

## DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 20 Meán Fómhair, 2023 Wednesday, 20th September, 2023

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CEISTEANNA QUESTIONS

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## CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

## Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

- 1. To ask the Taoiseach how many new jobs have been created in Cork for the period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2022. Mick Barry. [33642/23]
- 2. To ask the Taoiseach how many new jobs have been created in County Meath in each of the past five years. Peadar Tóibín. [33723/23]
- 3. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the work of the National Statistics Board under his Department. Peadar Tóibín. [33727/23]

## CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

- \*4. To ask the Taoiseach if the position of State Solicitor for west Cork has been advertised since a person (details supplied) retired in November 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Collins. [40614/23]
- \*5. To ask the Taoiseach to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); and the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive. Holly Cairns. [39676/23]
- \*6. To ask the Taoiseach to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40240/23]
- \*7. To ask the Taoiseach to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; and the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; and the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him. Peadar Tóibín. [40379/23]

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

- \*8. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the breakdown of overseas aid given by the State directly to foreign governments for year ending 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [39587/23]
- \*9. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the breakdown of funding given by the State to all non-governmental organisations in receipt of €20,000 or more from Vote 27, for the year ending 2022, broken down by Irish- and foreign-based NGOs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [39588/23]
- \*10. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will internationally condemn the announcement by the United States to send depleted uranium munitions to Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [39612/23]
- \*11. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what specific efforts have been made to recruit customer service agents in the Passport Office who are fluent in languages other than English; if he will consider including a focus on a stronger diversity of language fluency among staff in future recruitment efforts, particularly in relation to languages widely spoken by immigrant communities in Ireland; if he is satisfied that there are sufficient Irish speakers in the same section for applicants who wish to apply as Gaeilge; and if a focus on same will be considered for future recruitment efforts. Chris Andrews. [39651/23]
- \*12. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39668/23]
- \*13. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he intends to publish his written statement to the International Court of Justice with regard to the Policies and Practices of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39685/23]
- \*14. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will make a statement on his recent visit to the Middle East. Ivana Bacik. [39711/23]
- \*15. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he made representations to President Herzog in respect of Palestinian children's access to education in Occupied Palestine on his recent visit to Israel. Ivana Bacik. [39712/23]
- \*16. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if, in view of comments made by him on his recent visit to Israel, he will outline the steps he proposes to take to tackle anti-Semitism, with specific reference to the application of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of anti-Semitism; if he accepts and agrees with such a definition; and if he will support calls for Ireland to formally adopt same, in line with other jurisdictions. Charles Flanagan. [39731/23]
- \*17. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps he is taking to assist the advancement of democracy, the upholding of the rule of law, and the protection of human rights in Kosovo; to outline the position of the Government on the recent Kosovo-Serbia dialogue

process and the need to hold Serbia to account for its destabilising actions and consequent impact on the neighbourhood; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [39749/23]

- \*18. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to outline the position of the Government on the current UK government legacy Bill; and if an international legal challenge will be mounted. Charles Flanagan. [39759/23]
- \*19. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his visit to Israel, Palestine and Jordan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39771/23]
- \*20. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide a report on the work of a project (details supplied), including the financial and human resources provided by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39772/23]
- \*21. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update in relation to the ongoing situation in Artsakh, Nagorno-Karabak; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Brophy. [39783/23]
- \*22. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update on a first-time passport application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [39802/23]
- \*23. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to outline the position regarding a foreign birth registration application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [40107/23]
- \*24. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for Foreign Affairs if he has spoken with the Turkish Ambassador to Ireland to date in 2023. Catherine Murphy. [40121/23]
- \*25. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if there are plans to appoint a cultural officer to the Embassy in Canberra, Australia. Catherine Murphy. [40122/23]
- \*26. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when a decision will be made on an application for a foreign birth registration (details supplied); the reason for the delay in the processing the application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Éamon Ó Cuív. [40157/23]
- \*27. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when a decision will be made on an application for a foreign birth registration (details supplied); the reason for the delay in the processing of said application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Éamon Ó Cuív. [40158/23]
- \*28. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when a passport will be issued for a child (details supplied). Paul McAuliffe. [40204/23]
- \*29. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40232/23]

- \*30. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40371/23]
- \*31. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what measures his Department is undertaking to ensure that budgetary proposals this year relating to overseas development assistance and climate finance are not double-counted with regard to meeting international commitments relating to both; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [40561/23]
- \*32. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if any portion of Ireland's oversees development assistance budget has been used for the purposes of enhancing European Union border security or funding migration control facilities in third countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [40562/23]
- \*33. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of an application to the foreign birth register (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Emer Higgins. [40595/23]
- \*34. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the status of an application to the foreign birth register (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Emer Higgins. [40596/23]
- \*35. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of Irish passports issued to applicants providing principal place of residence addresses in the United Kingdom, specifically detailed as: Northern Ireland; England; Scotland; and Wales, for each of the past six years. Charles Flanagan. [40653/23]
- \*36. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which any assistance is being offered in the case of a person (details supplied); if all possible resources can be made available, with a view to assistance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40705/23]

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

- \*37. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the status of the National Broadband Plan rollout for Bantry, County Cork; the measures he is taking to increase the speed of the rollout of broadband in rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Holly Cairns. [39492/23]
- \*38. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has received draft guidelines for the use of CCTV to catch illegal dumping and littering; and if not, when he expects those guidelines. Sean Sherlock. [39497/23]

- \*39. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason that an area (details supplied) is underserviced for broadband; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [39529/23]
- \*40. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the increase in pensions and deferred pensions for members of the An Post superannuation scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [39595/23]
- \*41. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when he and the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform will approve the pension increase due to An Post pensioners now that all preliminary impediments have been removed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39597/23]
- \*42. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39666/23]
- \*43. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason for the delay in ensuring Ireland's 7,000 pensioner postmen receive their pay increases that have been approved by the Labour Court (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39747/23]
- \*44. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures that are being taken to improve the wating times for those availing of works under the free energy upgrade scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Charles Flanagan. [39862/23]
- \*45. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has received the 2022 Annual Report from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland; and if so, when same will be published online. Darren O'Rourke. [39976/23]
- \*46. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on the adequacy of resources committed to advancing the sustainable development goals in his Department (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [40013/23]
- \*47. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for clarity on whether legislation or guidance exists requiring telephone boxes in city areas. Thomas Gould. [40019/23]
- \*48. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what national commitments he will seek to make at the Sustainable Development Goals Summit; and to detail how civil society groups have been facilitated to participate in the development of these commitments. Holly Cairns. [40208/23]
- \*49. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details

supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. — Carol Nolan. [40230/23]

