



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 6 Iúil, 2023
Thursday, 6th July, 2023

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to set out what additional measures he intends to put in place to stem the deeply worrying rise in the number of adults and children in emergency accommodation. — Thomas Gould. [33418/23]

2. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider the creation of a state construction company to directly build both social and affordable housing and to accelerate the retrofitting of local authority housing stock; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [33204/23]

3. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on his efforts to resolve the issues of pay, recruitment, retention and rosters in the retained firefighters service. — John Brady. [33420/23]

4. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he will review and publish the income thresholds and the level of grants payable under the Housing Aid for Older People, Housing Adaptation Grants and Mobility Grants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33199/23]

5. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 169 of 18 May 2023, if he has received the report in respect of 2021, 2022 and to-date from the Galway Social Housing Task Force; if so, if he will provide a copy of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [32786/23]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

6. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number currently on the social housing waiting list in Cavan; the current wait time for social housing applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [32980/23]

7. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department have a plan and budget to manage and maintain the social housing stock over time to ensure that the housing stock is kept in good condition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33200/23]

8. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the actions that are being taken to increase the number of homes built by local authorities beyond the 1,666 that were constructed last year. — Brian Stanley. [32921/23]

9. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the impact of the ending of the eviction ban on the latest homelessness figures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [33183/23]

10. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures he has put in place to improve water services since June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [33190/23]

11. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on his Department's efforts to deliver the additional 15% affordable housing in the Poolbeg SDZ including whether he or his cabinet colleagues has met with NAMA and discussed the transfer of NAMAs 20% equity stake in the SDZ lands to Dublin City Council to assist them in ensuring the delivery of genuinely affordable homes in the SDZ. — Eoin Ó Broin. [33130/23]

12. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the planned pilot scheme for unsewered villages. — Cathal Crowe. [33135/23]

13. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the engagement he has had with the stakeholders of a local amenity (details supplied) to develop this area as a National Park; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [33083/23]

14. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he expects to publish the review of the guidelines in relation to the construction of rural houses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33201/23]

15. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on the new pilot scheme that offers grants to ready vacant farmhouses for refurbishment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [32917/23]

16. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how the social housing waiting list in Cork County Council now compares with that in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [33198/23]

17. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the completion of the single utility for water services and to outline what additional funding his Department intends to provide to cover the full costs of water service workers remaining in local authorities on their current full terms and conditions. — Eoin Ó Broin. [33134/23]

18. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in response to my Leader's Question on Part V segregation the Minister made statements (details supplied); is it Government policy to 'pepper-pot' Part V tenants across developments or to continue to allow the segregation of Part V tenants into separate areas or blocks, as seen in The Davitt apartment complex. — Joan Collins. [33096/23]

19. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the local authority home loan scheme which enables successful applicants to borrow

up to 90% of the market value of the property; if he will detail the number of people who have applied for the scheme; and the number who have been successful. — Peadar Tóibín. [32083/23]

20. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how the Land Development Agency is providing new homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [33186/23]

21. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to ensure that older working people who do not own their own home and are currently above social housing limits will be protected on retirement or able to seamlessly transition to social housing on retirement. — Patrick Costello. [33034/23]

22. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps he intends taking to encourage more house building, particularly by reviewing the NDP and streamlining the planning process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [32075/23]

23. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the action he is taking to improve sewage schemes for small towns and villages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [33144/23]

24. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the review by his Department of public homes in the pipeline; and the number of these that have been stalled for over 12 months. — Thomas Gould. [33089/23]

25. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of affordable housing units delivered via the Cost-Rental Equity Loan, the Affordable Housing Fund and Project Tosaigh in County Monaghan in 2022, and planned to be delivered in 2023, with a breakdown of units per scheme and average price of units by unit size. — Matt Carthy. [33001/23]

26. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he intends to set affordable housing targets for each local authority without official targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [33094/23]

27. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if there are provisions in planning law to ensure that communities have critical water and wastewater infrastructure (details supplied); if this is the responsibility of the local authority or the developer; if there are plans to update the provisions in planning law to ensure critical water and wastewater infrastructure is put in place in advance of the construction of residential and commercial development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [32913/23]

28. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how the social housing waiting list in Offaly now compares with that in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [32974/23]

29. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is undertaking any review of rural planning guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [33191/23]

30. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the regulations of the new defective concrete blocks scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [33172/23]

31. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has any data as to how many new build homes are being purchased by first-time buyers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [33141/23]

32. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding the Public Consultation on the Review of Part B (Fire Safety) of the Building Regulations; if there is a timeline for the report to be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [33184/23]

33. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on social housing provision in Longford from 2020 to 2022; the target in place for same in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [33147/23]

34. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will direct all local authorities to record all presentations from homeless individuals and families; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [32723/23]

35. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to confirm the number of housing completions in Cork in 2022; the projected number for 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33125/23]

36. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will agree to homeowner amendments to the Remediation of Dwellings Damaged by the Use of Defective Concrete Blocks Act, passed almost one year ago, considering that the reason he refused these amendments at the time was his urgency to get the new scheme up and running. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [32741/23]

37. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to detail the number of people in Limerick currently residing in State supported emergency accommodation including hotels, hostels, B&Bs, student accommodation, family hubs and short-term private lettings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [32906/23]

38. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures put in place by his Department to ensure that those families that are not eligible for the cost-rental tenant-in-situ scheme are not made homeless as a result of their current property being put up for sale; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [32923/23]

39. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps he is taking to ensure all landlords are registered with the Residential Tenancies Board; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [32536/23]

40. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of houses purchased by local authority tenants each year since 2016 under the tenant purchase incremental scheme 2016; whether he intends amending the scheme further to encourage more tenants to buy their homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [32074/23]

41. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline the Revision Process for the National Planning Framework; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [32916/23]

42. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has given consideration to the use of 3D printing technology and its possible benefits to the current problems with housing construction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [33036/23]

43. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on social housing provision in Offaly from 2020 to 2022; the target in place for same in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [32973/23]

44. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of estates which are overdue for taking-in-charge; and if he plans any initiatives to address this problem. — Richard Bruton. [33127/23]

45. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to set out in tabular form an update on the progress to date in the implementation of all 32 recommendations from the report of the Independent Group on Traveller Accommodation. — Eoin Ó Broin. [33132/23]

46. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the provision of social housing at Kildonan Lands, Church of the Annunciation and Berryfield in Dublin 11; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [32999/23]

47. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for details of any engagement he and his Department have had with Galway City Council to-date in 2023 with regard to Galway City Council's targets for the delivery of new social houses in Galway in 2023, 2024 and 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [32796/23]

48. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on the progress of the tenant-in-situ and the cost-rental tenant-in-situ schemes, including a timeline on bringing in legislation to ensure that the tenant or local authority have first refusal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [33205/23]

49. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if there are plans for a scheme to compensate businesses that have lost revenue due to water outages (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [32909/23]

50. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if local authorities have any role in overholding cases when the tenant is a HAP recipient; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [32979/23]

51. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many of the promised 1,850 cost rental homes with State-backed rent of at least 25% below what they would be on in the private market, for 2023, have thus far been delivered. — Peadar Tóibín. [32084/23]

52. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to change the requirement for applicants for social housing to have medical certificates signed by two practitioners as this is placing a cost on them of up to €120, and more in some cases. — Brian Stanley. [32920/23]

53. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on social housing provision in Cork County Council from 2020 to 2022; the target in place for same in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [33197/23]

54. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has any plans to review the threshold for housing adaptation grants for older people and people with a disability; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [33143/23]

55. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department might seek quotations from builders/developers for the provision of a specific number of public authority houses, aimed at filling gaps not currently being met for various reasons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33081/23]

56. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the provision of both social and affordable housing in Carlow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [32972/23]

57. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how the current social housing waiting list in Longford compares with that in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [33148/23]

58. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of the dismay caused to hundreds of homeowners in defective block homes in Donegal, who have had their application under the defective concrete block grant scheme referred by Donegal County Council to the Housing Agency to adjudicate on, under the remediation of dwellings damaged by the use of defective concrete blocks scheme; and to confirm that these referrals are down to the emerging science that has severely undermined the IS465, and to the serious delays in the review of IS 465 that he ordered. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [32740/23]

59. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will update the Dáil Éireann on the level of home purchases by first-time-buyers; and the progress of Government initiatives to support this. — Richard Bruton. [33128/23]

60. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on number of housing commencements to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [33116/23]

61. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if any additional emergency accommodation has been put in place in Mayo since the lifting of the eviction ban; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [33173/23]

62. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to report on the local authority housing stock retrofitting programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [33206/23]

63. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures he is taking to reduce the cost of construction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [32919/23]

64. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will make changes to the HAP scheme so that there is not a cliff edge if people go over the social housing

income limits to ensure that there is tapered rental support for those above the limits; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [33208/23]

65. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will comment on the significant delays with the opening of the online application process for the enhanced grant scheme for the Remediation of Dwellings Damaged by the use of Defective Concrete Blocks in their Construction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [32724/23]

66. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide additional resources to the local authority to deal with and manage the demand for the vacant property refurbishment grant scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33203/23]

67. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the provision of interim funding for fire safety defects in apartments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [32732/23]

68. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the provision of emergency funding for homeowners with fire safety and other structural defects to address immediate fire safety and other structural defects risks in their properties pending the opening of the formal redress scheme for owners with Celtic Tiger era building defects. — Eoin Ó Broin. [33133/23]

69. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to confirm the amount of people who availed of the help-to-buy-scheme, local authority affordable purchase scheme, first-home scheme and the local authority home loan scheme in Cork in 2022; the amount of funding provided under these schemes in Cork in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33126/23]

70. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if there is any update on when the referendum on the Right to Housing will take place. — Francis Noel Duffy. [32359/23]

71. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for a report on the cost-rental scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [33187/23]

72. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding Project Tosaigh; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [33118/23]

73. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to his reply to Parliamentary Question No. 100 of 21 June 2023, if Ministerial consent in accordance with the EC (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 was sought in respect of the foreshore activity referenced in Marine Notice No. 40 of 2022 and in Marine Notice No. 36 of 2022, and the details of same; if Ministerial consent was granted in respect of the foreshore activity referenced, and the details of any consent granted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [32795/23]

74. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to comment on the record number of commencement notifications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [32908/23]

75. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the cost-rental tenant-in-situ scheme, including the number of such properties purchased to date; the number of expressions of interest from landlords; and the number of referrals to the housing agency from local authorities. — Eoin Ó Broin. [33131/23]

76. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will refuse 2023-2024 licences for cruel hare coursing as there appears to be uncertainty over the number of hare's in the country (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [32725/23]

77. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many social housing applicants had their files/cases closed due to them exceeding the income threshold for the years 2022 and to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [32918/23]

78. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he can detail the number of people currently in emergency accommodation; the numbers who have been there for over 12 months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [33038/23]

79. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the number of housing commencements in Carlow to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [32971/23]

80. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether he has set a target date for ending homelessness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [33182/23]

81. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the delivery of affordable housing in Cork city. — Thomas Gould. [33088/23]

82. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an overview on his Department's latest monthly data on the number of commencements notices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [32914/23]

83. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline what alternatives are open to people in County Louth who need a housing adaptation grant but who cannot apply to Louth County Council because the applications process is closed until January 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [33037/23]

84. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans with respect for continued funding for the Limerick Regeneration Economic and Social Intervention Fund 2023 to be extended to 2024 and beyond. — Maurice Quinlivan. [33175/23]

85. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the delivery of affordable, social and cost rental housing in Dublin 9 and 11; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [33000/23]

86. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the progress on the commitment in Housing for All to implement a minimum building energy rating requirement for rental properties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [33188/23]

87. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the full details of the affordability measures put in place in Cherrywood developments in return for the LIHAF funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [33207/23]

88. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on measures to address issues impacting on homeowners effected by pyrite issues. — Cathal Crowe. [33136/23]

89. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on Housing For All delivery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [32204/23]

90. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he can detail the number of purchases of properties by local authorities and approved housing bodies under the tenant-in-situ scheme to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [33068/23]

91. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans, if any, to adjust the cost rental tenant-in-situ scheme to take into account families whose household income exceeds the limit specified in the scheme and where, because of the age of the applicant, a mortgage is not an option; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [32922/23]

92. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if some consideration can be given to the development of a subsidised sites scheme on public or private lands with a view to making affordable or local authority housing more readily accessible; if any consideration has already been given to such a proposal and how it might meet current demands and as housing continues to be a most pressing issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33080/23]

93. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the provision of both social and affordable housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [33117/23]

94. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if interim funding has been decided on for those who are currently facing defective issues in their dwellings. — Francis Noel Duffy. [32358/23]

95. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline the financial support to replace lead pipes in homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [32915/23]

96. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated number of people on the Mayo local authority housing list at present; the likelihood of having housing needs met in the short-term; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [33095/23]

97. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the roll-out of the tenant-in-situ scheme; if local authorities have resourced additional staff to manage the workload involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [32203/23]

98. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures he is taking to increase home ownership; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [33140/23]

99. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has concerns that the MICA defective block scheme does not cover 100% redress for affected homeowners and that many affected homeowners will be excluded from accessing the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [33119/23]

100. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what changes he intends to make to the cost-rental rules so that those eligible on income grounds are not ineligible on affordability grounds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [33209/23]

101. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider making County Cavan a rent pressure zone due to the rapid increase in rents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [32742/23]

102. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the progress of the legislation to allow for directly elected mayor with executive powers for Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [33189/23]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

103. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the consultation process as part of her Department's work on addressing the cost of disability; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [33414/23]

104. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will examine a proposal to allow pre-retirement men coming from a manual labour background to have a disregard for the requirement for 12 months in receipt of a social protection payment so they can qualify for community employment schemes. — Sean Sherlock. [32063/23]

105. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the proposed legislation on child maintenance system changes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [33415/23]

106. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if core social welfare rates will be adjusted in the next Budget (details supplied) to match the rate of inflation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [33417/23]

107. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will comment on the fact that recipients of partial capacity benefit have recently been told that they will no longer be entitled to their living alone allowance payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [33416/23]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

108. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will confirm, in view of a statement made by the Minister for Finance on 22 June 2023 that “There will be a core welfare package to try to improve the incomes of people who are on fixed incomes”, that these increases will be above the rate of inflation and increase welfare payments in real terms. — Joan Collins. [32977/23]

109. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to address the findings of the Cost of Disability in Ireland – Research Report. — Holly Cairns. [32538/23]

110. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration will be given to extending the number of home-caring periods a foster carer can accrue throughout the years they foster in order for them to be able to claim a State pension (contributory); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [33074/23]

111. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to outline the actions she will take to address the alarming increase in the amount of retired people at risk of poverty as in the public service performance report; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [33174/23]

112. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what engagement she has had with the Minister for Health on homecare packages and the financial impact of those families in receipt of carers’ payment who do not receive homecare support. — Sean Sherlock. [32066/23]

113. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if all social welfare payments will be increased in line with inflation in the forthcoming Budget; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [33170/23]

114. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline an engagement her Department has had with other Government agencies and Departments in relation to the problems faced by workers who live in the North and who work for Southern-based companies, who wish to work from home and if the issue will be included in the considerations for Budget 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [33075/23]

115. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on the review of the Reasonable Accommodation Fund; the timeframe for the completion and publication of the review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [32743/23]

116. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the supports that are in place for older working people who do not own their own home, are above social housing assistance limits but will be unable to afford private renting once they retire; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [33032/23]

117. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the maximum rent limits under the rent supplement scheme were last updated; the plans, if any, she has to increase these rent limits; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [32912/23]

118. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether her Department has produced a report on the unpaid carers identified in Census 2022; and whether she intends to expand the carer's allowance to provide payment to these people. — Thomas Gould. [33091/23]

119. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps she is taking to support family carers. — Holly Cairns. [32539/23]

120. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which a more personalised approach might be given to applicants who are being refused on various grounds in respect of applications they have made in the genuine expectation that an appeal or a review would be beneficial to their case reasons; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33078/23]

121. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for a review of the current payment under the hearing aid grant with the rising costs of hearing aids; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [33086/23]

122. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which she might review applicants previously refused for the State pension (contributory) on the basis of insufficiency of contributions, with a view to allowing payments on a pro-rata basis; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33079/23]

123. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has plans to introduce tiered disability payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [32982/23]

124. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total amounts paid out in jobseeker's allowance and jobseeker's benefit in each of the past ten years and to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Peadar Tóibín. [32133/23]

125. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when she intends to introduce legislation underpinning the provision of pensions to carers. — Matt Carthy. [33004/23]

126. To ask the Minister for Social Protection through investigations by her Department and a firm (details supplied) how many RTÉ workers were found to be on bogus self-employment contracts; and how many have now been placed on full employee contracts. — Joan Collins. [32975/23]

127. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update regarding preparations within her Department for an enhanced pension for long-term family carers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [32968/23]

128. To ask the Minister for Social Protection in relation to information (details supplied) from an email I have received from RTÉ staff, if her Department has investigated these matters; and what were the conclusions of these investigations. — Joan Collins. [32976/23]

129. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what new measures she plans to adopt to ensure that people with disabilities are not at risk of poverty due to the cost of disability; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [33167/23]

130. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of children who will receive a hot school meal in the new school term from September; and the number planned for the following year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [31600/23]

131. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department will ensure that households that have accumulated significant debts, including arrears on bills and on prepayment meters, have access to sufficient support to avoid a long-term legacy of indebtedness and reduced financial resilience; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [33193/23]

132. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration will be given to introducing a cost of disability payment in Budget 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [32969/23]

133. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has undertaken an assessment of the take-up of the working family dividend, and consulted with the Revenue Commissioners who collect income data to ensure that this support is fully taken up. — Richard Bruton. [33146/23]

134. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will advise on her Department's review of means testing for carer's allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [33196/23]

135. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on how many people received the carer's support grant in 2023; the further supports that her Department are working on in relation to carers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [32910/23]

136. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of successful applicants for fuel allowance in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [32983/23]

137. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress made with the review of means testing of social welfare payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [32072/23]

138. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the report being compiled by her Department on expanding the free travel scheme for people who have been excluded from driving with epilepsy is available; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [33085/23]

139. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she aware that An Taoiseach has publicly commented that he anticipates energy prices are anticipated to remain high this winter (details supplied); how she is preparing for sustained inflated energy prices; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [32925/23]

140. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the cost of supports provided to Tara Mines workers to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [33168/23]

141. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 95 of 23 May 2023, the status of the promised straw-man proposal for the restructuring of long-term disability payments; the timeline for the public consultation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [32825/23]

142. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans, if any, to review the community employment scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [32981/23]

143. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she aware of the CSO's "estimated inflation by household characteristics March 2023" (details supplied) which noted that high energy costs were one of the key drivers of average inflation for households and that households with the lowest income experienced higher inflation; her plans to address; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [32924/23]

144. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way in which the rent supplement scheme can be used to assist Ukrainian nationals who are living in Ireland under the EU Temporary Protection Directive to avail of private rental accommodation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [33192/23]

145. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what social welfare packages can be made available to people who lost their jobs in Tara Mines, County Meath; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [32134/23]

146. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she plans to increase supports available to homeless families and children given the rise in homelessness; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [33169/23]

147. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider expanding the criteria of the household benefits package so that all cancer patients become eligible upon diagnosis, until their treatment is finished; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [33039/23]

148. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the work to progress legislation with regard to pension auto-enrolment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [32911/23]

149. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to provide for an ongoing cost of disability payment in Budget 2024, as opposed to a once-off payment, as a way to begin to address the inequality identified in the Cost of Disability in Ireland Report; for details of any analysis carried out by her Department in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [32826/23]

150. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review the differentiated rates of jobseeker's allowance for under 25s and consider bringing these in line with the standard rate of €220 a week; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [32731/23]

151. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will increase social welfare payments in the next Budget to ensure that everyone in the State has at least a minimum essential standard of living; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [33171/23]

152. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department has completed a thorough investigation of bogus self-employment contacts in RTÉ; and if she is satisfied that no staff at RTÉ are still on a bogus self-employment contract. — Joan Collins. [32970/23]

153. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to publish any research undertaken or commissioned by her Department on a cost of disability payment, including costings to the Exchequer. — Sean Sherlock. [32067/23]

154. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the legislation to provide for the flexible pension age and a pension for carer's will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [33092/23]

155. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to expand the free hot meals for schools programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [32984/23]

156. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what studies have been done by her Department of the international experience of individual social welfare payments; whether she intends introducing further individualised social welfare payments here; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [32073/23]

157. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has undertaken a review of means test in the social welfare code; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [33145/23]

158. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on a State pension solution for long-term family carers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [33194/23]

159. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the review into means testing for the carers allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [32567/23]

160. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her proposals to amend the means limits for carers allowance applicants. — Matt Carthy. [33003/23]

161. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the proposed legislation to bring forward changes to the child maintenance system; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [32093/23]

162. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of recipients of the Christmas Bonus who do not receive a Spring cost-of-living payment, in tabular form, by county; and if that will be rectified before the Autumn cost-of-living payment. — Sean Sherlock. [32065/23]

163. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to outline the progress on the expansion of the Hot School Meals Programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [33093/23]

164. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the Government is planning to implement the commitment to benchmark pensions in 'A Roadmap for Pension's Reform 2018-2023' or

pension benchmarking commitments 22, 23 and 24 in the 'Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025'. — Joan Collins. [32978/23]

165. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to confirm whether her Department is investigating the possibility of linking the rate of maternity benefit to a woman's pay or PRSI contributions; if so, the current status of these plans; when they are likely to be implemented; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [32824/23]

166. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the process under which her Department notifies people of their entitlement to a specific payment to avoid disruptions in payment. — Thomas Gould. [33090/23]

167. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the tender for EmployAbility which was due to be published in April 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [33195/23]

168. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the review of means tests being carried out by her Department; how this review will help inform Budget decisions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [32823/23]

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

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

*169. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33273/23]

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

*170. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is in a position to sanction an increase in An Post pensions which have been signed off by the Trustees. — Richard Bruton. [33421/23]

*171. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps he is taking to promote the use of HVO as a diesel alternative. — Holly Cairns. [33259/23]

*172. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33271/23]

*173. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to ensure that older people who are at greater risk of fuel poverty and the respiratory illnesses associated with air pollution be prioritised

in climate action and climate-mitigation plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33322/23]

*174. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline in tabular form, by county the number of completed retrofits to date since the introduction of the grant schemes; the number of grants drawn down to date; the number of grants applied for; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [33353/23]

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

*175. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to clarify whether at any point over the past the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33268/23]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*176. To ask the Minister for Transport if a bus will stop at a location (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [33226/23]

*177. To ask the Minister for Transport the most recent cost to the State to buy out the operator of the M1 toll at Gormanstown; the number of years left to run in the contract and, separately, to buyout the Drogheda interchange ramp tolls; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33227/23]

*178. To ask the Minister for Transport to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33282/23]

*179. To ask the Minister for Transport when he will meet with the Shannon Airport Authority to discuss plans to improve public transport access to Shannon Airport, Ireland's greenest airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [33285/23]

*180. To ask the Minister for Transport if a driving test can be expedited for a person (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [33317/23]

*181. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason student tickets are not accepted on the 323 Bus Éireann route. — Alan Kelly. [33346/23]

*182. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of persons waiting for a driving test that have been waiting two months, four months, six months and one year; and the steps he is taking to reduce waiting times and clear the backlog (details supplied). — Catherine Murphy. [33358/23]

*183. To ask the Minister for Transport if work will be carried out on the proposed new N22 Farranfore to Killarney route (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [33399/23]

*184. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason Transport for Ireland branding logos are displayed solely in English on buses and other forms of public transport throughout Ireland; what engagement he has had with Transport for Ireland regarding the development of branding in Irish,

particularly in light of the official aims of the 20 Year Strategy for the Irish language; the status of the rollout of branding in Irish on Transport for Ireland's services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [33401/23]

*185. To ask the Minister for Transport the way in which his Department and agencies under the aegis of his Department facilitate persons seeking to access their services through the Irish language; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [33402/23]

*186. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are any planned capital works to be carried out on the rail network in County Clare over the summer and autumn period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [33409/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*187. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is aware that insurance companies are using the issue of the differential price walking as set out by the Central Bank as a reason to increase insurance premiums for car insurance and house insurance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33213/23]

*188. To ask the Minister for Finance if he can confirm whether he has received the pre-Budget 2024 submission from an organisation (details supplied); if the submission is receiving due consideration given the organisation's vital role within our communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33222/23]

*189. To ask the Minister for Finance to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33272/23]

*190. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the impact of the introduction of the concrete levy on the cost of house building; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33202/23]

*191. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of earners that pay income tax at the top 40% rate, before tax credits are taken into account. — Richard Bruton. [33342/23]

*192. To ask the Minister for Finance the percentage of full-time workers that pay income tax at the top 40% rate, before tax credits are taken into account. — Richard Bruton. [33343/23]

*193. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of people who have benefitted from the increase in the home carers tax credit in Budget 2023. — Richard Bruton. [33344/23]

*194. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of people who have benefitted from the earned income tax credit since its introduction, in tabular form. — Richard Bruton. [33345/23]

*195. To ask the Minister for Finance when the age tax credit of €245 was last increased; the percentage increase in average earnings since that last increase; and if he will list the age credit as an element of the tax code which should be reviewed as preparation for the Budget 2024 commencement. — Richard Bruton. [33425/23]

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 if he will respond to six individual queries concerning a building (details supplied) in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [33224/23]

*197. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform for an update on the status of the proposed new station at Kilmore Quay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [33232/23]

*198. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33278/23]

