



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 29 Meitheamh, 2023

Thursday, 29th June, 2023

**CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS**

Déardaoin, 29 Meitheamh, 2023
Thursday, 29th June, 2023

CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will convene a meeting of large food companies and large food producers considering the information in the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission high-level analysis of the Irish Grocery Retail Sector report which outlined that profits for this sector were significantly higher than profits for supermarkets. — Louise O'Reilly. [31678/23]

2. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will outline his engagement with the owners of a company (details supplied) and the trade unions at the company; if he will detail the supports he is prepared to provide to assist in avoiding 650 potential lay-offs at the operation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [31836/23]

3. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has considered the re-establishment of the co-operative development unit within his Department to provide training support and advice to co-operatives. — Maurice Quinlivan. [31679/23]

4. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what engagement he has had with the management of a company (details supplied); if he will meet with workers and their representatives; if he will take steps to ensure that the employment rights of the workers are protected; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [31853/23]

5. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on strengthening the redress under section 7 of the Unfair Dismissals Act 1977 for employees unfairly dismissed from their employment. — Louise O'Reilly. [31680/23]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

6. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he supports sub-minimum rates of pay for young workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [31661/23]

7. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans for regulation of technology in business; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [31432/23]

8. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what measures are being taken to make Ireland a hub for EU technology regulation. — Willie O'Dea. [31434/23]

9. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of employment permits issued to non-EEA home care workers since December 2022; the number of applications received; the number of applications refused; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [31204/23]

10. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the degree to which he remains satisfied foreign direct and indigenous investment continue to play a meaningful role in the development of the manufacturing and services sectors, with particular reference to the need to ensure durability and long-term confidence at home and internationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31613/23]

11. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will consider allowing partners and spouses of holders of intra-company transfer employment permits to be eligible for an employment permit in their own right in a similar way to the current eligibility of partners and spouses of holders of critical skills employment permits; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [31329/23]

12. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when the scheme for businesses impacted by kerosene price increases will go live; and if it will be expanded to businesses impacted by liquid petroleum gas and liquefied natural gas price increases. — Louise O'Reilly. [31537/23]

13. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on European Central Bank data that corporate profiteering is contributing more to inflation than wages, and similar data from the Central Bank of Ireland's quarterly report that profits have contributed more to domestic inflation than wages; and if he believes that profit restraint will have a key role in reducing inflation. — Louise O'Reilly. [31540/23]

14. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on the work of his Department and Enterprise Ireland on the Circulaire Programme; the expected outputs of the programme for 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [31160/23]

15. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he agrees that without appropriate regulation, the increased usage of artificial intelligence technologies poses potential risks to workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [31386/23]

16. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how often his Department carries out a review of the employment permits lists; how long these review take before the lists are updated; how stakeholders and interested parties have been made aware of these reviews in order to part-take in same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31604/23]

17. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the negotiating position adopted by the European Parliament in relation to its discussions with the European

Council on the proposed Artificial Intelligence (AI) Act; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [31382/23]

18. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when the regional enterprise development fund will be open for new applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [31325/23]

19. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when he expects proposed changes to employment permit law to take effect; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O’Connor. [31651/23]

20. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will discuss the White Paper on Enterprise 2022-2030; and what steps are being taken to ensure improved funding for local enterprise offices. — Maurice Quinlivan. [31489/23]

21. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on the action being taken by the IDA and Enterprise Ireland to support new businesses and jobs to Carlow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [31391/23]

22. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what measures are being taken to improve on Ireland’s current position in innovation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [31663/23]

23. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of applications received by his Department for intra-company transfer employment permits in each respective year from 2018 to 2022 and to date in 2023; the number of successful applications in the same period, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [31381/23]

24. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what discussions he has had with his EU colleagues in relation to harmonised rules for the development, placement on the market, and use of AI systems in the EU. — Seán Haughey. [31433/23]

25. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he can provide an update as to when the WRC Code of Conduct for remote working will be published. — Louise O’Reilly. [31536/23]

26. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will introduce a new statutory consumer advocacy agency; and if there are existing plans within his Department in relation to its creation. — Gary Gannon. [24645/23]

27. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on his engagement with the retail forum regarding food prices. — Thomas Gould. [31627/23]

28. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will detail any proposals or plans to deal with the issues regarding the representative rights of retired workers; if he will support the passage to Committee stage of the Industrial Relations (Provisions in Respect of Pension Entitlements of Retired Workers) Bill 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [31601/23]

29. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will outline any work or reviews undertaken by his Department on the carbon emissions impact of strengthening the Irish

export sector as outlined in his Department's White Paper on Enterprise 2022-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [31159/23]

30. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of his Department's commitment to increase engagement with islands in the Regional Enterprise Plans, as promised in the recently published Our Living Islands action plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31541/23]

31. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on the action being taken by the IDA and Enterprise Ireland to support new businesses and jobs to the midlands; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [31429/23]

32. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the report (details supplied) which finds that while "significant support is provided to supporting people experiencing disabilities in employment, this has not yet been extended to supporting business creation and self-employment."; his plans to introduce tailored supports for people with disabilities to start and maintain their own business; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [31588/23]

33. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on the development and implementation of a scheme to assist businesses which have been impacted by significant increases in the cost of kerosene heating oil. — Joe Flaherty. [31389/23]

34. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on the Artificial Intelligence Strategy. — James Lawless. [31335/23]

35. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on progress on the implementation of the Midlands Regional Enterprise Plan; the potential future funding for the plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [31428/23]

36. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has had any discussions with SME representatives in relation to regulatory impact assessments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31431/23]

37. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on the National Digital Strategy. — James Lawless. [31334/23]

38. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how he proposes to ensure that artificial intelligence is developed and used in a manner that is in line with basic human rights and values; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [31383/23]

39. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how he proposes to ensure a modern, cohesive and well-resourced regulatory framework for digital businesses. — Willie O'Dea. [31435/23]

40. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 75 of 10 May 2023, if the IDA currently employs, or has under contract, an agent or consultant in Israel to increase investment in Ireland by Israeli companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31542/23]

41. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will outline the work being carried out by his Department and related agencies to support SMEs in the Border region wishing to export; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [31586/23]

42. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on efforts being made by his Department, the IDA and Enterprise Ireland to attract new businesses to County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31312/23]

43. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what measures are being taken to identify key sectors that will require additional State supports to successfully transition to low-carbon production; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [31664/23]

44. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when construction work will commence on the advanced manufacturing facility at the IDA park in Marlinstown, Mullingar, County Westmeath; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [31326/23]

45. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if consideration will be given to the establishment of a Departmental forum on AI in the workplace, comprising experts in the area and trade unions representing workers whose employers use automated systems to monitor workers, to better understand how firms deploy automated technology for worker surveillance. — Louise O'Reilly. [31538/23]

46. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for a report on progress being made to acquire an IDA Ireland purpose built facility in Longford town; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [31388/23]

47. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on the IDA advanced building solution to be provided on the purchased IDA land bank in Mell north Drogheda; the expected timelines on the delivery of the ABS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31634/23]

48. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a climate delivery taskforce has been established to focus on the specific areas or initiatives of climate delivery that require cross-Government collaboration in all relevant departments in the built environment sector, as outlined in the Climate Action Plan annex of actions; if he will report on their progress to date and the participation of the Department of The Environment, Climate and Communications in the taskforce; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [31491/23]

49. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on progress in the implementation of the South-East Regional Enterprise Plan; the potential future funding for the plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [31390/23]

50. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps he has taken to address food price inflation. — Holly Cairns. [30760/23]

51. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 80 of 11 May 2023, the number of employment permits issued in respect of non-EEA home care workers since the start of January 2023; the number of applications refused;

the number of applications pending; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31545/23]

52. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 91 of 11 May 2023, the status of his Department's engagement with the Department of Foreign Affairs with a view to developing a new action plan on business and human rights; the status of plans to reconvene the Business and Human Rights Stakeholder Forum; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31544/23]

53. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he intends to support Irish-based companies to continue to supply indigenous gas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31644/23]

54. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will bring forward or support new legislation in view of events at a company (details supplied) recently that will protect workers; his views on whether current legislation is sufficient to prevent abuses of workers in cases of examinership and so on; if his Department is investigating the actions of management at the company; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [31602/23]

55. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on the Working Group on Trustworthy AI Principles and Guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [31441/23]

56. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to detail what efforts are being made by his Department to enhance trade links with Asia; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [31674/23]

57. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if, in light of proposed redundancies at a company (details supplied), he will review current legislation around redundancies and notice periods in order to enhance current protection for workers; if he or his Department will meet with representatives of the company's workers to hear their concerns at the limitations of the current legislation and the process undertaken by their employer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [25165/23]

58. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will consider introducing an export credit guarantee scheme to support companies looking to increase their international trading opportunities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [31440/23]

59. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps he has taken to ensure that employers have access to qualified employees to meet the requirements of the labour market; when the next review of the critical skills occupation list will take place; what measures he is taking to stream-line the work permit application process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [31203/23]

60. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he and his Department continue to monitor any issues likely to be a cause of inflation throughout the business and commercial sectors; if research continues to be carried out to identify the possible causes of price increases leading to operation costs for businesses throughout the manufacturing and services sectors; if he remains satisfied that opportunistic price increases are not affecting

consumer confidence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31612/23]

61. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 107 of 11 May 2023, for an update on the implementation of the West Regional Enterprise Plan to 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31543/23]

62. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how he and the Government will take action to address the most recent European Commission report indicating that Ireland is now the most expensive country in Europe for household expenditure on goods and services last year, at 46% above the EU average; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31633/23]

63. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to provide an update on the Western Enterprise Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31643/23]

64. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how many applications for work permits for transmission line workers have been refused by his Department in 2022 and to date in 2023; if he is aware of the implications for enterprise and wider infrastructural development of these refusals; if he will intervene to address the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31625/23]

65. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how he can reconcile the finding of the CCPC that there is no excessive pricing in the grocery sector with the fact that Irish prices are 46% higher than the EU average; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [31660/23]

66. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has sought to develop a solution, in partnership with the management of a company (details supplied) for the continuation of the mines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [30825/23]

67. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the funding available through Enterprise Ireland for people with disabilities seeking to establish their own business. — Thomas Gould. [31626/23]

68. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the critical skills list review will be carried out sooner than scheduled by his Department in view of the enormous resourcing pressures presently paralysing enterprises; if he is aware in particular of the shortage of transmission line workers and the refusal of work permits for such workers despite their unavailability in the Irish market; the reason his Department is waiting until autumn to initiate work to address this pressing problem; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31624/23]

69. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has considered the re-establishment of the co-operative development unit within his Department to provide training support and advice to co-operatives. — Maurice Quinlivan. [31488/23]

70. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will consider developing four regional hubs to support seedbed and fledgling tourism businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31311/23]

71. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is developing policy tools with the aim of creating regional centres of excellence built around regional strengths. — Richard Bruton. [31669/23]

72. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what action he is taking to reduce the cost of doing business; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31430/23]

73. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on the development of regulation, guidelines and standards for the ethical use of artificial intelligence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [31385/23]

74. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on his recent convening of the Enterprise Digital Advisory Forum meeting at CeADAR, Ireland's designated AI hub; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [31387/23]

75. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the recent report (details supplied) from the European Disability Network that reveals the persistent gap in access to quality employment for persons with disabilities and states that four countries including Ireland lead this "hall of shame" with less than a third (32.6%) of persons with disabilities employed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [31589/23]

76. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a climate delivery taskforce has been established to focus on the specific areas or initiatives of climate delivery that require cross-Government collaboration in all relevant departments in the industry sector, as outlined in the Climate Action Plan annex of actions; if he will report on their progress to date and the participation of the Department of The Environment, Climate and Communications in the taskforce; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [31490/23]

77. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on his recent participation at high-level roundtable on artificial intelligence in Sweden; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [31384/23]

78. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is aware of recent actions by a company (details supplied) which are aimed at unilaterally changing the work contract of senior staff and separately the changing of hours and remuneration of delivery staff; if he will meet with workers' representatives on foot of these moves to examine their concerns on the limitations of current legislation that governs protection of workers' contracts and earnings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [25166/23]

79. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he intends to meet food production companies in the near future to discuss the high cost of retail/end product food items in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [31587/23]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

80. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will carry out a full review of the reasonable accommodations at certificate examinations scheme. — Sorca Clarke. [31619/23]

81. To ask the Minister for Education if she is satisfied that plans are in place to adequately deal with the volume of applications for school bus tickets for the next school year 2023-2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [31835/23]

82. To ask the Minister for Education the payment dates of the minor works grants, ancillary grants and ICT grants. — Sorca Clarke. [31620/23]

83. To ask the Minister for Education the steps her Department is taking to reduce class sizes in primary schools across the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [31846/23]

84. To ask the Minister for Education if she will address the concern raised in relation to the low capitation grants allocated to national schools (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Collins. [31909/23]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

85. To ask the Minister for Education when the last tender for educational books in Braille happened; and what action she intends to take to end the inordinate delays experienced by students requiring these books. — Sorca Clarke. [31617/23]

86. To ask the Minister for Education the number of primary school teachers in counties Limerick, Clare and Tipperary, respectively in 2019-2020; how these figures compare with the number of primary school teachers in the same counties for 2023-2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [31437/23]

87. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the school divestment programme. — Robert Troy. [31594/23]

88. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais cad é beartas na Roinne maidir le bunú Gaelscoileanna agus Gaelcholáistí; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [30560/23]

89. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the School Building Programme in County Cork; if she is satisfied with its progress to-date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [31658/23]

90. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the excess waste and spend of buying physical copies of textbooks only to load the virtual version they contain onto an electronic device (details supplied); and if she will outline what her Department is doing to reduce this waste and spend. — Gary Gannon. [31572/23]

91. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated number of children and families that will benefit from the free schoolbooks scheme in primary schools in counties Laois, Offaly, Longford and Westmeath, respectively for 2023-2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [31508/23]

92. To ask the Minister for Education in response to the CSO population publication which shows significant increases in population in County Louth and, in particular, the east Meath

settlement area, the total number of pupils currently accessing SEN units in primary and post-primary schools in the Louth and the east Meath catchment area; her plans to increase capacity in these areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31638/23]

93. To ask the Minister for Education the number of resignations (including notices of resignation) of primary and secondary school teachers since the beginning of the 2022-2023 academic year. — Gary Gannon. [31568/23]

94. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she expects to be in a position to ensure an adequate supply of primary and second-level school places throughout north Kildare and throughout the country to meet the growing needs of a rapidly increasing population in terms of school places, extra and new accommodation and the supply of teachers to meet these needs in line with the demand arising from negotiation with the various school authorities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31614/23]

95. To ask the Minister for Education if she is satisfied with the model being piloted for the transfer of patronage in schools; and if modifications in that approach are planned. — Richard Bruton. [31671/23]

96. To ask the Minister for Education how special schools can have generic behaviour codes which every child has to follow when these children with the highest supports do not understand what is been asked of them, leading to suspension of the children and families in distress (details supplied); her stance on behaviour codes for special schools; if she will examine with her Department and NCSE the matter of individualising behaviour codes for families; and if a Middleton programme will be introduced in all special schools and autism classes (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [31156/23]

97. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider increasing the school capitation grants in her submission for Budget 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31647/23]

98. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 89 of 16 May 2023, if she will provide an update on the number of applications made for the school transport scheme within County Cork; if there is an increase in applications in the Cork east constituency; if her Department has plans for new school transport routes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [31659/23]

99. To ask the Minister for Education to outline the work completed to date under the pilot programme of counselling and wellbeing/mental health supports in schools; her Department's plans for the programme going forward; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31607/23]

100. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider developing an enhanced range of interventions in acutely disadvantaged clusters of urban schools such as has been proposed by principals in a number of such schools. — Richard Bruton. [31670/23]

101. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department has considered the impact on Border third-level institutions of a later-than-usual Leaving Certificate results day, as Border third-level institutions need to attract Northern-based students who will receive UCAS offers based on their A Level results on August 17; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [31590/23]

102. To ask the Minister for Education whether she has engaged with the State Examinations Commission regarding Leaving Certificate maths papers. — Thomas Gould. [31632/23]

103. To ask the Minister for Education when a three-classroom extension project at a school (details supplied) will progress; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [30829/23]

104. To ask the Minister for Education when the long-awaited review of the school transport scheme is due to be completed and the recommendations published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31637/23]

105. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 85 of 16 May 2023, her plans to publish her Department's review of the summer programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31566/23]

106. To ask the Minister for Education when she intends to introduce free schoolbooks in secondary schools. — Joan Collins. [31158/23]

107. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding the roll-out of solar panels for all schools; if a timeline for the commencement of this project is available; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [30782/23]

108. To ask the Minister for Education the number of primary school teachers in counties Carlow Cork and Kerry in 2019-2020, respectively; and how these figures compare with the number of primary school teachers in the same counties for 2023-2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [31439/23]

109. To ask the Minister for Education if she will abolish fares for school transport; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [31656/23]

110. To ask the Minister for Education if she will develop a register for schools for children with ASD and additional needs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31642/23]

111. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the proposal to create a DEIS plus band for schools with high levels of support needs to assist with disadvantage; and if she will consider creating a DEIS plus model to provide additional supports to pupils who need it. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [31596/23]

112. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated number of children and families that will benefit from the free schoolbooks scheme in primary schools in counties Cork and Kerry for 2023-2024, respectively; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [31438/23]

113. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to resolve teacher shortages in the coming school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [31654/23]

114. To ask the Minister for Education how much funding has been provided to Cork schools by her Department under the emergency works scheme and the additional accommodation scheme for the period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31606/23]

115. To ask the Minister for Education if she will ensure that all students who need it will have access to school transport in September; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [31655/23]

116. To ask the Minister for Education for a list of primary and post-primary schools that have been issued with funds by her Department to buy, or that have been issued with air purifiers and Hepa filters for their classrooms; and a list of schools that have not been issued with same. — Joan Collins. [31157/23]

117. To ask the Minister for Education if she will outline the capital funding plans for the expansion of a school (details supplied) to accommodate growing numbers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [31162/23]

118. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide additional supports for parents who must purchase devices such as a tablets and so on, for the new school year; if her Department has plans to purchase centrally such devices on behalf of schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [31599/23]

119. To ask the Minister for Education the number of appeals made under section 29 of the Education Act 1998 to the Secretary General of her Department in 2021 and 2022, respectively and to date in 2023; the number of these appeals in each category; the number of cases each year to which an appeals committee was appointed; the further number of these appeals where a hearing was conducted; the final number of these appeals that were upheld; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [31510/23]

120. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 137 of 25 January 2023, if the ongoing school transport review will facilitate children in September 2023 who cannot gain access to their nearest school due to a shortage of school places and would then not qualify for school transport as they would not be attending their nearest school or second nearest school; if she will give specific consideration to an area in County Cork (details supplied) which experiences this issue every year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [30828/23]

121. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she is taking to ensure that teachers in Dublin can afford accommodation near their jobs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [31653/23]

122. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she will take to meet the identified need for a secondary school in Dublin 8; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [31592/23]

123. To ask the Minister for Education the plans that are in place to ensure the maximum number of second-level students who apply for places under the school transport scheme for the 2023-2024 academic year will get them; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [31591/23]

124. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated number of children and families that will benefit from the free schoolbooks scheme in primary schools in counties Limerick, Clare and Tipperary, respectively for 2023-2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [31436/23]

125. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais cad é líon na n-aonad Gaeilge in iar-bhunscoileanna an Stáit; an bhfuil aon scrúdú déanta ar éifeacht na n-aonad ó thaobh oideachais trí Ghaeilge de le hais Gaelcholáistí; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [30559/23]

126. To ask the Minister for Education the dates when a review of the operation of sections 28 and 29 of the Education Act 1998 have been conducted as mandated under the Act; the person or persons who carried out any such review in each case; the outcome of these reviews; her plans, if any, to have further reviews carried out; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [31506/23]

127. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on the school reconfiguration pilot programme. — Gary Gannon. [31570/23]

128. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais cén uair a bheidh múinteoirí in ann clárú i nGaeilge leis an gComhairle Mhúinteoireachta ar líne sa bhealach céanna ar féidir é a dhéanamh i mBéarla, agus cén fáth nach raibh sé in ann é seo a dhéanamh ó thús agus cad é an mhoill le rogha Ghaeilge a bheith ar fáil dóibh súid atá ag clárú nó ag athchlárú ós rud é go bhfuil sé riachtanach orthu chun dul ag múineadh sa Stáit. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [26650/23]

129. To ask the Minister for Education if she will ensure that a child (details supplied) has a school place in an autism class this September. — Joan Collins. [31155/23]

130. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on a school building project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [31672/23]

131. To ask the Minister for Education if she will ban voluntary contributions in schools in view of the escalating costs on parents; and if she will implement the financial supports necessary in order to be able to fund those services currently funded by voluntary contributions. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [31595/23]

132. To ask the Minister for Education the number of registered teachers at primary and secondary school level at the beginning of the 2022-2023 academic year. — Gary Gannon. [31569/23]

133. To ask the Minister for Education the costs associated with the delivery of modular school accommodation versus accommodation procured pre-Covid; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31641/23]

134. To ask the Minister for Education the reason ICT grants were not given this year; if she is aware that many schools had built the ICT grant into their funding model to avail of lease agreements and that the withdrawal of the ICT grant leaves a gap in funding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [31597/23]

135. To ask the Minister for Education the funding that was allocated to primary and post-primary schools under the Digital Strategy for Schools in the 2021-2022 school year and in the 2022-2023 school year; her plans to allocate the remainder of the €200 million announced by her under this strategy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [31645/23]

136. To ask the Minister for Education the funding options available to schools that require to purchase ICT equipment for September 2023. — Holly Cairns. [30762/23]

137. To ask the Minister for Education the up-to-date position on delivering new school buildings for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [31666/23]

138. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she expects to be in a position to continue to meet the ever increasing demand arising from a rapidly increasing population in Kildare north and throughout the country, with particular reference to school transport for primary and second-level, and appropriate special needs classes to meet this rising demand to include extra and appropriately qualified teachers and SNAs as required and arising from her dialogue with the various school authorities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31615/23]

139. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on the Citizens' Assembly on the Future of Education, which was outlined in the Programme for Government. — Gary Gannon. [31571/23]

140. To ask the Minister for Education the intervention she and her Department have made in relation to the ongoing issue of school transportation from Ballyvourney, Macroom and surrounding areas to a school (details supplied). — Sorca Clarke. [31618/23]

141. To ask the Minister for Education the grants planned to be paid to primary schools for the 2023-2024 school year; and the dates on which they will be issued. — Holly Cairns. [30761/23]

142. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she will take to ensure increased year-on-year funding for the school pathfinder retrofitting project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [30783/23]

143. To ask the Minister for Education if she considers that continued Catholic Church dominance in the school system is appropriate given the findings on religious affiliation and lack of religious affiliation reported in the last Census; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [31657/23]

144. To ask the Minister for Education the status of an application for an extension by a school (details supplied) to facilitate a special education class. — Robert Troy. [31593/23]

145. To ask the Minister for Education the reason repeated applications since 1998 by a school (details supplied) for the provision of a gym and social canteen space have been refused; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [31646/23]

146. To ask the Minister for Education the number of primary school teachers in counties Laois, Offaly, Longford and Westmeath, respectively in 2019-2020; how these figures compare with the number of primary school teachers in the same counties for 2023-2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [31509/23]

147. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the schedule for the review of the Reasonable Accommodation Policy for Exams; who will carry out the review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [31161/23]

148. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the implementation of the expanded summer programme for children with complex educational needs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [31673/23]

149. To ask the Minister for Education if she has considered the roll-out of a nationwide partnership with tech companies to enable students at primary education level to develop their technological skills including coding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [31665/23]

150. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais maidir le Ceist Pharlaiminte Uimh. 129 an 23 Márta 2023, soiléiriú a thabhairt ar an dul chun cinn atá déanta maidir leis an bplean chun beartas cuimsitheach don Ghaeilge sa chóras oideachais, idir leibhéal an oideachais réamhscoile agus leibhéal an oideachais do mhúinteoirí, a fhorbairt agus a fhoilsiú; cathain a fhoilseofar an beartas nua; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Catherine Connolly. [31567/23]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*151. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31689/23]

*152. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will ensure that the renewal of a passport for a child (details supplied) will be processed urgently by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [31720/23]

*153. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for a breakdown, in tabular form, of the training and development and incidental expenses incurred by his Department in the year ending 31 December 2019, 31 December 2020, 31 December 2021 and 31 December 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31773/23]

*154. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when a passport will issue to persons (details supplied) in County Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [31791/23]

*155. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to provide an update on the status of a passport application (details supplied) as the applicant's travel date is imminent and all requested supporting documentation has been provided to the Passport Office; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [31794/23]

*156. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31810/23]

*157. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied). — Róisín Shortall. [31845/23]

*158. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31862/23]

*159. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32008/23]

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

*160. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31687/23]

*161. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he can detail the funding streams under the remit of his Department that can be used or are available to local authorities for the retrofitting of social housing stock; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [31734/23]

*162. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to detail the funding from his Department for the retrofitting of local authority housing units in each of the years since 2016; and the number of units affected, in tabular form. — Bríd Smith. [31735/23]

*163. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the position regarding the agreement reached by the WRC, CWU, An Post and Government in March to increase by 5%, backdated to 1 January 2022, by a further 2% from 1 January 2023, and by 1% from 1 July 2023, of the pensions for An Post pensioners; the timeline for its implementation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [31772/23]

*164. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31808/23]

*165. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31860/23]

*166. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the average wait time from completion of application to commencement of works for the warmer homes grant; the staff complement available to process the applications and complete BER rating on eligible properties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [31915/23]