- \*50. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of pending applications and the current average waiting time for works to commence in County Wexford under the SEAI free energy upgrades; the efforts that are being made to reduce this waiting time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [40322/23]
- \*51. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40369/23]
- \*52. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has spoken with the United States special climate envoy to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Donnelly. [40387/23]
- \*53. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications whether his attention has been drawn to an upcoming vote on the Critical Raw Materials Act in the European Parliament; what actions will be taken by his Department domestically in light of the Act; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [40425/23]
- \*54. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 82 of 11 September 2023 and the subsequent response received from Bord na Móna (details supplied), if he can confirm that the employer paid the employee's tax on behalf of the employee; if he can confirm whether such an arrangement in respect of a company car and health insurance was agreed in advance with Revenue; if so, if he will provide a copy of any said confirmation by Revenue; if he will confirm whether any other employees are subject to BIK on any benefits; if so, if Bord na Móna plc pays the tax due on these benefits or if the arrangement is in place for the CEO only; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [40457/23]
- \*55. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is aware of the €1.2 billion relating to pensions that is included in the 2022 Annual Report of An Post as an experience adjustment without any explanation provided; if he is further aware of the material impact of this extraordinary figure on the company's pension fund and on the profits of the company; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Carol Nolan. [40461/23]
- \*56. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 83 of 11 September 2023 and the table provided, if he will seek a detailed breakdown of the 'other' payments listed which amount to €123,000 over the four years from 2019 to 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [40568/23]
- \*57. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will ensure that National Broadband Ireland re-investigates the provision of fibre broadband to a property (details supplied). Robert Troy. [40664/23]

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

- \*58. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39663/23]
- \*59. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the status of his commitment to provide medical cover to all enlisted personnel; his proposed timeline for the development and implementation of such; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39987/23]
- \*60. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40227/23]
- \*61. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of serving military doctors who have been arrested, by either the military police or by An Garda Síochána; the number of times they have been arrested and the reason for the arrests and whether any of them were subsequently charged with an offence; if they were found guilty or not in each of the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40243/23]
- \*62. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the reason civilian aeroplane Beechcraft Model 18 tail number G-BSZC overnighted in No2 hangar in Baldonnell in 2004; the precise date of the visit; the name of the pilots, crew and passengers; and the originating airport. Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40244/23]
- \*63. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if he is aware that lands gifted by his Department to Ballincollig AFC more than twenty years ago at the former Murphy Barracks site in Ballincollig have still not been transferred to the club; if he will explain the reason this transfer has not been completed as intended; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Gould. [40258/23]
- \*64. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40366/23]
- \*65. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if he will detail the number of full-time civilian vacancies that are currently ongoing at Defence Forces facilities. Paul Donnelly. [40408/23]
- \*66. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the current strength of Defence Forces personnel attached to Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa, Renmore, Galway; the numbers in each of the preceding five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Noel Grealish. [40543/23]
- \*67. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of females who applied during the most recent Naval Service cadetship competition. Alan Kelly. [40684/23]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

- \*68. To ask the Minister for Transport what percentage of drivers disqualified in court have surrendered their licence to the RSA, as required by law, in each of the past ten years for each county in the State. Peadar Tóibín. [39489/23]
- \*69. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of passengers who have used their Leap card on the Mallow-Cork train service since the Leap card fares were introduced on that line. Sean Sherlock. [39493/23]
- \*70. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of funding allocated for a project (details supplied); and the status of that project. Sean Sherlock. [39494/23]
- \*71. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of funding allocated for a project (details supplied); and the status of that project. Sean Sherlock. [39495/23]
- \*72. To ask the Minister for Transport to determine a date for a bus shelter (details supplied) to be installed. Sean Sherlock. [39496/23]
- \*73. To ask the Minister for Transport the expected Exchequer spending for the Safe Routes to School Programme in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [39523/23]
- \*74. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will seek defined timelines on when the new distance-based fare structures announced in April 2023 will be implemented by the NTA for the Drogheda and east Meath area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [39538/23]
- \*75. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of driver testers currently employed by the RSA and the number of vacant posts and onboarding broken down by test centre. Patrick Costello. [39545/23]
- \*76. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of applicants currently waiting on driving tests with the RSA, broken down by test centre, with the average waiting period by centre. Patrick Costello. [39546/23]
- \*77. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider introducing curve warning signs with recommended speed limits, as used in New Zealand (details supplied), for Irish roads to improve general road safety on a phased basis to offset costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [39562/23]
- \*78. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department will ensure that the terms and conditions of current workers will be protected following the recently awarded ten-year helicopter service contract to a company (details supplied) to operate the Irish coastguard helicopter rescue 115 based at Shannon Airport; if he will insist that TUPE applies, given that it was emphasised by his Department throughout the tendering process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Willie O'Dea. [39580/23]
- \*79. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of the decision of the NTA not to fund the Local Link service for Knocksedan and Rivermeade, Swords, County Dublin; the reason the funding for this enhanced service has not been approved; and when BusConnects will be in

operation for the Swords area and servicing Knocksedan and Rivermeade. — Louise O'Reilly. [39586/23]

- \*80. To ask the Minister for Transport to detail the research conducted, and stakeholders consulted, ahead of the proposal to reduce speed limits; if there will be any exceptions to the reduction of speed limits; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39589/23]
- \*81. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of driver theory test applications per week in Galway; the number of cancellations per week in Galway due to NDLS reasons, not on the part of the applicants; the breakdown of same, by month for 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Anne Rabbitte. [39609/23]
- \*82. To ask the Minister for Transport how often the Joint Interdepartmental Justice and Transport Road Safety Committee met since July 2020; and if he will outline the attendance at each of those meetings. Robert Troy. [39632/23]
- \*83. To ask the Minister for Transport to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39678/23]
- \*84. To ask the Minister for Transport to examine the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. James Lawless. [39729/23]
- \*85. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will set out his proposals to increase LocalLink bus services to facilitate access to Wexford town from adjoining rural areas; if there are any plans, in particular, to provide disabled persons access from the Curracloe area into services in Wexford town; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Howlin. [39763/23]
- \*86. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the facilitation of autism support dogs on public transport services in the State; if he has any plans to review the current protocols in place, with a view to ensuring both State-subsidised and private public transport services are facilitating those with the various relevant medical conditions who wish to be accompanied by a support dog when they travel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. James O'Connor. [39798/23]
- \*87. To ask the Minister for Transport to explain the long delay in the completion and opening of the Kishogue train station in Clonburris, County Dublin; and to provide a date for when the station will be completed and open. Eoin Ó Broin. [39826/23]
- \*88. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the electrification of the train line to Hazelhatch through Clondalkin, Kishogue and Adamstown; and to provide a date for the completion of these works and a date for the commencement of the Dart service on this enhanced line. Eoin Ó Broin. [39827/23]
- \*89. To ask the Minister for Transport if an aircraft (details supplied) which was on contract to the US military and which arrived at Shannon Airport at approximately 02.53 am on 6 September 2023, coming from Hunter US army airfield in Savannah in Georgia and returned to Shannon Airport at approximately 03.34 am on 7 September 2023, was authorised to carry

weapons and/or munitions; to confirm whether or not this aircraft was searched or investigated while it was at Shannon Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [39840/23]