*199. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if, following an audit of all unoccupied properties previously used either to provide accommodation to members of An Garda Síochána or former Garda stations no longer in use, he will set out the number of these unoccupied properties which have been sold to date, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33291/23]

*200. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to set out in detail his Department's future proposals for the building which was previously occupied as the main prison in Cork city; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33292/23]

*201. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 55 of 28 June 2028, whether the Pension Authority is categorised as a non-commercial State agency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [33397/23]

*202. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 55 of 28 June 2028, whether the Office of Public Works is categorised as a non-commercial State agency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [33398/23]

*203. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will be taking any drainage works or works on historic sights in County Clare in the coming months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [33410/23]

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

*204. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he and/or his officials have engaged with the Corporate Enforcement Agency in respect of RTÉ and/or its contractors and/or persons acting on behalf of contractors. — Catherine Murphy. [33237/23]

*205. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for

a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33270/23]

*206. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if consideration would be given to the addition of a bespoke seasonal employment permit scheme for foreign workers for fruit-picking and other seasonal employments in the horticulture sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33296/23]

*207. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if consideration would be given to increasing the number of physiotherapists under the critical skills occupations list in view of the shortage of physiotherapists in the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33312/23]

*208. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the funding allocated to the establishment and implementation of the national cluster programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [33331/23]

*209. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the position Ireland took at European Council level in discussions regarding the Council approach to the Platform Workers Directive; if Ireland pushed for stronger safeguards for workers, or if it lent support for the general approach, which did not offer such safeguards for workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [33423/23]

*210. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to outline if the working groups, the interdepartmental committee on the Unified Patent Court and the Enterprise Agencies Forum on the Unified Patent Court, previously established to examine the workings of Ireland's participation in the Unified Patent Court, have been reconvened, or when they will be reconvened; the current membership of, and organisations represented by, these working groups; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [33424/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*211. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the staffing issues within the School Completion Programme in south Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [33248/23]

*212. To ask the Minister for Education the value of staffing resources that were allocated to the School Completion Programme in South Kildare in 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; the value of the staffing resources spent, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [33249/23]

*213. To ask the Minister for Education to confirm how many students in south Kildare were supported through the School Completion Programme in south Kildare in 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [33250/23]

*214. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she has taken to solve the staffing issues in the school completion programme in south Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [33251/23]

*215. To ask the Minister for Education how many staff members were employed to support the School Completion Programme in south Kildare in 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [33252/23]

*216. To ask the Minister for Education if a person (details supplied) might qualify for assistance towards schoolbooks given that they are not currently in receipt of a payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33391/23]

*217. To ask the Minister for Education to outline if a review of the existing panel system for teaching positions has been or will be carried out by her Department; if consideration will be given to the reintroduction of the open application system for relocations (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [33180/23]

*218. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she will take to ensure the temporary accommodation committed to for a school (details supplied) will be in place in advance of the new school year; if the basis for any delays for this project can be outlined; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [33223/23]

*219. To ask the Minister for Education to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for her Department’s websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33269/23]

*220. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update in relation to the urgent emergency works application by a school (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [33304/23]

*221. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on school building works at a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [33340/23]

*222. To ask the Minister for Education if she and her officials will engage directly with a parent (details supplied) regarding their School Transport Scheme difficulties; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [33350/23]

*223. To ask the Minister for Education the band a school (details supplied) is on the Pobal HP deprivation index; what data was used to decide this; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33386/23]

*224. To ask the Minister for Education the percentage of secondary schools have been given access to a full-time HSCL; if this has declined in recent years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33387/23]

*225. To ask the Minister for Education the reason a secondary school (details supplied) was allocated 0.5 HSCL; what data was used to make this decision; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33388/23]

*226. To ask the Minister for Education for further information on the phase of work currently underway to explore the allocation of resources to schools in County Galway, including the HSCL co-ordinator, to tackle educational disadvantage; when this phase of work started or will start; who is responsible for it; when is it expected to conclude; if schools can participate in the process; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33389/23]

*227. To ask the Minister for Education how a school (details supplied) was placed in the same cluster for HSCL as another local school; who made this decision; what policy was used to make this decision; if she will provide the correspondence that was sent with this decision; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33390/23]

*228. To ask the Minister for Education for details, in tabular form, of all school building projects that are currently underway in County Clare at this time, including estimated completion dates. — Cathal Crowe. [33411/23]

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

*229. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she has engaged with either the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and/or his officials and/or with the Corporate Enforcement Agency in respect of RTÉ and/or its contractors and/or persons acting on behalf of contractors. — Catherine Murphy. [33238/23]

*230. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for her Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33281/23]

*231. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will respond to matters raised in correspondence by an organisation (details supplied) in relation to community arts work; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [33287/23]

*232. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the funding she provides to An Comhairle Ealaíona to deliver for communities through its creative places initiative; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [33347/23]

*233. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she is aware of the source of the funds in the barter account set up by RTÉ, as revealed in Oireachtas Committee meetings recently; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [33404/23]

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

*234. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on restricting the issuing of hare coursing licences. — Holly Cairns. [33256/23]

*235. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if there will be an impact assessment done for the nature restoration law, which will see parts of the country rewetted. — Niamh Smyth. [25109/23]

*236. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he intends to facilitate voting for Irish citizens living abroad for the next local, European and general elections; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [33221/23]

*237. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has had any engagement or correspondence with the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform or with his Department in relation to issues concerning retained firefighters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [30909/23]

*238. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of mortgage-to-rent applications approved to date in 2023; and the number approved in the same period in 2022. — Thomas Gould. [30086/23]

*239. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline the nature and extent of his Department's interaction with other departments in relation to improved pay for retained firefighters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [30971/23]

*240. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a progress report on Housing For All. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [30976/23]

*241. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the supports that are in place for older working people unable to secure a mortgage but unable to afford to remain in privately rented accommodation once they retire; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [33035/23]

*242. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps he is taking to ensure a public body (details supplied) processes planning appeals in a timely manner. — Holly Cairns. [33261/23]

*243. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33276/23]

*244. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of legislation to provide for a directly elected mayor of Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [33284/23]

*245. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if one-off residential properties (details supplied) are included in the temporary time-limited waiver in respect of development contributions if the site has not been opened and construction has not commenced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33298/23]

*246. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to increase the provision of smaller homes in developments, ensuring that older people can remain living in their communities, close to essential services and facilities since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33321/23]

*247. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to embed ageing in place options for older people into the planning system since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33329/23]