*167. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32006/23]

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

*168. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31684/23]

*169. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence further to Parliamentary Question No. 176 of 20 June 2023, the breakdown, in tabular form, of the miscellaneous expenses incurred by his Department in the year ending 31 December 2019, 31 December 2020, 31 December 2021 and 31 December 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31774/23]

*170. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31805/23]

*171. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31857/23]

*172. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32003/23]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*173. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31698/23]

*174. To ask the Minister for Transport the current position with regard to improvements to the Cork-Waterford route as planned under the Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan; the timeline for the implementation of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [31708/23]

*175. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional supports are available for a person (details supplied) for their driver theory test as they require reading assistance; if so, how they can apply for these; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [31716/23]

*176. To ask the Minister for Transport if any discussions have taken place within his Department in respect of the future provision of an additional road bridge to the east of the rail viaduct in Drogheda to address the major congestion experienced in Drogheda on both the north and south of the River Boyne; if so, if he will provide the details of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31754/23]

*177. To ask the Minister for Transport his Department's plans to extend the age range covered by the young adult leap card scheme; if any review has taken place or is scheduled to take place

to review the age range covered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31766/23]

*178. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31819/23]

*179. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of journeys lost/ failed to operate on the 150 Dublin Bus service as a result of driver shortages, failure to show or other reasons over the past year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [31830/23]

*180. To ask the Minister for Transport the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31871/23]

*181. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of properties whose land is part of the proposed N11/M11 improvement scheme; whether they are in a position to apply for planning permission whilst the current scheme is active; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31973/23]

*182. To ask the Minister for Transport for a progress update on the N11/M11 scheme; the funding that has been provided to date for the various phases of the scheme; the timeline for each of these phases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31975/23]

*183. To ask the Minister for Transport the rationale for the suspension of funding for the N11/M11 Improvement scheme; whether he plans on reinstating funding in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31976/23]

*184. To ask the Minister for Transport the funding that has been allocated to date for the N11/M11 improvement scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31977/23]

*185. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the interim bus scheme for the N11/M11; the timeframes for delivery of this scheme; the funding required for the full completion of this scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31978/23]

*186. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason funding has yet to be provided for sub-scheme B of the N11/M11 improvement scheme; when SS-A and SS-C were allocated funding in 2023; the impact this delay in funding will have on the provision of the overall scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31979/23]

*187. To ask the Minister for Transport the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32017/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*188. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31688/23]

*189. To ask the Minister for Finance if not-for-profit, community organisations that are not registered charities are liable for tax, or if there are any exemptions for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [31726/23]

*190. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason the NTMA has only increased interest rates on three out of its seven national saving schemes under its control; and his views on whether it is important that the NTMA reflect the recent rise in interest rates by commercial banks and other institutions and review its own products and the interest rate it currently applies. — Frankie Feighan. [31743/23]

*191. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31809/23]

*192. To ask the Minister for Finance his views regarding the sale of mortgages by a bank (details supplied) to a so-called vulture fund; if he can intervene to prevent such sales by credit institutions in Ireland; if he will introduce measures to allow borrowers switch their loans to State-backed initiatives such as a local authority or the rebuilding Ireland home loan scheme; if he will make it easier for borrowers to switch back to the pillar banks; if he will encourage these pillar banks to buy performing mortgages that have been sold to lenders by vulture funds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [31825/23]

*193. To ask the Minister for Finance the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31861/23]

*194. To ask the Minister for Finance if there are rules in relation to online businesses which hold an Irish web domain address and market themselves as Irish, but yet are not registered for VAT, are not registered with the CRO and do not have a working phone number. — Mairéad Farrell. [31906/23]

*195. To ask the Minister for Finance the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32007/23]

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.

*196. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year to date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31694/23]

*197. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when the OPW will carry out improvement works to the processing area of Crumlin Garda station. — Patrick Costello. [31770/23]

*198. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will confirm when the final public consultation on the Blackpool flood relief scheme will take place; what format it will take; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31793/23]

*199. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide a full breakdown of the NDP projects and costs included in ‘budgetary decisions’ for 2023 in the summer economic statement 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31795/23]

*200. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the steps he has taken to support the OPW in reducing the number of leased buildings and office spaces following the IGEES review of the OPW’s estate in 2022, which found that the cost of building office accommodation is between 29% and 38% lower than the cost of leasing accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31798/23]

*201. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31815/23]

*202. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the action he has taken to enhance and expand public investment since 27 June 2020. — Jim O’Callaghan. [31850/23]

*203. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31867/23]

*204. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will furnish all Deputies with a full list of names and contact details for all special advisers to Ministers and Ministers of State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31900/23]

*205. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32013/23]

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

*206. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the level of SME credit advanced in previous credit guaranteed schemes in the past 12-months, by county and sector;

what that quantum of funding is, in relation to the previous year's allocation; the variance estimated in relation to the proposed new credit guaranteed SME scheme to be announced, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [31681/23]

*207. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31686/23]

*208. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the expected level of exports by Enterprise Ireland-backed companies this year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [22027/23]

*209. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which his Department continues to work with all relevant Departments and agencies to assist in the promotion of Ireland as an attractive location for business, investment and trade. — Bernard J. Durkan. [24621/23]

*210. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to his Department's Strategy Statement 2021-2023, if he continues to make efforts to work with all relevant Departments and agencies to assist in the promotion of Ireland as an attractive location for business, investment and trade. — Bernard J. Durkan. [24994/23]

*211. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is aware of the failures in the statutory consultation process surrounding redundancies at a company (details supplied); the proposed policy measures planned by his Department to ensure people are not treated this way in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [24359/23]

*212. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will amend the current Workplace Relations Act 2015 that changes the way cases under the Equal Status Acts 2000-2018 are heard and dealt with. — Paul Murphy. [31765/23]

*213. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the cost of enamel "Pride" badges which were produced in 2023 bearing the logo of his Department (details supplied); the total number of such badges produced; the cost of similar badges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31801/23]

*214. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31807/23]

*215. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the actions taken to boost jobs and businesses since 27 June 2020. — Jim O'Callaghan. [31851/23]

*216. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31859/23]

*217. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if there are rules in relation to online businesses which hold an Irish web domain address and market themselves as Irish, but

yet are not registered for VAT, are not registered with the CRO and do not have a working phone number. — Mairéad Farrell. [31907/23]

*218. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the most commonly placed obstacles for manufacturing and services sector, with particular reference to the need to compete with imports and the equal need for our exports to compete on foreign markets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31950/23]

*219. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which Irish-manufactured products continue to compete on world markets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31951/23]

*220. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which work permit-related visas continue to be issued in line with the requirements of those seeking such visas; if a quick turnaround can be managed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31952/23]

*221. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which any changes in foreign direct investment have been affected by international issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31953/23]

*222. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the incentives currently available for small start-up enterprises; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31954/23]

*223. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which Ireland's trade with Europe and the UK has been affected by Brexit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31955/23]

*224. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the countries from whence he sees the greatest competition for Ireland over the next five years in respect of the manufacturing and services sectors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31956/23]

*225. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which innovation and technology is likely to feature in the creation of indigenous jobs throughout the country in the next five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31957/23]

*226. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the degree to which investment in indigenous job creation and job creation through foreign direct investment is likely to avail of innovation, technology and EU support over the next three years; the number of jobs likely to benefit from such supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31958/23]

*227. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the total number of new jobs created in the manufacturing sector in the past twelve months; his targets in this regard over the next year; the extent to which these jobs are likely to be spread throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31959/23]

*228. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the total number of new jobs created in the services sector in the past twelve months; his targets in this regard over the next year; the extent to which these jobs are likely to be spread throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31960/23]

*229. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he and his Department can encourage the return of Irish immigrants currently based abroad, with a view to meeting workplace requirements for extra staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31961/23]

*230. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which he and his Department continue to support encourage and foster the creation of jobs through the indigenous sector, both in terms of traditional industry and innovative proposals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31962/23]

*231. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the extent to which his plans to encourage an even dispersal of investment throughout rural Ireland are on target, given the necessity to achieve an evenly based balanced economy with equal opportunities throughout; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31963/23]

*232. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32005/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*233. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an dtabharfaidh sí cuntas ar an mbeartas teanga maidir le hiompar scoile mar éascaíocht do dhaltáí meánscoile a bhfuil cónaí orthu i limistéir Ghaeltachta agus atá ag iarraidh freastal ar an nGaelcholáiste is cóngaraí dóibh; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Joe McHugh. [31879/23]

*234. To ask the Minister for Education to outline the language policy with respect to transportation in order to facilitate secondary students living in Gaeltacht areas who wish to attend their closest gael coláiste; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [31880/23]