- \*90. To ask the Minister for Transport if he plans to expand the national local hackney pilot to rural areas across County Laois; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Charles Flanagan. [39880/23]
- \*91. To ask the Minister for Transport to review correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39885/23]
- \*92. To ask the Minister for Transport if and when a driving test appointment will be facilitated in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Bernard J. Durkan. [39968/23]
- \*93. To ask the Minister for Transport to examine the case of a person (details supplied) in County Tipperary; the reason there is an extended waiting period of over 11 months for an invitation to apply for their driving test; when they can expect to receive an invitation to book their driving test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Lowry. [39988/23]
- \*94. To ask the Minister for Transport to examine the case of a person (details supplied) in County Tipperary; when they can expect to receive an invitation to book their driving test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Lowry. [39989/23]
- \*95. To ask the Minister for Transport to examine the case of a person (details supplied) in County Tipperary; when can they expect to receive an invitation to book their driving test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Lowry. [39990/23]
- \*96. To ask the Minister for Transport to examine the case of a person (details supplied) in County Tipperary; if the RSA was aware of IT issues when this person booked their driving test date; when they can expect to be placed back on the driving test waiting/invitation system and receive an invitation to book their driving test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Lowry. [39991/23]
- \*97. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of the implications the reduction of the speed limits on national roads will have on drivers' hours for professional drivers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [40006/23]
- \*98. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update, including a projected timetable on the completion of the M11 motorway from Oylegate to Rosslare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [40031/23]
- \*99. To ask the Minister for Transport if more carriages can be urgently added to the morning commuter trains from Celbridge/Hazelhatch to Grand Canal Dock (departing Celbridge at 07.35 am) and from Newbridge to Grand Canal Dock (departing Newbridge at 7.00 am, 7.19 am) given the trains are nearly full to capacity by the time they reach Adamstown Station with little standing room for the remaining stations; when more carriages are likely to be provided given the population growth in the area in recent times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40050/23]

- \*100. To ask the Minister for Transport to follow up with the NTA on correspondence (details supplied) which was sent to the NTA over two weeks ago; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40059/23]
- \*101. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department and/or agencies under the aegis of his Department have ensured that EU transfer of undertakings (TUPE) requirements will be applied in full by the new operator of the search-and-rescue helicopter contract as it relates to employees of a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ged Nash. [40062/23]
- \*102. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide funding, on a pilot basis or otherwise, to local authorities to implement noise mitigation action plans on major roads such as the M20 motorway beside Glencairin, Dooradoyle, Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Willie O'Dea. [40066/23]
- \*103. To ask the Minister for Transport the current up-to-date position regarding a new coastguard building in Howth; and the amount that has been spent on this project to date. Catherine Murphy. [40114/23]
- \*104. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of new bus drivers recruited by Bus Éireann and Dublin Bus in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Catherine Murphy. [40115/23]
- \*105. To ask the Minister for Transport if funding has been approved for school safety zone for schools (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [40128/23]
- \*106. To ask the Minister for Transport the funding stream under which the Cork robot trees initiative was funded; whether this funding stream requires feedback on success of projects; whether such feedback has been received on the robot trees initiative; and the criteria for inclusion in the stream. Thomas Gould. [40143/23]
- \*107. To ask the Minister for Transport whether he is aware that a report into the efficacy of the Cork robot trees initiative has not been published, despite a commitment that it would be published in Q1 2023; whether he has received a copy of this report; and if he is aware that at a recent council meeting, officials could not give a timeline for publication of the report. Thomas Gould. [40144/23]
- \*108. To ask the Minister for Transport the full cost of the Cork robot trees initiative; the cost of transport; and the amount that was paid for through the relevant funding stream. Thomas Gould. [40145/23]
- \*109. To ask the Minister for Transport if priority will be given to securing driving test dates for persons (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40149/23]
- \*110. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the Local Link 171 service does not accept school transport tickets; if there are plans in place to provide for school transport tickets to be accepted on local link services when this is the most effective and appropriate means; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [40151/23]

- \*111. To ask the Minister for Transport if there have been any meetings between his Department, the Department of Education, Bus Éireann and Local Link operators, or directly between any of those bodies, regarding the potential of the 171 Local Link service accepting school transport tickets; who was represented at any such meeting; which of these bodies is opposed to allowing school students to avail of this service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [40152/23]
- \*112. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will engage with Bus Éireann to address the situation of children who availed of school transport via the 166 service from Dundalk to Inniskeen and Carrickmacross (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Matt Carthy. [40153/23]
- \*113. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has met with or will meet with the IAA in relation to their decision to cease payment of increases in pensions, in contravention of The Irish Aviation Authority Act 1993, Article 41 (5) and Article 22 para 4 (a) of EU Commission Regulation No. 2019/317, and whether he can explain the rationale for this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40168/23]
- \*114. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide updated details regarding the timeframe for the implementation of legislation around e-scooters; their proposed classification; the limits proposed regarding the operation of said classified vehicles, including information regarding the details of driver testing and the requirements for licence, registration, tax and insurance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peter Fitzpatrick. [40191/23]
- \*115. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of bike spaces made available to passengers on each rail line in Ireland; and if his Department is working to increase the number of bike spaces available on trains. Holly Cairns. [40206/23]
- \*116. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on driving test waiting times (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [40213/23]
- \*117. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of a driving test application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [40215/23]
- \*118. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on a matter (details supplied) regarding driving tests; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [40218/23]
- \*119. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of Leap cards that have been used at least once in each month to date in 2023. Brian Leddin. [40222/23]
- \*120. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of times the weekly fares cap has been applied to Leap card customers in 2023; and the number of times the monthly fares cap has been applied to Leap card customers in 2023, across all cities where Leap is in operation. Brian Leddin. [40223/23]
- \*121. To ask the Minister for Transport to increase the discretionary roads funding from his Department to local authorities to meet the increasing cost of inflation to enable them to continue their daily road maintenance duties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mattie McGrath. [40224/23]