*248. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason there is such a delay in supplying Dublin City Council with the funds to complete the upgrade work that is so urgently needed in the Labre Park halting site; the reason there is a delay in supplying the funds required to commence the regeneration of the Labre Park halting site; what is causing the delays in paying Dublin City Council outstanding funds for work already carried out in respect of Traveller accommodation by Dublin City Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [33339/23]

*249. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason there is such a delay in providing Dublin City Council with the funds to complete the upgrade work that is so urgently needed in the Labre Park halting site; the reason there is a delay in providing the funds required to commence the regeneration of the Labre Park halting site; the cause of the delays in providing Dublin City Council with outstanding funds for work already carried out in respect of Traveller accommodation by Dublin City Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [33356/23]

*250. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on his further engagement with the AHB sector, outlined in his reply to Parliamentary Question No. 844 of 18 April 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [33357/23]

*251. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which he expects to meet future housing demand at all levels notwithstanding the existence of many challenges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33359/23]

*252. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his proposals to continue to address the issue of homelessness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33360/23]

*253. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the degree to which he expects to be in a position to meet rural housing requirements in all counties where there is an obvious need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33361/23]

*254. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which housing developments are in hand in each local authority throughout the country, as well as in County Kildare, with a view to alleviating the waiting list for local authority and affordable housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33362/23]

*255. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps, if any, that can be taken to improve the planning process in terms of a more rapid determination of applications and appeals to An Bord Pleanála, having regard to the situation in respect of backlogs and waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33363/23]

*256. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what further steps can be taken to dramatically increase the housing output to meet the requirements of both the public and private housing programmes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33364/23]

*257. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which it is proposed to upgrade income qualification levels for local authority housing loans, with a view

to making such loans more readily available to suitably qualified applicants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33365/23]

*258. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which his Department has identified issues deemed to impede the provision of much-needed affordable housing on State lands throughout the country; if he expects to be in a position to address the issue in due course; if the issues that currently impede a speedy and efficient public authority response to the affordable housing crisis will be resolved at an early date in order to ensure delivery of the Housing For All Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33366/23]

*259. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the degree to which the various forms of assistance available for first-time house buyers is upgrading satisfactorily without contributing to house price inflation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33367/23]

*260. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of planning permissions applied for and refused, by county, in each of the past three years to date; the way such figures will inform housing policy going forward, with particular reference to giving the local population a chance to live in their local area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33368/23]

*261. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding monies approved by his Department to LIHAF or other instruments to deal with urgently required infrastructures such as roads, bridges and traffic realignments in Maynooth, County Kildare; the extent to which works have commenced or have been completed or remain outstanding; the level of expenditure to date; the extent of progress on the works involved; the extent of works still outstanding; the costs associated therewith; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33369/23]

*262. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of new housing schemes currently in hand or proposed in 2023 by each local authority, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33370/23]

*263. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to what extent he and his Department have investigated the possibility of providing a number of serviced sites throughout the country for sale at an affordable price to certain qualified applicants for housing in an effort to meet the ever-increasing housing needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33405/23]

*264. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent of investigation undertaken by his Department into the possibility of providing subsidised serviced sites throughout the country at an affordable cost in an effort to meet the escalating housing needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33406/23]

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

*265. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she can confirm the duration it takes to receive a decision from the Appeals Office regarding applications for carer's allowance and disability allowance that are refused and subsequently appealed; if she is aware of the hardship and stress experienced by individuals during the lengthy waiting period for an appeal decision

(details supplied); the additional resources she will provide to the Appeals Office to reduce the waiting times for an appeal decision; if she will review the current issues with supplementary welfare allowance refusals; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [33211/23]

*266. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update in respect of a carer's allowance payment in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33246/23]

*267. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update in respect of an appeal for a carer's allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33247/23]

*268. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of eligibility for an exceptional needs payment in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33254/23]

*269. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an appeal against a decision to refuse the invalidity pension for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33255/23]

*270. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an application for carer's allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); whether any further information is outstanding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33262/23]

*271. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the current status of the working family payment for a person (details supplied); when a decision will be made; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [33263/23]

*272. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for her Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33280/23]

*273. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if any additional supports will be provided to employees of rehab enterprises, many of whom have disabilities if they lose their employment; what these additional supports will be; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [32402/23]

*274. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which oral hearings in respect of appeals against disallowance for various payments are up to date; the number of oral hearing appeals that have taken place to date in 2023; how this compares with the past five years to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33371/23]

*275. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which self-employed or other contributions in respect of State pension applications to her Department have been refused on the grounds of an insufficiency of contributions in each of the past five years to date; if any consideration has been given to the awarding of pensions in such cases on a pro-rata basis, in line with their actual level of contributions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33372/23]

*276. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which the waiting time for decision in respect of applications for various social welfare payments has been shortened; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33373/23]

*277. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which it continues to be possible to address particularly sensitive issues in respect of family income and the cost-of-living impact; if she is satisfied regarding the adequacy of her Department's resources to address such circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33374/23]

*278. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which exceptional needs' payments are available in cases where family income is insufficient to meet requirements including funeral expenses; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33375/23]

*279. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of applications for the State pension (contributory) received in each of the past five years to date; the number granted, refused or pending; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33376/23]

*280. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which the carer's allowance has been improved to meet requirements of more persons; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33378/23]

*281. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the return of the funeral bereavement grant may be envisaged other than by way of an exceptional needs payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33379/23]

*282. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the degree to which she and her office continue to ensure the making of a basic payment to applicants of social welfare payments while the primary application is being processed in order to alleviate hardship; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33380/23]

*283. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which waiting times for payments in respect of means-tested applications compare with contribution-related payments; the extent of progress in reducing waiting times for means-tested payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33381/23]

*284. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the current total number of recipients of child benefit payments; the extent to which this has fluctuated over the past three years, and is likely to so do in the future; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33382/23]

*285. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which satisfactory provision continues to be made for those retiring at 65 years of age; the extent of any recent progress in this area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33383/23]

*286. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to indicate, notwithstanding replies to previous Parliamentary Questions on behalf of a person (details supplied), whether the circumstances might be urgently considered with a view to granting the pension in question given the evidence already submitted and being submitted, and that they continue to be a medical card holder; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33396/23]

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

*287. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will clarify if any of the 98 further women's refuge centres announced in priority locations by 2025 will be located in Carlow (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [33253/23]

*288. To ask the Minister for Justice to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for her Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33277/23]

*289. To ask the Minister for Justice if a person (details supplied) might be granted a temporary visa to assist with their mother's obsequies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33392/23]

*290. To ask the Minister for Justice if a visa appeal might be granted in the name of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33393/23]