*235. To ask the Minister for Education her plans for reducing class sizes in Ireland for 2024, given that class sizes in Ireland are significantly larger than the majority of other European countries.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Collins. [31911/23]

*236. To ask the Minister for Education the steps her Department is taking to increase the number of Gaelscoileanna in the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [31847/23]

*237. To ask the Minister for Education the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31685/23]

*238. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on a new school (details supplied) in Dublin 15; the timeframe for completion; and where the school will be situated. — Paul Donnelly. [31719/23]

*239. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will purchase a plot of land (details supplied) in Sallins, County Kildare, in order to future-proof plans to expand a school property. — Catherine Murphy. [31750/23]

*240. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding a new outdoor classroom for a school (details supplied); if this can be considered under funding allocations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [31777/23]

*241. To ask the Minister for Education her Department's plans to address the difficult Leaving Certificate Maths higher level paper; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [31778/23]

*242. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31806/23]

*243. To ask the Minister for Education the reason schools that planned and budgeted around the ICT grant to schools as listed for payment in the FSSU schedule of grants in the 2022/2023 school year have been told that the next tranche of funding for ICT will not arrive until the 2023/2024 school year; if she aware that this effectively leaves schools without any ICT funding for the 2022/2023 school year, despite having been led to believe otherwise and having budgeted for its arrival; if there are plans to rectify this situation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [31820/23]

*244. To ask the Minister for Education the main policy achievements of her Department since 27 June 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31858/23]

*245. To ask the Minister for Education if she will take steps to ensure that her Department expedites a decision in respect of works to a school (details supplied) in Dublin 11; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [31878/23]

*246. To ask the Minister for Education when final approval and funding will be approved for modular accommodation for a primary school (details supplied); the reason for the delay; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [31884/23]

*247. To ask the Minister for Education how the free schoolbook scheme is supposed to be applied by schools; if she is aware that some schools using the scheme are still charging parents for other school supplies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [31889/23]

*248. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an dtabharfaidh sí cuntas ar an mbeartas teanga maidir le hiompar scoile mar éascaíocht do dhaltáí meánscoile a bhfuil cónaí orthu i limistéir Ghaeltachta agus atá ag iarraidh freastal ar an nGaelcholáiste is cóngaraí dóibh; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Joe McHugh. [31890/23]

*249. To ask the Minister for Education to outline the language policy with respect to transportation in order to facilitate secondary students living in Gaeltacht areas who wish to attend their closest Gaelcholáiste; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [31903/23]

*250. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which emergency measures are being taken to ensure the availability of an adequate number of school places at primary and second level, with particular reference to the need to meet any such challenges in September 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31917/23]

*251. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which emergency measures are being taken to ensure the availability of the adequate number of special needs school places at primary and second level, with particular reference to the need to meet any such challenges in September 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31918/23]

*252. To ask the Minister for Education if she will indicate, arising from challenges experienced in the current year throughout north Kildare and nationally in the school transport sector, whether she is in a position to ensure that no school buses pass children who could be accommodated if space on a bus is available, or if a larger bus might suffice; if children who have had their ticket withdrawn, or have been issued with inoperable tickets, might have their cases reviewed in order to ensure safety and compassion for those cases; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31919/23]

*253. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which agreement has been reached in relation to the provision of school transport, including a concessionary to facilitate students attending schools (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31920/23]

*254. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she and her Department are in dialogue with the school authorities in Celbridge, County Kildare, with a view to meeting the needs of existing or proposed new schools, as in the case of the three-school project on the Hazelhatch road incorporating replacement for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31921/23]

*255. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she and her Department are engaged in discussions to improve, extend or replace existing accommodation in respect of primary and second level schools in Naas, County Kildare; the full extent of such discussions at present; if and when full and final indication as to future progress might be advised to all the schools in question; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31922/23]

*256. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she expects to be in a position to meet special needs education requirements throughout north Kildare, given the growing population; the extra needs arising therefrom in terms of accommodation and special classes or special schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31923/23]

*257. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she expects to be in a position to provide the extra school places required at all primary and second level schools in Clane, County Kildare, in time for the new enrolment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31924/23]

*258. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she expects they have found the means to resolve the school transport problems in north Kildare affecting Maynooth, Straffan and Clane in particular; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31925/23]

*259. To ask the Minister for Education notwithstanding recent PQ replies, the progress in recent weeks in helping to secure a school place suitable for the needs of the son of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31926/23]

*260. To ask the Minister for Education the degree to which the pupil-teacher ratio is being improved in all schools in County Kildare and throughout the country, at primary and second level; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31927/23]

*261. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which progress has been made in respect of the provision of a new school building for a school (details supplied); the recent progress in this case, if any; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31928/23]

*262. To ask the Minister for Education the up-to-date position in regard to the provision of a new school at Enfield, County Kildare; the progress on the project to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31929/23]

*263. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which efforts continue to be made to provide adequate school places at all levels to prevent stress arising from a lack of school places or a lack of school transport, and given the necessity of both parents to be in full-time employment; the extent of the efforts that continue to be made in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31930/23]

*264. To ask the Minister for Education the ongoing efforts by her Department, if any, to provide integrated before- and after-school services given the necessity for both parents to remain in employment due to high mortgages; if it is anticipated that this issue is being provided for in a meaningful way via the school building programme to ensure appropriate accommodation for same on site within schools; the extent to which there is any ongoing collaboration with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31931/23]

*265. To ask the Minister for Education the current position in regard to the provision of a new school at a location (details supplied); the progress on the project to date; when it is expected that work will be completed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31933/23]

*266. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which primary school places remain adequate to meet the needs in Prosperous, County Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31934/23]

*267. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the progress in the provision of extra school facilities at a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31935/23]

*268. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which primary and second level school places as well as adequate special needs classes continue to be made available in such numbers

as to meet the demand; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31936/23]

*269. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date in relation to the three-school project at Hazelhatch, Celbridge, County Kildare, incorporating a replacement school (details supplied) which is now an urgent requirement and two other schools on a single site; if all the necessary road and realignment works have been completed by the local authority to facilitate this progress; when construction work will start in respect of each of the schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31937/23]

*270. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which primary school places at Broadford, County Kildare, continue to be assessed, with a view to ensuring that accommodation is sufficient to meet population increases; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31938/23]

*271. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which primary school places at Johnstownbridge, County Kildare, continue to be assessed, with a view to ensuring that accommodation is sufficient to meet population increases; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31939/23]

*272. To ask the Minister for Education the adequacy of school places to meet the needs of school management, parents and children in Cadamstown, County Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31940/23]

*273. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which additional school places/provision for children with special needs/facilities arising from population increases can be updated in the case of a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31941/23]

*274. To ask the Minister for Education the progress towards the provision of a new primary school at Newtown, County Kildare; the current state of the project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31942/23]

*275. To ask the Minister for Education the progress in relation to the advancement of plans for all schools at pre-primary, primary and post-primary level in Maynooth, County Kildare, in time for the new school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31943/23]

*276. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which school place requirements and ancillary facilities in Kill, County Kildare, may require an update in services given the need to accommodate refugees there; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31944/23]

*277. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which current and future school places/accommodation continues to be met at a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31945/23]

*278. To ask the Minister for Education the number of school building projects in County Kildare at planning stage that are currently incorporating the provision of additional buildings for after-school services within their plans, given the need for a seamless service in this area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31946/23]

*279. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which current and future school places/accommodation continues to be met at Timahoe, County Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31947/23]

*280. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which current and future school places/accommodation continues to be met at Rathcoffey, County Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31948/23]

*281. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which adequate primary school places remain available to children attending primary school in Sallins, County Kildare, in line with the expanding population of the area and the wishes of school management; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31949/23]

*282. To ask the Minister for Education if and when the child of a person (details supplied) might obtain a school place for September next; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31970/23]

*283. To ask the Minister for Education if and when the child of a person (details supplied) might obtain a school place for September next; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31971/23]

*284. To ask the Minister for Education what provision will be made for gambling awareness in the new Junior Cycle SPHE curriculum, at TY level and at senior cycle as per recent statements in Dáil Éireann, given that problem gambling is not covered in schools at present; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31984/23]

*285. To ask the Minister for Education if and when a second-level school place might be offered in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31987/23]

*286. To ask the Minister for Education the total advertising budget allocated by her Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if she has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32004/23]

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

*287. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31697/23]

*288. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if there is provision in the sports capital equipment programme for wheelchair lifts to promote inclusivity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31775/23]

*289. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when she expects the sports capital programme to open for applications; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31776/23]

*290. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if her Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31818/23]

*291. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the main policy achievements of her Department since 27 June 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31870/23]

*292. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total advertising budget allocated by her Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if she has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32016/23]