- \*122. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40242/23]
- \*123. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the RSA 2022 annual report has been provided to him; when it will be made available to the public; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [40257/23]
- \*124. To ask the Minister for Transport to examine a request (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. James Lawless. [40274/23]
- \*125. To ask the Minister for Transport the current waiting times for driving tests in County Donegal; the number of people on each waiting list, per centre, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pearse Doherty. [40301/23]
- \*126. To ask the Minister for Transport the current waiting times for driver theory tests in County Donegal; the number of people on each waiting list, per centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pearse Doherty. [40302/23]
- \*127. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps he is taking to reduce waiting times and clear the backlog for driving tests and driver theory tests; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Pearse Doherty. [40303/23]
- \*128. To ask the Minister for Transport if there will be a new motorway going ahead on the N25 beside an address (details supplied). Kathleen Funchion. [40304/23]
- \*129. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the Road Safety Authority keeps a record or database of accidents, collisions and incident reports involving powered personal transporters; if so, whether details of such accidents, collisions and incident reports for 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023 can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jim O'Callaghan. [40324/23]
- \*130. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40381/23]
- \*131. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of revenue generated through advertisement on the sides of the Dublin Bus fleet in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023; and the rates that Dublin Bus charges for such advertisement. Paul Donnelly. [40389/23]
- \*132. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of defibrillators currently located in public areas of both terminals at Dublin Airport; and the number and percentage of DAA staff who are trained in the use of this vital equipment. Paul Donnelly. [40390/23]
- \*133. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount that both Bus Éireann and the NTA will spend on refurbishment of Busáras station between now and the end of 2025; and the number

- of these refurbishment works that will be carried out during this period. Paul Donnelly. [40391/23]
- \*134. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of the N6 Galway City Ring Road; when he expects An Bord Pleanála to make a decision on whether or not the project can go ahead; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Noel Grealish. [40467/23]
- \*135. To ask the Minister for Transport the cost to date of the N6 Galway City Ring Road project, by category of expense, and the costs involved in the High Court challenges to the project; if he will provide an estimate of the likely ongoing monthly outlay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Noel Grealish. [40474/23]
- \*136. To ask the Minister for Transport he expected cost now of completing the N6 Galway City Ring Road; and if the Government will commit to make funding available for such a project if it is given the go-ahead by An Bord Pleanála; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Noel Grealish. [40475/23]
- \*137. To ask the Minister for Transport the estimated cost of introducing light rail transport systems in the cities of Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40585/23]
- \*138. To ask the Minister for Transport if the successful tender for the provision of Irish Coast Guard Aviation Service included an undertaking to comply fully with the provisions of Council Directive 2001/23/EC of 12 March 2001 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings, business or parts of undertakings or business and implemented in Irish law by Statutory Instrument No. 131 of 2003, the European Communities (Protection of Employees on Transfer of Undertakings) Regulations 2003; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40633/23]
- \*139. To ask the Minister for Transport if the contract with a company (details supplied) signed on 22 August 2023 to deliver search and rescue aviation services on behalf of the Irish Coast Guard includes a clause requiring compliance with the provisions of Council Directive 2001/23/EC of 12 March 2001 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings, business or parts of undertakings or business and implemented in Irish law by Statutory Instrument No. 131 of 2003, the European Communities (Protection of Employees on Transfer of Undertakings) Regulations 2003; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40634/23]
- \*140. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of appointments booked and paid for more than 30 days in advance of a NCT test, per test centre; and the amount of revenue this has generated in 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Alan Kelly. [40677/23]
- \*141. To ask the Minister for Transport the likely timeframe for the resumption of onboard catering services on the remaining Intercity rail routes. Alan Kelly. [40678/23]
- \*142. To ask the Minister for Transport what financial assistance can be given in a particular case (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40687/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

- \*143. To ask the Minister for Finance the value of counterfeit prescription drugs and narcotics seized by customs officials at privately owned and State airports and ports of entry and exit that were passed to the HPRA for examination; and if he will provide the information in tabular form, by location, item and value, for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023. Catherine Murphy. [40692/23]
- \*144. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review the hike in the excise duty on fuel (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39508/23]
- \*145. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will reduce alcohol excise by 7.5% in upcoming budgets (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39520/23]
- \*146. To ask the Minister for Finance to outline his plans for a windfall tax, and the EU-wide plans for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [39526/23]
- \*147. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide full details of the tax regime for REITs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [39527/23]
- \*148. To ask the Minister for Finance if he considered waiving VAT charges on households that decided to do repair works on their MICA affected home, but decided not to go through the mica redress scheme; if he considered waiving VAT charges for those who are carrying out repair works to their homes within the scheme, taking into account these householders are struggling with existing mortgages and high interest loans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Joe McHugh. [39542/23]
- \*149. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider reducing the VAT rate for cartographers and map publishers to 0%, in line with newspapers, given the small number of cartographers and map publishers in the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Kathleen Funchion. [39548/23]
- \*150. To ask the Minister for Finance for a breakdown of Home Building Finance Ireland's funding support to developers for the construction of housing, by county, annually, since its establishment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mattie McGrath. [39585/23]
- \*151. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated cost of not proceeding with the legislated increase in carbon tax to take effect in October 2023, for 2023 and 2024, respectively, VAT inclusive. Pearse Doherty. [39615/23]
- \*152. To ask the Minister for Finance if agricultural pre-cast concrete products will be included in a legislative amendment in the forthcoming Finance Bill to deal with how the concrete levy impacts on the sale of certain pre-cast products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39616/23]
- \*153. To ask the Minister for Finance to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of

- the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39667/23]
- \*154. To ask the Minister for Finance if the help-to-buy scheme will be extended to second-hand homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [39748/23]
- \*155. To ask the Minister for Finance for a breakdown by the Appeals Commissioner of the total number of determinations arrived at by the Tax Appeals Commission for the years 2020 to 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Shanahan. [39986/23]
- \*156. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated cost in 2024 of reducing the 2% USC rate to persons earning between €12,012.01 and €22,920 down to 1%, and for persons earning between €22,920.01 to €70,044, to reduce that 4.5% USC rate to 4%; and the number of persons that would benefit in both bands. Catherine Murphy. [40116/23]
- \*157. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of renters who have availed of the renters' tax credit in 2023, providing a breakdown, by county; and the average amount claimed, by county; and the total amount claimed to date in 2023. Eoin Ó Broin. [40138/23]
- \*158. To ask the Minister for Finance to outline the legal position in relation to businesses not accepting cash; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [40159/23]
- \*159. To ask the Minister for Finance if he plans to introduce legislation pertaining to a cashless society; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [40160/23]
- \*160. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 475 of 11 September 2023, if he will confirm the anomaly, which was acknowledged by him whereby foster children are treated differently in approved retirement fund legislation, will be rectified in the context of the upcoming Budget; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Steven Matthews. [40169/23]
- \*161. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will outline any measures which will be included in Budget 2024 to assist mortgage holders whose accounts are currently with vulture funds and who are paying extremely high interest rates; and to outline what plans his Department has to assist these mortgages holders in being allowed to move their mortgage accounts to other lenders and to avail of fixed-rate mortgages...—Robert Troy. [40192/23]
- \*162. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 430 of 11 September 2023, if he will consider extending the application of a reduced VAT rate to non-alcoholic beverages, regardless of the setting of sale (licensed premise, restaurant, supermarket or other retailer); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Patrick Costello. [40200/23]
- \*163. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40231/23]
- \*164. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has received and considered the INTO's pre-budget submission; if he will ensure that their four main demands are included in the upcoming Budget; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40246/23]