*291. To ask the Minister for Justice if a visa appeal might be granted in the name of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [33394/23]

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

*292. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for an update on an application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [33264/23]

*293. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to clarify whether at any point over the past to date the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33266/23]

*294. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what action his Department is taking to address increased concerns in the tillage sector with regards to the current tillage targets agricultural modernisation scheme (TAMS) in view that the pricing structures may not accurately reflect the cost of modern tillage machinery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33293/23]

*295. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if there will be an extension of the deadline for the submission of scoreboards under the agri-climate rural environment scheme (ACRES) in view of the large volume of farm walks required to be undertaken by agri-advisors within the very short timeframe before 31 August 2023 deadline, and also in view that Department officials have outlined significant penalties for farmers in the scheme including removal from the scheme should farmers not have their lands scored within a month of the deadline passing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33294/23]

*296. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what action his Department is taking to support the horticultural sector; if consideration would be given to the establishment of a targeted financial support scheme to assist with rising production costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33295/23]

*297. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to outline in tabular form the number of tree-felling licences issued from 1 January 2022 to 31 May 2022; the number issued during the same timeframe in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33299/23]

*298. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to outline in tabular form the total number of kilometres of road licences issued from 1 January 2022 to 31 May 2022; the total number issued during the same timeframe in 2023, and to clarify why there has been a significant decrease in road licences issued in 2023 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33300/23]

*299. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason the monthly targets for private licences with ecology input, excluding Coillte felling licences, were predominantly higher in series one in comparison to series two from January 2022 to January 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33301/23]

*300. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what impact the low level of afforestation licences issued for 2023 will have on Ireland's environmental and climate targets; if his Department plans to increase the number of afforestation licences issued for the remainder of the year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33302/23]

*301. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the current status of the application for the animal remedies merchants licence for a company (details supplied); when it will be issued; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [33408/23]

*302. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a deed of transfer will be processed for persons in County Mayo (details supplied), in view of the inordinate amount of time it is taking to be dealt with and the serious impact of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [33413/23]

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

*303. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will consider funding for a community neurorehabilitation team in CHO5, given that no funding has been allocated to date for a team in CHO5; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [33231/23]

*304. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to extend parental leave to parents of teenagers during their children's teenage years due to the importance of their development during this time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [33239/23]

*305. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for an update on the funding for community neurorehabilitation teams in each CHO; when they can expect to be in operation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [33240/23]

*306. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for an update on establishment of the community neurorehabilitation team in CHO7; when this will be in operation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [33241/23]

*307. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the current caseload for Balbriggan CDNT as of 30 June 2023, or the latest available date for which data is compiled; how many children are receiving services; how many children are still on the waiting list; if the list has been validated, and if so, when this was completed. — Louise O'Reilly. [33348/23]

*308. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many staff are currently in posts (details supplied) in Balbriggan CDNT; how many vacancies exist for each discipline; if those vacancies have been advertised; what is the recruitment process for these vacancies; when the CRC expects to fill those roles; and the estimated start dates. — Louise O'Reilly. [33349/23]

*309. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the cost to the State in legal fees since late 2018 in defending the 115 court cases brought by parents whose children did not receive an assessment of need in a timely manner set out in the Disability Act 2005; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [33244/23]

*310. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the progress made in fulfilling the Programme for Government commitment to holding a referendum on Article 41.2 of the Constitution; and if the draft wording of the referendum will be shared with civil society organisations in advance of the referendum to ensure that any proposed constitutional change will reinforce equality commitments at an international level, such as the UNCRPD. — Holly Cairns. [33258/23]

*311. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33267/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*312. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the Budget 2024 ask of an organisation (details supplied); if this can be considered under budgetary negotiations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [33212/23]

*313. To ask the Minister for Health when planning permission will be granted to an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [33214/23]

*314. To ask the Minister for Health if the target four-month waiting time for scoliosis surgery still applies; if so, the plans and timeline for achieving that target maximum waiting time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [33215/23]

*315. To ask the Minister for Health in view of the unacceptably long waiting times for scoliosis surgery which many children have to endure, if he will make a special allocation for mental health supports during this difficult period, as requested by an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [33216/23]

*316. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the progress being made by his Department to implement the EU Directive 2021/2282 on health technology assessment (HTAR); and how this will impact how HTA is undertaken in Ireland. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [33218/23]

*317. To ask the Minister for Health the number of medicines assessments carried out by the NCPE that have been subject to external review or audit; the extent to which NCPE activity has been subject to audit to date; the governance and oversight procedures in place for the NCPE via the HSE's chief clinical officer and/or his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [33220/23]

*318. To ask the Minister for Health if a child (details supplied) will be considered for an urgent assessment in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [33225/23]

*319. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be admitted to the National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dún Laoghaire; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [33228/23]

*320. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be admitted to the National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dún Laoghaire; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [33229/23]

*321. To ask the Minister for Health what measures he is taking to address the extensive waiting list in the National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dún Laoghaire; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [33230/23]

*322. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the specific measures taken to enhance ambulance services in advance of the opening of the new major trauma centres in line with the Government decision; the specific funding allocated to each measure and its date of operation; when each of the network trauma hospitals will become operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [33243/23]

*323. To ask the Minister for Health to respond to concerns raised by an organisation (details supplied), in particular the significant disparity between over-8s eye care policy in each individual CHO area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33245/23]

*324. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to ensure that current trainee educational psychologists in Irish third-level institutions will receive the same remuneration and funding supports as incoming first years. — Holly Cairns. [33260/23]

*325. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive a date for surgery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [33265/23]

*326. To ask the Minister for Health to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33275/23]

*327. To ask the Minister for Health if any consideration has been given to the provision of a capitation grant or low-interest loan scheme for small- to medium-sized nursing homes to meet the cost of required upgrades/building works in order to satisfy HIQA regulations, where that nursing home can show that it does not have the capacity to meet the financial requirements on same, and where there is a clear and identified need for beds in the area in question; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33286/23]

*328. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the implementation of the review of the pricing system for long-term residential care facilities; the timeline he is working towards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [33288/23]

*329. To ask the Minister for Health to outline with respect and reference to the TAPS payments which issued to private nursing homes throughout Covid, whether any public nursing homes received such payments under a similar scheme; if so, the name of the scheme; if governance and oversight were measured, similar to that of the audit undertaken on the TAPS scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33289/23]

*330. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the progression and the timeline for the establishment of a commission on care for older people, establishment of a commissioner for ageing and older people; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33290/23]

*331. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the expansion of community-based care, bringing it closer to home, in line with the Sláintecare Implementation Plan, since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33297/23]