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

*293. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will resolve a matter with regard to the OPW and its responsibility towards a canal in County Kerry (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [31779/23]

*294. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31692/23]

*295. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for a breakdown, of the current wait times for applications under sections 35 and 42 of the Wildlife Act, 1976, in tabular form. — Pa Daly. [31702/23]

*296. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if all postal and email applications in 2023 under sections 35 and 42 of the Wildlife Act 1976 have received an acknowledgement response. — Pa Daly. [31703/23]

*297. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the regeneration plans for Noonan's road in Cork city. — Thomas Gould. [31714/23]

*298. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on meters installed in homes at Noonan's road, Cork city, to monitor energy usage. — Thomas Gould. [31715/23]

*299. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware that some applicants for the croí cónaithe fund schemes are unable to be approved for the grant because they cannot provide proof that the property in question has been vacant for two years, even though it has; if he is aware that there are variances between different local authorities over what proof is acceptable; if he will outline a comprehensive list of all the possible ways that proof of vacancy can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [31725/23]

*300. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to detail the funding granted to local authorities from his Department for the retrofitting of local authority housing in

each of the years since 2016; and the number of units affected, in tabular form. — Bríd Smith. [31736/23]

*301. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount of funding given by his Department to Dublin City Council for stage 1 capital appraisal approval for the regeneration of Oliver Bond House; the total amount of funding made available to DCC for this project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [31737/23]

*302. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if funding from his Department for the regeneration of Oliver Bond House can be used to take intermediate measures to deal with damp and mould issues, including the replacement of single glazing in units there; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [31738/23]

*303. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31813/23]

*304. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will introduce regulations to take account of homes which are sold as so-called passive homes; if any new regulations can deal with the requirement for habitable temperatures all-year-round; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [31826/23]

*305. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when works will be carried out at a location (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [31837/23]

*306. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31865/23]

*307. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the proposals he has received from Clare County Council for emergency accommodation in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31893/23]

*308. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how he plans to address the severe staffing shortages in the National Building Control and Market Surveillance Office; the additional resourcing he will provide to the office; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31894/23]

*309. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the online application for the enhanced defective concrete blocks scheme in Clare will open; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31895/23]

*310. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many deaths were recorded in 2022 of those who were homeless, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31896/23]

*311. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to the very long waiting lists for home adaption grants across many local authorities; his views on the adequacy of these funding allocations to meet the needs of older people;

his plans, if any, to make additional funding available for this scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [31981/23]

*312. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32011/23]

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

*313. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to provide legal recognition for non-binary people; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31747/23]

*314. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps her Department is taking to increase employment participation among people who are homeless; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [31913/23]

*315. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31696/23]

*316. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [31707/23]

*317. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the class of PRSI paid by pre-1995 civil servants at clerical officer and executive officer level; if she will make appropriate changes to allow these taxpayers claim the fuel allowance and the living alone allowance, and to make them eligible for other schemes which require a qualifying social welfare payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [31710/23]

*318. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the grounds upon which a person (details supplied) is receiving a reduced rate of the State pension; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31748/23]

*319. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she is aware that the 2018 review of the Gender Recognition Act 2015 made several recommendations around the development of non-binary legal recognition; if she is further aware that in her report on the review, dated 26 November 2019, then-Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection (details supplied) stated that her Department had carried out an initial scoping exercise on the implications of non-binary recognition, that an interdepartmental group had been established to progress this issue, and that the group was due to complete its work by the end of 2020; if she will provide an update on the work of her Department towards non-binary legal recognition, or on the work of this interdepartmental group; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [31753/23]

*320. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of people who are currently on invalidity pension, broken down by gender; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31756/23]

*321. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of those who applied for invalidity pension in 2022; the total number of applicants who were refused prior to an appeal in 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31757/23]

*322. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of people who appealed a decision not to award them an invalidity pension in 2022; the total number who were subsequently successful in their appeal in 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31758/23]

*323. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to confirm if a jobseeker is obligated to share personal data with a third-party private company (details supplied); the exact scope of the data they are legally required to disclose; the mechanisms of data processing; whether the data could be transferred outside Ireland/the EU; and what safety measures are in place, especially in the context of The Bara judgement, which pertains to data sharing between public and private sectors. — Paul Murphy. [31768/23]

*324. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an application for invalidity pension will be processed for a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31780/23]

*325. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will arrange to issue a decision to a person (details supplied) in County Cork in relation to their domiciliary care allowance appeal. — Michael Creed. [31792/23]

*326. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31817/23]

*327. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the main policy achievements of her Department since 27 June 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31869/23]

*328. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an application for an exceptional need's payment towards funeral expenses, currently refused, might be reviewed in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31964/23]

*329. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether the traditional response whereby a recipient of a lower rate of pension in another EU member state, qualifies the applicant who now lives here for an Irish non-contributory pension to bring the applicant up to the overall level of Irish non-contributory pension rate; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31966/23]

*330. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the grounds upon which a person (details supplied) was found not to be habitually resident despite their reliance on their daughter for care; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31967/23]

*331. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if and when urgent consideration might be applied in respect of an application for an appropriate disability payment in the case of a

person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31968/23]

*332. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 828 and 829 of 13 June 2023, what benefits, if any, accrued to Department employees who were former community welfare officers who paid a 5% levy on their incomes from October 2011 to December 2015; if no pension benefit has accrued in respect of these payments, if her Department will return these payments to the employees; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31988/23]

*333. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of employees of her Department who were Class B PRSI contributors between October 2011 and December 2015; the total number of employees who were Class B PRSI contributors who paid a 5% levy on their incomes from October 2011 to December 2015; if she will provide details of the context of the payment of this levy; if any of the total number of overall employees who paid the levy were not former community welfare officers who transferred to her Department from the HSE in October 2011; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31989/23]

*334. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will identify which legislation underpins the payment of a 5% levy by Class B PRSI contributors who became employees of her Department following their transfer from the HSE in 2011; if she will point to the relevant sections and/or subsections in the relevant legislation providing for the making of this payment in part of October 2011, November 2011, December 2011 and the years 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015; the benefits these specific employees derived from the payment of this levy; the length of time they paid it for; if she will review whether the collection of this levy after the early part of October 2011 was in fact not provided for in law; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31990/23]

*335. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of locations in Kildare that offer a drop-in service where a community welfare officer would be available to discuss a case or application with a client; the location of these clinics; the number of drop-in centres offering this service over each of the past five years, by town in Kildare, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [31998/23]

*336. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total advertising budget allocated by her Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if she has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32015/23]

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

*337. To ask the Minister for Justice the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31693/23]

*338. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to publish the written submissions received by the Independent Review Group in its preparation of the Offences Against the State Acts review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31729/23]

*339. To ask the Minister for Justice whether she had any prior dealings, meetings and correspondence and so on, with the beneficiaries of an investment from applicants under the Immigrant Investment Programme in relation to a proposed or live application being submitted under that scheme; if so, to detail each such communication; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31744/23]

*340. To ask the Minister for Justice whether she signed off on all Immigrant Investment Programme applications which were granted during her period in office as Minister for Justice; whether in any case she deemed herself conflicted knowing an applicant or a beneficiary; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [31755/23]

*341. To ask the Minister for Justice when the national action plan for human trafficking will be published; to what extent it considers the issue of the sexual exploitation of children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31789/23]

*342. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in upgrading accommodation to facilitate the restoration of services as announced by Government in 2017 (details supplied); if she will ensure that these works are completed at an early date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [31790/23]

*343. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 464 of 20 June 2023, to elaborate on the review of the Peace Commissioner process being undertaken by her Department; to outline the terms of this review and what brought it about; whether it may result in any legislative change to the Courts of Justice Act 1924; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31799/23]

*344. To ask the Minister for Justice to list all barristers, solicitors, or firms of solicitors who received more than €20,000 from the criminal legal aid scheme in 2022; the amounts they received; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31800/23]

*345. To ask the Minister for Justice if her Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31814/23]

*346. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide the breakdown of firearm types (details supplied) seized by An Garda Síochána from 2013 to 2022, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Berry. [31833/23]

*347. To ask the Minister for Justice the main policy achievements of her Department since 27 June 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31866/23]

*348. To ask the Minister for Justice her views in relation to the migration rules and laws governing healthcare assistants; and if she will outline her plans for reform in the area. — Pa Daly. [31883/23]

*349. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will comment on prison overcrowding with respect to Limerick Prison; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31901/23]

*350. To ask the Minister for Justice if a temporary visa can be granted to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31969/23]

*351. To ask the Minister for Justice the steps she is taking to address applicants who have been waiting longer than the expected visa decision timeframes for join spouse visa: spouse of an Irish national; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [31994/23]

*352. To ask the Minister for Justice the total advertising budget allocated by her Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if she has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32012/23]