- \*165. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department can consider changes to the capital gains tax credit system to attach the credit to the landlords rather than the property (details supplied). Robert Troy. [40293/23]
- \*166. To ask the Minister for Finance the position regarding a review of the level of pension contributions that qualify for the higher rate of tax relief introduced in 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Steven Matthews. [40311/23]
- \*167. To ask the Minister for Finance the position regarding the residential zoned land tax; when it will be implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [40339/23]
- \*168. To ask the Minister for Finance the value of each tax credit which can be claimed; and his latest estimate of the numbers claiming them. Richard Bruton. [40359/23]
- \*169. To ask the Minister for Finance the value of each tax exemption which can be claimed; and his latest estimate of the numbers claiming them (for example, the rent-a-room scheme, and so on). Richard Bruton. [40360/23]
- \*170. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40370/23]
- \*171. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has spoken with the President of the European Investment Bank to date in 2023. Paul Donnelly. [40406/23]
- \*172. To ask the Minister for Finance the last time the threshold under which a person in receipt of a grant or grants from the State in a calendar year, was not required to produce a tax clearance certificate was raised; the present level of the threshold; whether he intends increasing this threshold in line with inflation since to cut down unnecessary paperwork for recipients of modest grants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Éamon Ó Cuív. [40435/23]
- \*173. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department has any plans to review or revise the current deferred tax assets regime as it relates to large financial institutions with significant previous losses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40468/23]
- \*174. To ask the Minister for Finance his Department, as part of Budget 2024, will present proposals to bring Ireland in line with the commitment to set a minimum effective corporate tax rate of 15%; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40469/23]
- \*175. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department, as part of developing budgetary proposals, has examined the potential of introducing a one-off corporate windfall tax or a wealth tax, as recommended by a report (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Neasa Hourigan. [40470/23]

- \*176. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department, as part of developing budgetary proposals, has examined the potential introduction of a tax credit for trade union fees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40471/23]
- \*177. To ask the Minister for Finance to confirm that consideration would be given to increasing the standard fund threshold for pension contributions of  $\in$ 2 million (which was set in October 2014) to  $\in$ 2.4 million, in view of the fact that the Consumer Price Index has increased by 19.7% since October 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40613/23]
- \*178. To ask the Minister for Finance what mechanisms are being put in place to support farmers with having land that is actively being used for agricultural purposes and cannot be used for residential purposes, excluded from RZLT zoning; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [40636/23]
- \*179. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to waving VRT liability for adult disability services that specially adapt vehicles (not wheelchair adaption) for users with mobility issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Kathleen Funchion. [40638/23]
- \*180. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to waving the VRT liability for an adult disability service (details supplied) that has had two vehicles specially adapted (not wheelchair adaption) for users with mobility issues, to include handrails, removal of seats for comfort of service users; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Kathleen Funchion. [40639/23]
- \*181. To ask the Minister for Finance how much revenue the Government has collected from the vacant property tax in 2022 and to date in 2023. Peadar Tóibín. [40646/23]
- \*182. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider an increase in the pension threshold from  $\[mathebox{0.2}\]$  million to ensure that individuals who have reached the 2014 pension cap will now have the same purchasing power as an individual in 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40654/23]
- \*183. To ask the Minister for Finance the projected cost of extending the reduced rate of VAT to electricity and gas to end-December 2023. Pearse Doherty. [40706/23]
- \*184. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider giving a tax concession to small-scale landlords in Budget 2024, in line with the tax concession that is currently been given to those who rent out rooms in their own homes under the rent-a-room relief scheme, with a view to helping to keep such landlords in the rental system; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Cathal Crowe. [40709/23]
- \*185. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of persons who have claimed the new tax credit on unsupported private rents to date in 2023; the numbers that Revenue estimates are eligible; if he has considered whether obstacles exist to its full take-up, or whether information has not reached all eligible persons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Bruton. [40736/23]
- \*186. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of taxpayers who make claims for unreimbursed medical expenses each year; whether the Revenue Commissioners have made any

estimates of the amount of under-claiming in respect of medical expenses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [40737/23]

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.

- \*187. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform for an update on the long-awaited increase to pensions for former An Post workers (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [39570/23]
- \*188. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide the total office rental expenditure each year for the OPW since 2006; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Rose Conway-Walsh. [39571/23]
- \*189. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform his plans to grant approval for the increase in pensions and deferred pensions for members of the An Post superannuation scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [39596/23]
- \*190. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when he proposes to approve the Labour Court recommended increase in pension entitlements for An Post pensioners who have been due pension increases from 1 January 2022 and further increases from January 2023 and July 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Howlin. [39621/23]
- \*191. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when approval will issue on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [39648/23]
- \*192. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when the pension increases for An Post pensioners, approved by the Labour Court in January 2023, will be approved by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Jim O'Callaghan. [39650/23]
- \*193. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39673/23]
- \*194. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform pursuant to a Labour Court recommendation (details supplied), for a status update on the process to increase pensions in payment to all pensioners in the An Post superannuation scheme; the timeline for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [39686/23]
- \*195. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to detail the efforts made to reintroduce the native red squirrel to the Phoenix Park; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Patrick Costello. [39692/23]

- \*196. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if his Department will install pedestrian crossings, zebra or otherwise in the Phoenix Park, specifically at various points along Chesterfield Avenue, allowing for the safe passage of people north to south and vice-versa; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Patrick Costello. [39695/23]
- \*197. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if his Department will make efforts to amend the Islandbridge turnstile access point to the Phoenix Park, specifically to improve the steps which are in a bad state of disrepair and to enhance bicycle access through the entrance. Patrick Costello. [39699/23]
- \*198. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will take steps to approve the long-awaited pension increase for An Post pensioners (details supplied); the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [39700/23]
- \*199. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will report on the appointment of all CEOs to bodies under the remit of his Department in 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form; the reason for the departure of each appointee's predecessor; whether it was a retirement or not; the date of departure of each appointee's predecessor; the date of advertisement of each vacancy; the date on which an offer and acceptance was made in respect of each vacancy; the date on which each appointee took up their position; the length of time during which each acting CEO was in situ, where relevant; and if he will make a statement on the adequacy of existing practices, in terms of good practice, governance and succession planning. Ivana Bacik. [39713/23]
- \*200. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when An Post pensioners will receive long-delayed increases to their pension; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39724/23]
- \*201. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if, given that the 7,000 An Post pensioners awaiting increases to their pension have been left waiting for nearly nine months for same, he will provide the final approval to allow these increases to take effect as a matter of urgency (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39782/23]
- \*202. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform his plans to use a compulsory purchase order in respect of lands at Castletown House in Celbridge County Kildare; if he has engaged with landowners regarding maintaining access from the M4 side of the grounds for public access; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Murphy. [39854/23]
- \*203. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if his Department has approved the An Post pension increases as approved by the Labour Court in January 2023; what date will payment of approved increases be made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39886/23]
- \*204. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he has received correspondence from a union (details supplied) concerning 7,000 An Post pensioners who are still awaiting agreed increases to their pensions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Lowry. [39977/23]

