital has been advised that they must discharge themselves to avail of an MRI at another hospital, given that there is an MRI machine on site; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [28671/23]

*155. To ask the Minister for Health when he intends to engage with representatives of community-based pharmacists (details supplied) in relation to ongoing concerns over a 15-year pharmacy pay freeze and its impact on patient care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [28705/23]

*156. To ask the Minister for Health the progress made in reviewing pharmacy services and funding; the estimated date of completion of the review; if he will engage with pharmacy representatives ahead of a decision being made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [28718/23]

*157. To ask the Minister for Health if he will meet with an organisation (details supplied) before 30 June to discuss the payments freeze on community pharmacies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [28720/23]

*158. To ask the Minister for Health if he can engage with an organisation (details supplied) on the review regarding fee restoration that is due by the end of June. — Francis Noel Duffy. [28731/23]

*159. To ask the Minister for Health if he will meet with pharmacists to start fee-restoration talks before the statutory deadline of 30 June; if not, the reason; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [28733/23]

*160. To ask the Minister for Health the reason that contract cleaners in Tallaght University Hospital have not yet received the pandemic recognition payment. — Seán Crowe. [28762/23]

*161. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) in County Donegal will receive a response to communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [28765/23]

*162. To ask the Minister for Health what plans are in place to provide the additional secretarial services required to support the two neurology consultants in Galway University Hospital, as presently there are delays in letters being sent to GPs and other MDT in the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [28768/23]

*163. To ask the Minister for Health what plans are in place to relocate the neurology department at Galway University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [28769/23]

*164. To ask the Minister for Health concerning the review of fees that pharmacies receive from the State for the State drug payment schemes; if he is aware that the current fees agreement that pharmacies receive for the schemes, is due to be reviewed before the end of June 2023; if he will provide an update on the progress of the review; the reasons for the lack of engagement with an organisation (details supplied) thus far; what engagement has taken place between him, the HSE, and the organisation regarding this matter; if he will provide details on the Government's commitment to ensuring a fair and sustainable fee structure that supports the vital role of pharmacies in delivering healthcare services to the public; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [28771/23]

*165. To ask the Minister for Health the number of physiotherapists and physiotherapy services available to MS sufferers, and those with other neurological conditions in CHO7 for the years 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form; and the cost of funding same. — Patricia Ryan. [28790/23]

*166. To ask the Minister for Health if, with regard to the revoking of the ban on nursing homes transferring their business and converting to providing accommodation for people under temporary protection, he has considered the consequences of that revocation on the number of available places in nursing homes for people who really need them, given that families are already struggling to find suitable nursing home places for their loved ones; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [28791/23]

*167. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that solpadine and its generic equivalents can only be dispensed in capsule form, usually in 60 capsule packs, and not in soluble form to medical card holders to whom it has been prescribed, which is causing problems among those for whom swallowing capsules/tablets would be difficult, if not impossible, and that pharmacists, having informed the medical card holder of this issue, are saying to the person that they can sell the soluble version to them over the counter at a cost of approximately €14 per pack of 24 (details supplied); if he can arrange for the soluble version to be available on the medical card; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [28792/23]

*168. To ask the Minister for Health when a wheelchair will be provided to a child (details supplied) given an occupational therapist has approved same to the HSE resource allocation group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [28794/23]

*169. To ask the Minister for Health to engage with a representative organisation (details supplied) in relation to pay for services provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [28803/23]

*170. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to address the failure to increase pay rates for community pharmacists since 2009; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [28804/23]

*171. To ask the Minister for Health his views on banning or restricting the sale of disposable vapes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [28805/23]

*172. To ask the Minister for Health if he will confirm that a person (details supplied) is on the HSE cataract waiting list and at which hospital. — Robert Troy. [28813/23]

*173. To ask the Minister for Health to respond and detail the measures that will be taken to ensure community pharmacists are supported into the future (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [28814/23]