*332. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the expected timelines on the establishment of a new statutory home support scheme; how he plans to scope and plan for such a scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33303/23]

*333. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a progress update on the expansion of community intervention teams to prevent unnecessary hospital admissions and to support the timely discharge of patients to their homes, since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33305/23]

*334. To ask the Minister for Health to set out in tabular form the total number of people on HSE physiotherapy waiting lists in Cork from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022, and 1 January 2023 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33306/23]

*335. To ask the Minister for Health what action his Department is taking to address the current shortage of physiotherapists in the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33307/23]

*336. To ask the Minister for Health to set out in tabular form the total number of trained physiotherapists from the United States who applied for international recognition through the CORU regulation process from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022, and 1 January 2023 to date; the number of applications that were refused during this timeframe; the number of applicants who submitted appeals on foot of initial refusal and the number of those approved and refused on foot of an appeal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33308/23]

*337. To ask the Minister for Health to set out in tabular form the total number of foreign-trained physiotherapists who applied for international recognition through the CORU regulation process from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022, and 1 January 2023 to date; the number of applications that were refused during this timeframe; the number of applicants who submitted appeals on foot of initial refusal and the number of those approved/refused on foot of an appeal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33309/23]

*338. To ask the Minister for Health the timeframe for the processing of appeals for foreign-trained physiotherapist applicants who applied for international recognition through the CORU regulation process in 2021, 2022, and 2023 to date; if these appeals are processed in chronological order; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33310/23]

*339. To ask the Minister for Health what action his Department is taking to improve the application process for applicants in the CORU regulation process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [33311/23]

*340. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment on the target of community services assigning a case manager for older people with chronic conditions to assist them with accessing the care they need, since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33313/23]

*341. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment on the development of the role of advanced nurse practitioners in older person services and chronic disease management, since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33314/23]

*342. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment on the development and targeted expansion and availability of step-down facilities across each of the CHO areas, since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33315/23]

*343. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to develop and support eHealth and the increased use of assistive technologies, supporting people to live independently across each of the CHO areas, since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33316/23]

*344. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to develop and deliver a carers guarantee proposal that will provide a core basket of services to carers across the country, regardless of where they live, across each of the CHO areas since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33318/23]

*345. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to develop and increase access to talk therapies and improve access to specialist expertise, when it is required, in line with Sharing the Vision - a Mental Health Policy for Everyone., across each of the CHO areas since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33319/23]

*346. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to develop a plan aimed at tackling loneliness and isolation, particularly among older people, as outlined in the Roadmap for Social Inclusion, across each of the CHO areas since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33320/23]

*347. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to further support the Nursing Homes Support Scheme (The Fair Deal) to

provide assistance when staying at home may no longer be an option since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33323/23]

*348. To ask the Minister for Health to provide on update on the Programme for Government commitment to ensure that no nursing homes support scheme resident is charged for services they do not use, since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33324/23]

*349. To ask the Minister for Health to provide on update on the Programme for Government commitment to ensure that the best possible safeguards are in place to protect our friends and family in nursing homes since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33325/23]

*350. To ask the Minister for Health to provide on update on the Programme for Government commitment to Increase the number of specialist palliative care beds countrywide over the five years of government, ensuring that there will be a hospice serving every region in the country since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33326/23]

*351. To ask the Minister for Health to provide on update on the Programme for Government commitment to support community specialist palliative homecare teams in all HSE areas, fund designated home care packages, and resource specialist palliative care provided in hospices since the establishment of the current Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33327/23]

*352. To ask the Minister for Health to provide on update on the Programme for Government commitment to increase resources for the children's palliative care programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33328/23]

*353. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the total budget for homecare provision over the years 2020 to date, in tabular form, by CHO, county, number of hours requested by homecare management, number of hours provided and the total expenditure per county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [33330/23]

*354. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the services that are available under the dental treatment services scheme in counties Laois and Offaly; the action being taken to ensure that medical card holders can access dental care in counties Laois and Offaly; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [33351/23]

*355. To ask the Minister for Health if there have been any developments in the extension of the dental treatment services scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [33352/23]

*356. To ask the Minister for Health how the additional €3.5 million announced in Budget 2023 for community and voluntary providers of drug and alcohol services is to be spent; the amount of that €3.5 million already allocated; a tabular breakdown of what organisations received a portion of that €3.5 million; and how much. — Seán Crowe. [33384/23]

*357. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on outstanding recognition payments for front-line staff who worked at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [33385/23]

*358. To ask the Minister for Health if SouthDoc management is committed to providing a long-term service in Fermoy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [33400/23]

*359. To ask the Minister for Health if SouthDoc management is committed to providing a proper out-of-hours service in Fermoy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [33403/23]

*360. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on any capital works being carried out by his Department at this time in County Clare. — Cathal Crowe. [33412/23]

*361. To ask the Minister for Health if he has received a report from the HSE about waiting lists in Dublin for physiotherapy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [33422/23]

*362. To ask the Minister for Health if an application for home help support can be approved for a person (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [33426/23]

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

*363. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if, in relation to the scaffolding construction training programme he launched in July 2022, he can confirm whether this course is currently recognised in accordance with Schedule 5 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulation 2013 (SI No 291 / 2013); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [33210/23]

*364. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for his Department’s websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33274/23]

*365. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware of the concerns of an organisation (details supplied) regarding the Government’s recently published review of the PhDs in Ireland; if he has met or plans to meet them to discuss their concerns; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [33332/23]

*366. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether PhD classified as non-EU will be provided with updated residency visas with a four-year duration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [33333/23]

*367. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if there are plans to recommend that PhD researchers have access to PRSI; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [33334/23]

*368. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if there are plans to recommend that PhD researchers have access to sick leave and/or parental leave; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [33335/23]

*369. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if there are plans to recommend that PhDs to have access to the Workplace Relations Commission in order to resolve disputes with their university; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [33336/23]

*370. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if there are plans to recommend that minimum standards for the provision of funding for PhD researchers in Ireland, including minimum standards of pay, such as the national minimum wage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [33337/23]

*371. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science regarding the matter of employee status for PHDS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [33338/23]

*372. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if there is a defined criteria for selection in terms of his new Research and Innovation Policy Advisory Forum (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [33354/23]

*373. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the selection criteria permit representatives for postgraduate researchers to apply; if she will be amenable to their presence on the forum; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [33355/23]

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

*374. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to clarify whether at any point over the past ten years the SSL certificates for her Department's websites expired for a period of time; if so, the reason this occurred; and the duration they remained expired. — Catherine Murphy. [33279/23]