- \*205. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when he will provide the necessary Ministerial approval to increase pensions and deferred pensions for members of the An Post superannuation scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Rose Conway-Walsh. [39983/23]
- \*206. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when approval will be given to allow communication workers to access pension increases as approved by the Labour Court; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Seán Canney. [40011/23]
- \*207. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the status of the establishment and operation of the national flood warning system; what plans there are for the system to go live and be made publicly available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Kathleen Funchion. [40055/23]
- \*208. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to examine a pension issue (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. James Lawless. [40060/23]
- \*209. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to detail in tabular form the number of formal reviews on PAS competition decisions, and the number that were overturned, in each of the years 2021, 2022 and to 12 September 2023; the five main reasons listed for overturning on formal review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cormac Devlin. [40165/23]
- \*210. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if his Department has a policy statement on the practice of naming State buildings after notable Irish people by the Office of Public Works. Ivana Bacik. [40171/23]
- \*211. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40237/23]
- \*212. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the current status of works on the weir at Ballincollig Regional Park; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Gould. [40259/23]
- \*213. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 290 of 16 May 2023, if he has received the OPW report on the inspection of the Oweynagat cave at Rathcroghan; if he will publish the report and/or its recommendations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Denis Naughten. [40294/23]
- \*214. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the steps the OPW has taken to stop erosion at a location (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40328/23]
- \*215. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will provide an update on the transfer of Brexit adjustment reserve funding to the RePower EU fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [40337/23]

- \*216. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform whether he has concerns that a local authority has issued a request for quotation with only eight days for receipt of quotation, less than the minimum time limit set out in the 2016 regulations (details supplied). Paul Murphy. [40343/23]
- \*217. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40376/23]
- \*218. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if the OPW has had contracts with either of two organisations (details supplied) in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; the nature of services that each company provides to the OPW; and the amount that the OPW has paid each company for such services. Paul Donnelly. [40388/23]
- \*219. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform whether the Office of Public Works has any plans to progress works on Courtown beach, specifically the installation of a breakwater to restore the sandy beach; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [40410/23]
- \*220. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if there are plans to update Arterial Drainage Act 1945. Alan Kelly. [40682/23]

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

- \*221. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what measures his Department is taking to assist the food sector in meeting reduction targets, as set out in the Climate Action Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [40341/23]
- \*222. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will continue to pursue pro-enterprise and pro-competitive policies to ensure the survival of hospitality SMEs in the tourism budget; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39528/23]
- \*223. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of businesses in each county or local authority that made successful applications under the Covid-19 credit guarantee scheme launched in September 2020 to provide loans to SMEs and small mid-caps until 30 June 2022; and the estimated total value of the low-cost loans in each county local authority area, in tabular form. Jim O'Callaghan. [39578/23]
- \*224. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to strengthen enforcement mechanisms within existing redundancy laws to ensure they are adhered to by employers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [39623/23]
- \*225. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to increase the maximum weekly amount of €600 used to calculate statutory redundancy payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [39624/23]

- \*226. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to increase the minimum length of notice a person is entitled to under the Minimum Notice and Terms of Employment Acts 1973-2005; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [39625/23]
- \*227. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his plans to increase the period of consecutive days, which is currently 30 days, during which making redundant the relevant number of employees constitutes collective redundancy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [39626/23]
- \*228. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will add motor mechanics to the critical skills list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [39636/23]
- \*229. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39665/23]
- \*230. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will consider the inclusion of automobile engineering in his Department's critical skills occupations list, in view of the critical shortage of qualified automotive mechanics in the motor industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39696/23]
- \*231. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what strategies he will employ with respect to reducing the commercial vacancy rate in a town (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [39736/23]
- \*232. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what strategies he will employ with respect to reducing the commercial vacancy rate in a town (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [39737/23]
- \*233. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is aware of reports within the tech industry whereby employers have continued to make 29 roles redundant each month across Ireland in order to not trigger the 30-employee requirement (given the size of the business) which would fall under a collective redundancy, and notice would need to be given before entering into a consultation period, given that employees facing these situations are often left in the dark, with minimal notice, support, or recourse; and if he will advocate for stronger protections for employees in Ireland's tech industry and beyond including, protection against silent layoffs, increased statutory redundancy payment, support for affected workers and increased transparency. Paul Murphy. [39776/23]
- \*234. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is aware of an online retail site (details supplied), accessed via private agent filters that undercuts retail prices on clothing goods in Ireland; the view of his Department on the impact that site is having on the retail sector here in the State; and if he will publish all research, if any, that his Department has carried out on this issue. Sean Sherlock. [39845/23]

- \*235. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how he intends to resource a plan (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40049/23]
- \*236. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 161 of 23 May 2023, the number of vacancies across Enterprise Ireland and the IDA. Robert Troy. [40135/23]
- \*237. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to detail the arrangements around the new Employment Regulation Order for PSA operatives, including the commencement date and backdating (if applicable); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cormac Devlin. [40164/23]
- \*238. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 1601 of 11 September 2023, if, given that the Minister for Health has confirmed that under company law issues relating to the refunding of fees are the responsibility of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, his Department is aware of the approximately 200 patients in Galway that paid approximately €2 million for orthodontal treatment in a clinic (details supplied) which was not provided and have yet to be compensated; and if so, if his Department is considering any action. Mairéad Farrell. [40193/23]
- \*239. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40229/23]
- \*240. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to confirm whether the NSAI has lost or recently lost any of its international credit actions; if so, to explain the reasons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoin Ó Broin. [40306/23]
- \*241. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on a work permit and visa application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Marian Harkin. [40327/23]
- \*242. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40368/23]
- \*243. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of WTE staff vacancies, by job title, currently in the Corporate Enforcement Agency; and when these vacancies will be filled, in tabular form. Paul Donnelly. [40392/23]
- \*244. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the engagements that he or any representative of his Department, or associated State agencies, have had with management of a factory (details supplied) since 2019; the current number of employees at this factory; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [40423/23]

\*245. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the supports his Department has in place to assist businesses in decarbonisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

— Violet-Anne Wynne. [40661/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