*174. To ask the Minister for Health if he will seek a costing proposal from the HSE/NSAC for the introduction of a population screening programme for haemochromatosis in order to appropriately diagnose the general population for this very serious condition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [28861/23]

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

*175. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will outline any supports or schemes available to assist with the construction and provision of student accommodation. — Robert Troy. [28698/23]

*176. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the supports that are available for adults looking to return to higher education in low-income, single-parent households; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [28719/23]

*177. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if, when the current (CSCS) constitution skills certification scheme comes to an end because of the proposed licence system for construction workers, his Department is going to refund all current construction workers for the cost of the Solas registration card, courses and time off work; and if not, the reason therefor. — Paul Murphy. [28727/23]

*178. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views in regard to the upcoming Bill for construction workers and the proposed new licence system for construction workers to replace the current system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [28729/23]

*179. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if all new construction workers who will use the new licence system to become a skilled construction worker have to be in possession of a Solas CSCS registration card and a QQI certificate to meet the entry requirement for the newly proposed licence system; if not, the reason; and which expert group has advised in relation to this. — Paul Murphy. [28730/23]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH,
I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 15 MEITHEAMH, 2023
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY,
FOR ORAL ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 15 JUNE, 2023**

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 what action is being taken to improve processing times of paper-based renewal and first-time passport applications, in view that the current processing time is eight weeks, and in particular the efforts to fast-track those

applications of which queries have been raised as this can often lead to extended delays in the processing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [28824/23]

2. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 26 of 27 April 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 escalating violence by Israel on Palestinians; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [28816/23]

3. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has given consideration to the opening of a passport office in Northern Ireland. — Matt Carthy. [28848/23]

4. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for a report on the implementation of the Diaspora Strategy 2020-2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [28096/23]

5. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the proposed timeline to honour the government commitment to recognise the state of Palestine. — Matt Carthy. [28846/23]

6. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he is aware that many journalists, trade union leaders, judges, civil society activists and politicians, including the Speaker of the Tunisian parliament (details supplied) have been arrested in Tunisia in recent weeks in concerted acts of state repression; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [28774/23]

7. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the intended timeframe to hold a referendum in relation to voting rights in presidential elections. — Matt Carthy. [28849/23]

8. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he supports Ireland's historic position of neutrality; his views on the government's current position is regarding Irish neutrality; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [28826/23]

9. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on efforts to restore the political institutions in Northern Ireland established under the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [27335/23]

10. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to report on the most recent engagement he has had with an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [28870/23]

11. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how he and his Department will lead on the scaling up of Ireland's international climate finance and strengthening whole-of-Government efforts on climate diplomacy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [28092/23]

12. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the action he is taking to promote accountability for the most serious international crimes; the support being provided for the work of the International Criminal Court; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [28104/23]

13. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on a recently published article to mark World Environment Day, recalling that Gaza lacks a safe, clean, and sustainable

environment, Al Mezan detailed how Israeli policies and practices, including a 16-year-old blockade, adversely impact local capacity to protect the environment and ultimately hinder Palestinians' right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Donnelly. [28776/23]

14. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he and his UN colleagues remain aware of the escalation of the war in the Ukraine whereby Russia is clearly determined to bring about the destruction of the Ukrainian economy by way of attack on vital infrastructure in a way which is clearly indicative of the future whereby it appears to be intended to reduce the built environment to rubble; whether any new initiatives are being considered to prevent an escalation of this policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [28835/23]

15. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the measures he will be taking to strengthen his Department's effectiveness in the new Statement of Strategy recently issued by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [28101/23]

16. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the measures he will be taking to serve communities under his Department's new Statement of Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [28102/23]

17. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs further to the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement, if he will detail how he and his Department are working to bring the relevant North and South bodies together to progress engagement and work to safeguard the GFA into the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [27990/23]

18. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what interactions there have been with his UK counterparts on the Council of Europe's decision on the Northern Ireland legacy issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [28852/23]

19. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the reforms agreed to EU migration and asylum laws; to outline the position taken by Ireland during the negotiations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [28825/23]

20. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the outcome of his most recent discussions with the political parties in Northern Ireland in relation to the need to have the Assembly and the Executive restored at an early date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [28844/23]

21. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how he and his Department will support efforts to enhance international oceans governance and the protection of the global marine environment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [28091/23]

22. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the efforts of him and his Department to assist in re-establishing the Northern Ireland Executive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [27989/23]

23. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when he expects the final report of the Consultative Forum on International Security to be published; if he has given the chair

a timeline for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [28617/23]

24. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his engagements with the Ukrainian government. — Matt Carthy. [28850/23]

25. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how his Department is contributing to the delivery of the Shared Island initiative; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [28138/23]

26. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the position regarding the proposed rebranding of Irish Aid to the Government of Ireland Development Programme Overseas as indicated last December; if an assessment of the potential impacts has been completed; the timeline for the delivery of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [28740/23]

27. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update on long-term solutions to address the challenges faced by the undocumented Irish in the US and his work to continue to seek new immigration pathways for Irish citizens; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [28737/23]

28. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the action he will take to develop our relationship with China and the principles that will inform this action; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [28098/23]

29. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if any progress is being made with regards to the undocumented Irish in America; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [28783/23]

30. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has had communications with his EU counterparts on the Council of Ministers in relation to the Russian attack on the Nova Kakhovka dam; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [28851/23]

31. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update on the evacuation of Irish citizens from Sudan in the last month. — Gary Gannon. [28868/23]

32. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs whether the European Union plans initiatives in response to the destruction of the dam at Nova Kakhovka; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [28797/23]

33. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if the Government will offer assistance to Moldova to help them prepare for EU membership; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [28616/23]

34. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for his assessment of issues with the current passport express process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [28738/23]

35. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he is aware of the recent acts of severe repression carried out by the army and state institutions in Pakistan against opposition politicians; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [28775/23]

36. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the measures he will be taking to support peace and reconciliation at home under his Department's new Statement of Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [28095/23]

37. 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. [28796/23]

38. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the action he is taking to ensure that Ireland's security policy is fit for purpose in the modern European and global security environment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [28097/23]

39. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for a report on efforts to restore the power sharing executive in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [28139/23]

40. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what plans there are to extend Ireland's diplomatic presence. — Robert Troy. [28784/23]

41. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if the British government has responded to his communication sent regarding the 1973 killing of a person (details supplied) by the Royal Ulster Constabulary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [22421/23]

42. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if there has been any further engagement with the family of a person (details supplied) who was shot dead by the RUC in 1973; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [28042/23]

43. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the measures he will be taking to strengthen and protect the global multilateral system under his Department's new Statement of Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [28099/23]

44. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the position regarding Russian diplomatic presence in Ireland; their numbers and specific purpose; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [28881/23]

45. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 21 of 27 April 2023, to provide an update on Ireland's efforts at EU and UN level to stop the war in Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [28817/23]

46. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what engagement he and his Department have had at EU Council level and with Cabinet colleagues in relation to human rights abuses of Palestinians annexed by the present Israeli regime; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [28753/23]

47. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on how we can further support Ukraine in any way; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [28882/23]

48. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to provide an update on his Department's work with regard to developing new humanitarian missions overseas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [28874/23]

49. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the role he and his Department will play in defending and promoting a safe, secure, free and open global cyberspace, with robust telecommunication infrastructures and regulated by international law; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [28103/23]

50. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to comment on his Department's efforts to increase efficiency with regard to passport applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [28873/23]

51. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if the Consultative Forum on International Security Policy will examine the future of the triple lock procedure; if it will also examine the need for unanimity in relation to decisions on Common Foreign and Security Policy issues in the EU; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [27336/23]

52. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the percentage of GNI allocated to overseas development aid in the years 2017 to date. — Matt Carthy. [28847/23]

53. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to indicate in the context of cross-Border issues identified in the Good Friday Agreement and thereafter as being in need of advancement with particular reference to infrastructural deficiencies needing urgent attention, if he can undertake to give his full support to such issues in order to improve these infrastructural deficiencies in line with the Good Friday Agreement. — Bernard J. Durkan. [28836/23]

54. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if the Government will formally recognise the state of Palestine; and if not; if he will make a statement as to why not. — Gary Gannon. [28869/23]

55. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for a report on the implementation of his Department's Climate Action Roadmap; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [28093/23]

56. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if his Department recognises Israel's oppression of Palestine as apartheid (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [28866/23]

57. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what engagement he and his Department have had with their EU counterparts and Cabinet colleagues in the past 12 months in relation to the issue of cross-Border remote workers, with particular emphasis on the issues emerging whereby some of these workers are unable to avail of bank card facilities in the opposite jurisdiction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [28752/23]

58. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to advise what action his Department is taking to ensure that there are no delays in the processing of passport applications during the busy summer months, in particular the efforts to fast-track those of which queries have been raised as this can often lead to extended delays in processing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [28823/23]

59. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will commit to using the upcoming budget to ensure that UNWRA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East) will receive adequate funding so their essential work can continue unabated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [28214/23]

60. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if his Department recognises Western Sahara as a sovereign state in the wake of reports that Israel will recognise the country as a Moroccan territory. — Gary Gannon. [28867/23]

61. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the measures he will be taking to enhance Ireland's global engagement and prosperity under his Department's new Statement of Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [28100/23]

62. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how he will ensure that Ireland's international development programme makes a clear contribution to progress on the Sustainable Development Goals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [28094/23]

63. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if preparations are underway ahead of the 2023 SDG Summit convening this September in New York and in particular for the role Ireland will play as co-facilitator of a negotiated political declaration as an output from the summit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [28739/23]

64. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the action he is taking to unlock the full potential of the Good Friday Agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [28137/23]

65. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the outcome of his most recent discussions with the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland concerning legacy issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [28845/23]

66. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update on the Consultative Forum on International Security Policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [28140/23]

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

67. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the Local Government Management Agency has submitted draft codes of practice so that standards can be set for the operation of CCTV by local authorities to tackle illegal dumping; the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [28614/23]

68. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications in relation to offshore wind, when the individual parts of the planning-led system, including D-Maps, will be made publicly available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [28755/23]

69. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how does he assess the exclusion of 9 million tonnes of GHG abatement measures in The Climate Plan from the Environmental Protection Agency's recent projections for emissions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [28680/23]

70. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress of the expansion of the national air quality monitoring network under the Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [28883/23]

71. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the results of the geothermal study conducted at Carlinn Hall have been received; when he plans to make them available; the next steps in relation to finalising a lasting solution for the residents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [28754/23]

72. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will outline the potential of universal broadband connectivity to transform livelihoods and the delivery of services; if he will indicate the discussions and the planning which he is undertaking to deliver this potential; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [28743/23]

73. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update regarding improving measures to avoid disconnections for energy customers. — Gary Gannon. [24647/23]

74. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what additional measures are being taken by the Government to ensure that our grid has the capacity to accommodate the required increase in connections; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [28915/23]

75. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he can detail the actions that the Climate Action Plan for 2024 will take that will address the projected overshoot in the first carbon budget identified in the Environmental Protection Agency projections; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [28757/23]

76. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline the measure being taken by his Department to facilitate offshore wind energy development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [28879/23]

77. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps he is taking to support rural post offices. — Holly Cairns. [28552/23]

78. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on the recently published report by the EPA that Ireland is set to miss out on its 2030 climate targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [28040/23]

79. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how it is intended to have each of the major sectors adopt a circular approach; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [28682/23]

80. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has plans to ensure the Commission for Regulation of Utilities will regulate the prices charged to consumers on district heating systems; if he has plans to change the current charging system that apply to district heating systems; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [28759/23]

81. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the projected timeframe for completion of the North South Interconnector; the number of landowners that will

be affected by the development; and the number therein that have given approval for their lands to be used for this purpose. — Matt Carthy. [28549/23]

82. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for the Government's strategy for mitigating the effects of climate change and promoting sustainable development; if he will elaborate on the key policies and measures being implemented in Ireland to achieve the country's climate goals, particularly in the areas of the farming sector, transport, renewable energy, carbon reduction and fostering a green economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [28785/23]

83. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will detail the extent to which the mandate and resourcing of the Commission for the Regulation of Utilities provides for an assessment of the hedging practices of energy companies and, separately, investigation of price gouging and prosecution of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [28918/23]

84. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his attention has been brought to the recently published EPA report "Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections 2022-2040: June 2023", which outlined that Ireland is not on track to meet the 51% emissions reduction target by 2030; his response to the EPA report; what engagement he or his Department has had with other Government departments on foot of the findings of the report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [28818/23]

85. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will outline the potential of renewable energy to transform livelihoods and the scope for regional economic development; and if he will indicate the discussions and the planning which he is undertaking to deliver this potential, particularly in onshore employment and new sources of farm income. — Alan Dillon. [28742/23]

86. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has considered introducing a windfall tax to capture the windfall profits of energy producers accrued from March to November 2022, the revenue foregone by exempting windfall profits accrued from March to November 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21542/23]

87. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will indicate the progress in embedding a public sector climate mandate; the key performance indicators which are being used and if he will outline how the progress of individual bodies is monitored and reported. — Richard Bruton. [28681/23]

88. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department should have more stringent guidelines in place for contractors to ensure that ESNB NC6 applications are submitted in a more uniform and timely manner to ensure that customers are given access to feed-in tariff payments at the earliest opportunity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [28747/23]

89. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of applications received in the first quarter of 2023 for Cork County under the SEAI Free Energy Upgrades; the current timeline from surveyor allocation to contractor allocation on these applications received for Cork county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [28853/23]

90. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is aware of the difficulties many householders and business owners are having in relation to accessing adequate broadband speeds in cases where these customers were provided service by commercial providers and not covered by the NBS; if he is aware that many are not achieving the 30mbps speeds that were promised; if he is aware that many would have been far better off under the NBS, if he will examine what can be done to address the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [28744/23]

91. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department has engaged with energy providers to ensure that all electricity customers with smart meters, and regardless of tariff plan, are given access to their real-time data; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [28748/23]

92. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will introduce a community energy advice service; and if there are existing plans within his Department in relation to its creation. — Gary Gannon. [24646/23]

93. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will clarify when his Department will issue a money message or a reasoned response for the Petroleum and other Minerals Development (Climate Emergency) Amendment Bill; if he can clarify why this has taken his Department this length of time to issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [28758/23]

94. 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 for each of the deployment areas across the Lee Valley; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [28854/23]

95. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress to date in the roll-out of the National Broadband plan in counties Cavan and Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [28878/23]

96. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 103 of 27 April 2023, 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. [28819/23]

97. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the proposals, if any, there are to have additional publicity programmes regarding the need to deal with the proliferation of littering problems throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [28877/23]

98. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 123 of 27 April 2023, the expected timeline for the implementation of local authority decarbonising zones; the details of any engagement he or his Department had with Galway city council or Galway County Council in 2023 with regard to their Local Authority Climate Action plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [28820/23]

99. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is concerned at the deviation in trends between wholesale gas and electricity prices and what consumers are paying; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Brophy. [28745/23]

100. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is satisfied that the State is at a proper preparedness level to counteract any possible cyberattacks on the national grid and other essential services by bad actors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [22807/23]

101. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to indicate the full extent of the progress to date in making high speed modern broadband available throughout the country, in urban and rural areas; the progress to date in the linking up of those areas currently in need of but without service; the progress in bringing the entire operation to a speedy and efficient conclusion with a specific deadline; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [28842/23]

102. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how the challenge of artificial intelligence is being integrated into Ireland's National Cyber Security Strategy. — Emer Higgins. [28683/23]

103. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on the findings of the EPA's Ireland's GHG Emissions Projections 2022-2040 report; his plans to revise the Climate Action Plan to achieve the 51% emissions reduction target; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [28843/23]

104. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which priority can be given to measures to offset and combat cyber-attacks in the future; the extent to which this issue is being raised at Council of Minister meetings in Brussels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [28841/23]

105. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 110 of 28 February 2023, the status of the small-scale generation support scheme; the expected timeline for the launch of the scheme; the details of the community participation element of the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [28821/23]

106. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when he intends to present legislation to Dáil Éireann for a Just Transition Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [28829/23]

107. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline his plans to support the production of biomethane; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [28880/23]

108. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when the 2% pension increase due to An Post workers will be authorised; the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [28615/23]

109. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of the community projects under RESS 1 and RESS 2; his plans to publish any analysis carried out by

his Department into the operation of the community category in RESS 1 and RESS 2, particularly in light of the decision to discontinue the community category under RESS 3; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [28822/23]

110. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he can clarify if recent EPA projections of GHG emissions for the next two carbon budget adequately account for the projected overshoot in emission in the budget to 2025; if the subsequent budget for 25-30 reflects a reduced budget as a result of the first budget overshoot; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [28827/23]

111. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what engagement his Department is having with local fishermen around the coast about the construction of offshore wind infrastructure; if he agrees that the impact on traditional fishing grounds should be minimised; that adequate financial compensation is provided, and that agreements reached in advance of construction are adhered to; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [28746/23]

112. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the review of security of energy supply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [28749/23]

113. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what assessments, if any, the Government have made concerning the remunicipalisation of waste and the various models that are available and operating successfully in other European countries, in particular the ‘franchise’ model; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [28917/23]

114. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has engaged with the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform in order to secure additional funding to address rising inflation costs and to ensure just transition projects proceed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [28795/23]

115. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he plans to review the application of the PSO levy given the disproportionate burden it currently places on households, in particular low-income households; if alternative funding models, including direct state investment have been considered to support renewable projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [28916/23]

116. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide an update on Ireland cybersecurity infrastructure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [28872/23]

117. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline what short and long-term measures his Department is currently seeking to ease the burden of energy costs for the constituents of Sligo Leitrim South Donegal and North Roscommon. — Frankie Feighan. [28876/23]

118. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will clarify whether the Energy Security Review must include liability and insurance cover in the consideration of new energy projects; if he will comment on the contraction in the market of

insurers willing to extend cover to the construction of new LNG terminals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [28431/23]

119. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to report on the current work being undertaken by his Department on security of energy supply; to outline, in the context of the Government decision to build over 2,000 megawatts of new gas-powered electricity plants; if it has been considered that an indigenous gas supply would provide a reliable source of low emission energy for Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [28741/23]

120. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the timeframe for the enacting of legislation that will permit local authorities to install CCTV cameras in the vicinity of bottle banks and other waste collection locations. — Matt Carthy. [28550/23]

121. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update as to whether a process has been agreed by which full-time residents in mobile homes can access a much-needed electricity credit; if he will confirm how such a payment will be drawn down to further support persons in, or at risk of, energy poverty to ensure these vital credits are received by the thousands of full-time mobile home residents who to date have been unable to access the Government credit despite their being in one of the most vulnerable sections of society; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [28041/23]

122. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to comment on the recent agreement between Ireland and Germany with regard to Green Hydrogen; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [28871/23]

123. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to report on the roll-out of the National Broadband Plan; the number of premises that were passed and connected as of May 2023; and the way that he plans to accelerate the delivery of the plan in counties Sligo and Leitrim. — Frankie Feighan. [28875/23]