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

*353. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to a newspaper article (details supplied) warning of a shortage of Irish fruit and vegetables for the rest of the year due to increased costs and unpredictable weather; the details of any engagement he has had with the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications in relation to this matter, particularly with regard to the question of increasing domestic fruit, vegetable and grain supply in the context of the next Climate Action Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31910/23]

*354. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to outline the actions in the Our Living Islands policy related to supporting the inshore fishing sector; the budget allocated to each of these actions; and the timescale for the completion of these actions. — Holly Cairns. [31995/23]

*355. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31682/23]

*356. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine who is responsible for carrying out the Strategic Environmental Assessment relating to the Forestry Programme 2023-2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [31722/23]

*357. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the Strategic Environmental Assessment relating to the Forestry Programme commenced; when it will be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [31723/23]

*358. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the economic viability of an industry is considered as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Forestry Programme 2023-2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31731/23]

*359. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the current position or stage of the Strategic Environmental Assessment relating to the Forestry Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31732/23]

*360. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide an update on the process review of his Department conducted by an organisation (details supplied) in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [31733/23]

*361. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31803/23]

*362. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the measures being taken to ensure that any backlog in afforestation licence applications that result from the delayed forestry programme will be processed in a prompt manner should the application to the European Commission for state aid to fund the forestry programme be successful; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [31824/23]

*363. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the consultation period for the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Forestry Programme will take place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [31840/23]

*364. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if an individual, company or association can lodge a submission or objection to the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Forestry Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [31841/23]

*365. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when he expects to complete the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Forestry Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [31842/23]

*366. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide an update on the Forestry Programme 2023-2027 and the impact of delivering same, given the delays regarding a formal State aid notification by the EU Commission to Ireland; if he will set out details of any additional information required by the EU Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31852/23]

*367. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31855/23]

*368. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if peat regardless of its depth, which has been drained, reclaimed and farmed for livestock or tillage purposes, either intensively or extensively, can be returned to its undrained, un-reclaimed and undisturbed state; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31876/23]

*369. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how farming activities on peat compare to planting trees on peat in terms of emitting carbon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [31877/23]

*370. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide a detailed explanation regarding the significant quantities of beef imported into Ireland from the UK, as highlighted by recent figures published by the Central Statistics Office; the justification for this

substantial influx; the intended markets for this imported beef; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31886/23]

*371. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in view of the challenges faced by Irish beef farmers, including pressure on prices and increased input costs, how he justifies the importation of large quantities of UK beef; if these imports truly originate from the UK; if not, if they are sourced from other locations but pass through UK processing facilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31887/23]

*372. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the measures he has put in place to ensure that the importation of beef does not compromise Ireland's renowned world-class traceability standards; if he can provide reassurances regarding the transparency and sustainability of Ireland's local beef industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31888/23]

*373. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason for the six-month delay in the Government publishing the Forestry Programme for 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31897/23]

*374. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when he will publish the licencing plan with respect to felling for 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31898/23]

*375. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been brought to an article (details supplied) warning of a shortage of Irish fruit and vegetables for the rest of the year due to increased costs and unpredictable weather; the details of any measures planned by him to support farmers potentially affected by any such shortages; the details of any measures planned to support Ireland's domestic fruit and vegetable supply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31904/23]

*376. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to introduce measures to increase domestic fruit, vegetable and grain supply, particularly in view of the impacts of climate change as well as Ireland's reliance on food imports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [31905/23]

*377. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTE in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTE advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32001/23]

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

*378. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if external audits have been carried out or will be carried out by or on behalf of the HSE into the validity of the application of statutory funding to major disability providers in the disability sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [31827/23]

*379. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will instruct the HSE to initiate enquiries into severance and non-disclosure agreements made,

whether out of statutory income or fundraised income over the past five years to staff exiting voluntary sector agencies providing services to disabled people; if such payments were made known by voluntary sector agencies to the HSE at the time or in subsequent reports on their service agreements with the HSE; if he will request the HSE to quantify the total of all such severance and/or non-disclosure payments by all agencies in the disability sector receiving grants from the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [31828/23]

*380. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will set-up a community neuro-rehabilitation team in CHO4 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [31829/23]

*381. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31683/23]

*382. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when access to psychology services will be facilitated in the case of the son of a person (details supplied); the progress to date in securing an additional psychologist for the provision of such services in north Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31709/23]

*383. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the new policy framework for children and young people will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [31713/23]

*384. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware that payment to a commercial premises housing Ukrainian refugees (details supplied) is still outstanding; if an indication can be given as to when payment will be made; the reason for the delay with this payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [31730/23]

*385. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a child (details supplied) who is currently attending Crumlin Children's Hospital will be seen by a speech and language therapist in Cork to assist with their communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31739/23]

*386. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a child (details supplied) who is currently attending Crumlin Children's Hospital will receive respite care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31742/23]

*387. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason a person (details supplied) seeking international protection was moved from a premises housing Ukrainian refugees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [31759/23]

*388. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will meet with a group (details supplied) which has written to him on two occasions seeking a meeting, as a matter of urgency to discuss the intended reduction in its Tusla grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [31767/23]

*389. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the range of assessments required in the case of a person (details supplied) will be arranged as a matter of

urgency by the children's disability network 3; and if the required supports and interventions will be provided thereafter. — John McGuinness. [31769/23]

*390. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when his Department was first notified of instances of sexual exploitation of children in care; the measures taken to ensure the safety of children in care from sexual exploitation; when those measures were first implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31784/23]

*391. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide details of the Tusla working group on institutional and organisational abuse; the date of its establishment; who sits on the working group; how often it meets; what its remit is; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31785/23]

*392. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will direct HIQA to initiate a full investigation of care homes and residential settings in light of evidence of the sexual exploitation of children; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31786/23]

*393. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of reported incidents of sexual exploitation of children in care on a year-by-year basis since 2010; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31787/23]

*394. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he still intends to reduce childcare fees for parents by a further 25% in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31788/23]

*395. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31804/23]

*396. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he intends to amend legislation to enable women going through a cancer diagnosis during pregnancy or postpartum to defer their maternity leave while they go through cancer treatment; the reasons for a delay in meeting the calls made by an organisation (details supplied) on this matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [31821/23]

*397. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31856/23]

*398. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the proposals, if any, he has to amend the Maternity Protection Act 2004 to enable women postpone maternity leave who are diagnosed with cancer or any other serious illness during pregnancy (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [31908/23]

*399. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will give urgent consideration to the issues outlined in a national representative organisation concerning childcare funding (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [31916/23]

*400. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the ongoing efforts by his Department, if any, to provide integrated before- and after-school services given the necessity for both parents to remain in employment due to high mortgages; if it is anticipated that this issue is being provided for in a meaningful way via the school building programme to ensure appropriate accommodation for same on site within schools; the extent to which there is any ongoing collaboration with the Department of Education in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31932/23]

*401. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to the unfair operation of the Maternity Protection Act 2004 whereby anyone diagnosed with cancer during pregnancy forfeits their maternity leave while undergoing treatment; the action, if any, which he intends to take to address this anomaly; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [31983/23]

*402. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to amend the online process for the creation of enduring powers of attorney to enable legal representatives or advocates to set up an online portal with the Disability Support Services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [31991/23]

*403. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32002/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*404. To ask the Minister for Health the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31691/23]

*405. To ask the Minister for Health if he will personally intervene to ensure that a person (details supplied) continues to receive a vital medicine to deal with a condition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [31700/23]

*406. To ask the Minister for Health if any unsolicited information was received by his Department or HIQA between 2015 to date regarding alleged sexual abuse or physical abuse in the HSE-run community nursing facility (details supplied). — Fergus O'Dowd. [31704/23]

*407. To ask the Minister for Health if a person (details supplied) qualifies for the HSE pandemic bonus payment, who was contracted as a GP in a HSE Covid assessment hub in Tallaght and Kildare treating patients with Covid in PPE and who is having difficulty receiving confirmation as to whether they would be eligible for this payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31705/23]

*408. To ask the Minister for Health if urgent orthodontic treatment will be facilitated in the case of a child (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31712/23]

*409. To ask the Minister for Health with respect to the “Emily” case and the NIRP independent review which was carried out and completed in November 2022, if the community

health organisation which the CNU was located in, carried out any separate reviews or reports into the grievous incidents that took place at the home; if so, if he will undertake to make any review/report public in order for the appropriate bodies to learn from this horrendous series of events; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31717/23]

*410. To ask the Minister for Health with respect to the “Emily” case and the NIRP independent review which was carried out into an unnamed HSE community nursing unit following a grievous sexual assault which took place in the CNU in April 2020, if he plans to publish the report which was completed in November 2022 in order for stakeholders and service providers to learn from the very serious incidents which took place, including the recruitment processes of the facility, the safeguarding processes which failed in this home, and the wider governance issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31718/23]