- \*246. To ask the Minister for Education to provide a list of second-level education institutions aided by her Department, in tabular form, that did not provide either physics or physics and chemistry in 2006, 2011, 2016, and 2022; and to provide a list of second-level education institutions aided by her Department that did not provide either chemistry or physics and chemistry for the corresponding years. Patrick Costello. [39500/23]
- \*247. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated cost to the Exchequer to provide free school transport to all primary and post-primary school students in 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [39518/23]
- \*248. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated cost to the Exchequer of a National Educational Psychological Service psychologist. Richard Boyd Barrett. [39519/23]
- \*249. To ask the Minister for Education the reason that it is not possible to pay a substitute teacher where a fixed-term or permanent position remains vacant following an advertisement process; the reason that a casual substitute teacher, in particular, cannot be appointed and paid where there is no named person filling the post, even where the school has a substitute teacher available to cover most of the days as it seeks a candidate to fill the position permanently; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Haughey. [39522/23]
- \*250. To ask the Minister for Education if school transport will be provided to a student (details supplied), considering their circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

   Michael Ring. [39531/23]
- \*251. To ask the Minister for Education if all efforts are being made to ensure the daughter of a person (details supplied) has a school place for this academic year; the action likely to be taken, given the stress the situation is causing to the family; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39532/23]
- \*252. To ask the Minister for Education if the Government plans to fund SNA teachers for primary school-aged children who attend Montessori schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [39535/23]
- \*253. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the building application submitted by a school (details supplied); when a decision will be made in respect of the application; when works are likely to commence and be completed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39564/23]
- \*254. To ask the Minister for Education what planning has taken place to secure new special classes in primary schools in Dublin 15 for September 2024 (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39567/23]
- \*255. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 98 of 5 July 2023, if she can provide an update (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niall Collins. [39573/23]

- \*256. To ask the Minister for Education to provide a breakdown of the total number of applications for school transport for the 2022 and 2023 school years, by county, in tabular form; the number of the cohort in receipt of free school transport that availed of the scheme for 2022 and 2023; the number of the cohort that applied, by county, that paid a fee to include the number who were granted a place and not granted a place for 2022 and 2023; the number that applied, by county, for concessionary tickets for each of the past five years, to include the year 2023 and those that were granted a concessionary ticket and not granted a concessionary ticket for each of those years; the reason one cohort of students was automatically guaranteed a free school transport place for the 2023 school year without having to reapply; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [39590/23]
- \*257. To ask the Minister for Education the number of applicants, by county, in tabular form, who did not receive a seat on the school transport scheme 2023/2024. Sean Sherlock. [39601/23]
- \*258. To ask the Minister for Education the number of school transport appeals on file, by county, in tabular form; and if there is a date for a decision given the school year has started. Sean Sherlock. [39602/23]
- \*259. To ask the Minister for Education the status of an appeal (details supplied). Sean Sherlock. [39603/23]
- \*260. To ask the Minister for Education the status of an appeal (details supplied). Sean Sherlock. [39604/23]
- \*261. To ask the Minister for Education the status of an appeal (details supplied). Sean Sherlock. [39605/23]
- \*262. To ask the Minister for Education the status of an appeal (details supplied). Sean Sherlock. [39606/23]
- \*263. To ask the Minister for Education the status of an appeal (details supplied). Sean Sherlock. [39617/23]
- \*264. To ask the Minister for Education if she is considering the development of a special school for children with disabilities in County Monaghan; the status of any such plans; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39647/23]
- \*265. To ask the Minister for Education if she will indicate her plans to open a school (details supplied) which has not yet opened as anticipated. Richard Bruton. [39658/23]
- \*266. To ask the Minister for Education to detail the preparations being undertaken by her Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by her Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39664/23]
- \*267. To ask the Minister for Education the measures she is taking to bring about an increase in the number of teachers taking up positions in primary and post-primary schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Haughey. [39679/23]

- \*268. To ask the Minister for Education if she will introduce flexible budget arrangements similar to that which were introduced during the Covid-19 pandemic to allow school principals recruit and pay substitute teachers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Haughey. [39680/23]
- \*269. To ask the Minister for Education if she will review the qualifications needed to take up primary and post-primary teaching; if she will consider, in particular, the case of students with relevant qualifications in the education system having to undertake a two-year professional masters in education; if this could be reduced to one year instead; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Haughey. [39681/23]
- \*270. To ask the Minister for Education whether modules in special education have become a mandatory element in teacher training; and if not, if she would consider such a change since it is of such growing importance in inclusive teaching skills. Richard Bruton. [39682/23]
- \*271. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding the pathfinder energy retrofit project for a school (details supplied); if she will provide a timeline for the commencement of works; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Steven Matthews. [39683/23]
- \*272. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the delay in the planned opening of a school (details supplied); if she will indicate how this came about; and whether the issues can be quickly resolved. Richard Bruton. [39684/23]
- \*273. To ask the Minister for Education the number of students who have applied for a school transport but are left without transport this September; the urgent steps she is taking to alleviate the issues; if she has engaged with Bus Éireann to increase the retirement age for school bus drivers, which would immediately increase the supply of school bus drivers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mattie McGrath. [39691/23]
- \*274. To ask the Minister for Education her plans for a new school building for a school (details suppled); when it is proposed that this building will be complete; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Haughey. [39694/23]
- \*275. To ask the Minister for Education if there is a higher-than-usual number of full-time posts in schools which remain vacant this September; if she considers it appropriate that some of the rules surrounding who can act as a substitute in such roles should now be relaxed; if not, if other changes could be made to offer other possibilities to local school leaders to find ways to deliver services while these posts remain vacant after repeated advertising; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Richard Bruton. [39698/23]
- \*276. To ask the Minister for Education whether a permanent site has been identified for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39709/23]
- \*277. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department supports the principle that teachers at both primary and post-primary level should avoid engaging in politicised or personal advocacy work within the classroom; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Carol Nolan. [39718/23]
- \*278. To ask the Minister for Education if there are plans to introduce additional measures through the school curriculum to deal with issues in relation to minors who gamble (details

- supplied); if she will outline what measures are in place presently, if any; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39723/23]
- \*279. To ask the Minister for Education the reason the building project at a school (details supplied) has been further delayed; if she will provide a date on which the project will commence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Eoin Ó Broin. [39730/23]
- \*280. To ask the Minister for Education if she will fund extra seats for a school bus (details supplied) in Rathcormac, County Cork). Sean Sherlock. [39758/23]
- \*281. To ask the Minister for Education if all efforts can be made to ensure a school place in a local ASD unit can be provided in the case of the son of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39760/23]
- \*282. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 674 of 11 September 2023, if she will ensure that parental leave is included in the calculation of pensionable service for the purpose of the 55/35-year threshold, given that this system discriminates against mothers, as they are more likely to avail of parental leave; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39779/23]
- \*283. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the negative impact to families caused by cuts in school transport provided to children with additional needs; if she will take action to ensure this is reversed and these children are provided with appropriate transport to school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39781/23]
- \*284. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on an application by a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39789/23]
- \*285. To ask the Minister for Education if the case of a person (details supplied) will be examined and a search carried out for their pension records; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39794/23]
- \*286. To ask the Minister for Education whether she is aware of significant issues with school transport in Glenville; and her plan to address this. Thomas Gould. [39833/23]
- \*287. To ask the Minister for Education the number of children who applied for a concessionary school transport ticket this year but were unsuccessful. Thomas Gould. [39834/23]
- \*288. To ask the Minister for Education the roll number and name of all new post-primary schools established since 2000, indicating the year the new roll number was issued and the school planning area in each case, in tabular form. Patrick Costello. [39841/23]
- \*289. To ask the Minister for Education to provide, the roll number and name of all post-primary schools created through school amalgamations since 2000, indicating the year the new roll number was issued and the school planning area in each case and to also provide the roll numbers of schools amalgamated, in tabular form. Patrick Costello. [39842/23]
- \*290. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 303 of 2 February 2023 (details supplied), if she can give the policy document or legislation that establishes the practice of 'new schools are only established in areas of demographic growth