*411. To ask the Minister for Health the progress he is making on expanding the national heel-prick test; how many diseases babies born today in Ireland are currently being tested for; when he will decide on including spinal muscular atrophy in newborn screening (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [31721/23]

*412. To ask the Minister for Health with respect to the “Emily” case and the NIRP independent review which was carried out and completed in November 2022, if he can confirm whether the HSE has accepted the recommendations contained within the report in full; if not, if he can detail the reasons for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31724/23]

*413. To ask the Minister for Health the availability of funding for the construction of adult day services within the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [31727/23]

*414. To ask the Minister for Health when a child (details supplied) who is currently attending Crumlin Children's Hospital will be provided with a wheelchair, as it is urgently required by them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31740/23]

*415. To ask the Minister for Health if a child (details supplied) who is currently attending Crumlin Children's Hospital who urgently requires physiotherapy in Cork will be provided with this care in a hospital; if so, when this will occur; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31741/23]

*416. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 633 of 20 June 2023, if he is aware of patients who cannot switch to alternatives of the medications noted in his reply; how similar supply issues will be avoided in future; if he is aware of other countries in Europe which have not been impacted by the same supply issues as Ireland and the reason for this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [31745/23]

*417. To ask the Minister for Health if a child (details supplied) will be considered for an urgent appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31760/23]

*418. To ask the Minister for Health If he will provide clarification on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [31761/23]

*419. To ask the Minister for Health the home support waiting list for funding and for carers in each month of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, for each LHO and CHO, broken down by those waiting for a new package and those with an existing package waiting for additional hours; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31762/23]

*420. To ask the Minister for Health the number of home support hours delivered in each LHO and CHO in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, compared to the targeted hours delivered, including the split between directly and indirectly delivered care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31763/23]

*421. To ask the Minister for Health the average number of hours allocated per week to a client receiving HSE home support in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [31764/23]

*422. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the HSE review of the availability of medication for hyperemesis; when the review will be completed; what will happen upon completion of the review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31781/23]

*423. To ask the Minister for Health the number of women who have been approved for cariban on a month-by-month basis to date in 2023; the cost accrued by the State to date for the provision of this medication via the community drug scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [31782/23]

*424. To ask the Minister for Health to provide, in tabular form, a list of Section 39 organisations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31796/23]

*425. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated number of Section 39 employees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [31797/23]

*426. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31812/23]

*427. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the status of the allocation of staffing resources to secure extended service provision at Nenagh MAU; the targets set to meet these commitments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [31823/23]

*428. To ask the Minister for Health if it is intended to appoint a dermatologist in a county (details supplied) to ensure this service is available in the county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [31834/23]

*429. To ask the Minister for Health regarding the HSE nursing home in which an employee was convicted of raping a resident, to clarify the number of referrals made by the HSE to An Garda Síochána following the public statement by the CEO of the HSE on a radio programme (details supplied) in relation to this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [31838/23]

*430. To ask the Minister for Health when rehabilitation will be offered to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [31839/23]

*431. To ask the Minister for Health if he will indicate the budget allocated to each hospital in the Dublin Midland Hospital Group in each of the years 2019 to 2023, in tabular form. — Jim O’Callaghan. [31848/23]

*432. To ask the Minister for Health the health infrastructure projects currently underway in CHO6; the projects completed since June 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [31849/23]

*433. To ask the Minister for Health the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31864/23]

*434. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that some private optician companies and businesses are repeatedly upselling their goods and services to eye patients when they present for their free eye tests; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [31873/23]

*435. To ask the Minister for Health the budget allocated to each hospital in the University of Limerick Hospital Group in each year of the years 2019 to 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31874/23]

*436. To ask the Minister for Health the health infrastructure projects currently underway in CHO3; the projects completed since June 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31875/23]

*437. To ask the Minister for Health if he has engaged with an organisation (details supplied) as he is obliged to do under Public Pay and Pensions Act 2017 legislation, to review the nature of community pharmacies services before the end of June 2023; the reasons for the delay in meeting the organisation and the lack of response to requests for a meeting from the organisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31881/23]

*438. To ask the Minister for Health if he will respond to concerns raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O’Dowd. [31882/23]

*439. To ask the Minister for Health the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies related to the Covid-19 pandemic; the funding provided directly to RTÉ; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [31885/23]

*440. To ask the Minister for Health if he will maintain a publicly available register of all general practitioners who object to providing services under the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31899/23]

*441. To ask the Minister for Health if he will comment on the recent HIQA report with respect to University Hospital Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [31902/23]

*442. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for an appointment with a consultant in University Hospital Sligo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [31914/23]

*443. To ask the Minister for Health if a decision to refuse a medical card in the case of a person (details supplied) might be reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31965/23]

*444. To ask the Minister for Health to report on the action which has been taken on foot of the recommendations of the Final Report of the Special Committee on Covid-19 Response; if he will specifically address the recommendation for a review into the impact of nursing home privatisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [31982/23]

*445. To ask the Minister for Health to indicate, notwithstanding the recent replies in the case of a person (details supplied), the extent to which efforts are being made to grant a full medical card, given the need to issue a full medical card on hardship grounds given that they were the victim of hospital misadventure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31985/23]

*446. To ask the Minister for Health to indicate, notwithstanding the recent replies in the case of a person (details supplied), the extent to which efforts are being made to grant a full medical card given their continued needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [31986/23]

*447. To ask the Minister for Health the progress he has made in expanding the national heel-prick test; what diseases/conditions are infants being tested for; when spinal muscular atrophy will also be tested for; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [31992/23]

*448. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to address situations where GPs are not accepting new patients in rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [31993/23]

*449. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an updated timeline on the health technology assessment of a national immunisation programme against chickenpox given the 294% increase in the number of hospitalisations due to complications with chickenpox to date this year in Ireland (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [31996/23]

*450. To ask the Minister for Health when he intends to launch a national immunisation programme for chickenpox, subject to a positive HTA assessment by HIQA; whether it will be included in his Budget 2024 discussions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [31997/23]

*451. To ask the Minister for Health the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32010/23]

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

*452. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if an accommodation facility (details supplied) in Limerick will be available to house students

in the coming 2023/2024 academic year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [31912/23]

*453. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31690/23]

*454. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason that the number of students who received grants declined by 30% between 2021 (68,277) and 2022 (48,426), as outlined on page 40 of the Public Service Performance Report (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [31751/23]

*455. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31811/23]

*456. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in relation to his recent announcement regarding the €40 million capital grant for third-level universities, if this money can be used by third-level institutions to subsidise the cost of building new student accommodation (details supplied); if so, the number of beds it is likely to contribute towards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [31843/23]

*457. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in relation to his recent announcement regarding the €40 million capital grant for third-level universities, if this funding relates to new money, rather than a reannouncement (details supplied); if so, if this is an annual capital grant that it awarded; the amounts that were provided in 2020, and 2021 along with the total amounts drawn down; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [31844/23]

*458. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the main policy achievements of his Department since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31863/23]

*459. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the total advertising budget allocated by his Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if he has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32009/23]

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

*460. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail cén dul chun cinn atá déanta ó 2020 maidir le forbairt na céibhe sa gChaladh Mór, in Inis Meáin; an bhfuil cead iarrtha ag an gComhairle Contae ar an Roinn le comhairleoiri a cheapadh le cabhrú leo staidéar féidearthachta a chur le chéile; má tá, cén uair a thabharfar an cead sin; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [31831/23]

*461. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the amount paid out to all consultancy firms for any services rendered; and the cost per contract for the year-to-date 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [31695/23]

*462. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if an extension can be given to an organisation (details supplied) to draw down its Clár funding for a new bus as the bus supplier has informed the organisation that the bus will not be ready in time for its end-of-June deadline, and the organisation is hoping that it can be given an extension for drawdown to 30 September 2023. — Joe Flaherty. [31783/23]

*463. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if her Department purchased or produced any memorabilia such as pens, stationery, pins, badges, mugs or other types of souvenirs to mark or celebrate Pride 2023; if so, the costs incurred; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [31816/23]

*464. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development whether the details of the public liability policy for the two existing mountain access project areas mentioned in her reply to a Parliamentary Question on 20 June 2023 have been communicated to all the farmers in the mountains in question by her Department; if not, whether she plans to take steps to expedite same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [31832/23]

*465. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the main policy achievements of her Department since 27 June 2020; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [31868/23]

*466. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the total advertising budget allocated by her Department and agencies in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023, respectively; the funding provided directly to RTÉ in each year; if she has sought and secured an assurance that none of this funding was rebated via the RTÉ advertising barter account; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [32014/23]