- as the resources available for school infrastructure have to be prioritised to meet the needs of areas of significant population increase; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Patrick Costello. [39846/23]
- \*291. To ask the Minister for Education when the proposed school build project for a school (details supplied) is due to commence; and what the next steps are to provide a permanent building for the school which is currently in temporary accommodation. Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [39863/23]
- \*292. To ask the Minister for Education to review a case (details supplied); if she can offer any advice on this case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39870/23]
- \*293. To ask the Minister for Education if she will report on her Department's scoping inquiry into abuse in religious institutions; if she will ensure that victims of abuse in protestant-ethos institutions are treated equally with victims of abuse in other schools in Ireland, including other religious schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Darren O'Rourke. [39889/23]
- \*294. To ask the Minister for Education if a full review can be undertaken into the school transport application in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39961/23]
- \*295. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date in the determination of an appeal for school transport in the case of persons (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39962/23]
- \*296. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the development of a new primary school for Adamstown, Lucan; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Emer Higgins. [39965/23]
- \*297. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the progress and timelines for delivery of a new school accommodation for post-primary schools (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Emer Higgins. [39966/23]
- \*298. To ask the Minister for Education the status of progress and the timelines for the delivery of new school accommodation for schools (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Emer Higgins. [39967/23]
- \*299. To ask the Minister for Education the number of vacant WTE educational psychologists in the National Educational Psychological Service, by region; and when each of these vacancies will be filled, in tabular form. Darren O'Rourke. [39974/23]
- \*300. To ask the Minister for Education if teachers can work on medically retirement pensions; if so, the number of hours; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39979/23]
- \*301. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware that a school (details supplied) is withholding homework journals from children whose parents cannot afford to pay the school contribution charge/fee; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Louise O'Reilly. [39985/23]

- \*302. To ask the Minister for Education when route B1762 to a school (details supplied) will recommence. Sorca Clarke. [39993/23]
- \*303. To ask the Minister for Education if and when an SNA exceptional review process will be concluded in the case of a school (details supplied) who now have eleven special needs students, up from seven last year, who have one SNA on site but urgently require another; when a determination is anticipated to be used; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39995/23]
- \*304. To ask the Minister for Education if she will urgently provide an update on a number of school transport queries (details supplied). Robert Troy. [40003/23]
- \*305. To ask the Minister for Education when an alternative school bus route for a school (details supplied) will be put in place, given parents were informed only two days before children were due back in school that their usual bus provider would no longer provide this service for the coming school year. Sorca Clarke. [40005/23]
- \*306. To ask the Minister for Education if she has had communication from Tipperary ETB in relation to a possible greenfield site for a new school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Alan Kelly. [40012/23]
- \*307. To ask the Minister for Education when tickets for school transport will issue for two siblings (details supplied) who applied and paid for their annual school bus tickets; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40014/23]
- \*308. To ask the Minister for Education when a school transport appeal (details supplied) will be determined; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Creed. [40015/23]
- \*309. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on the current status of a project for a school (details supplied); when it is envisaged a planning application will be submitted; if there is a timeframe available on the project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Eoin Ó Broin. [40026/23]
- \*310. To ask the Minister for Education when tickets for school transport will issue to a child (details supplied) who has no other means of getting to school, and who applied and paid for their annual school bus tickets; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40029/23]
- \*311. To ask the Minister for Education when tickets for school transport will issue for two siblings, (details supplied), who applied and paid for their annual school bus tickets and have no other means of getting to school, with the bus passing their gate twice daily; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40030/23]
- \*312. To ask the Minister for Education the number of vacant teaching posts across the primary school education system in County Wexford; the number of vacant posts across the secondary school system in County Wexford; the number of vacant teaching posts across the special education system in County Wexford; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [40033/23]
- \*313. To ask the Minister for Education when tickets for school transport will issue to a child (details supplied) who is now entering 5th year in secondary school, has always had a ticket and

- who applied and paid for their annual school bus tickets; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40051/23]
- \*314. To ask the Minister for Education for a detailed response to an issue (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. James Lawless. [40052/23]
- \*315. To ask the Minister for Education whether two siblings (details supplied) can travel together on wheelchair-accessible transport, where one child has been approved this service and the other gets the regular Bus Éireann school bus and cannot be at the bus stop at the allocated time due to their parent assisting with the other child being put into the wheelchair-accessible transport; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40056/23]
- \*316. To ask the Minister for Education when a bus will be made available for students on route F661, who have already been allocated tickets and are attending a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40058/23]
- \*317. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 689 of 11 September 2023, if she will request a review of the current HSCL allocation to a school (details supplied), as the current allocation does not reflect the DEIS status of the school; if her Department can engage with the school management directly; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Steven Matthews. [40063/23]
- \*318. To ask the Minister for Education when tickets for school transport will issue to a child, (details supplied) who has no other means of getting to school, and who applied and paid for their annual school bus tickets; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40064/23]
- \*319. To ask the Minister for Education what grants are available for primary schools for IT; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40071/23]
- \*320. To ask the Minister for Education the reason (details supplied) cannot get a school place to start school this year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40076/23]
- \*321. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on funding for a security system for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40077/23]
- \*322. To ask the Minister for Education if she will address a school transport matter in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40103/23]
- \*323. To ask the Minister for Education when school transport will be facilitated in the case of persons (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40106/23]
- \*324. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding a new school building (details supplied); how updates are being communicated to school management; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Steven Matthews. [40111/23]

- \*325. To ask the Minister for Education if she will address a school transport matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40112/23]
- \*326. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding a new school building for a school (details supplied); how updates are being communicated to school management; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Steven Matthews. [40113/23]
- \*327. To ask the Minister for Education when funding for a school (details supplied) will be approved. Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [40129/23]
- \*328. To ask the Minister for Education if she will advise on the case of a child (details supplied) regarding a school transport pick-up point; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40130/23]
- \*329. To ask the Minister for Education if she will advise on the case of a child (details supplied) regarding a school transport pick-up and drop-off points; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40131/23]
- \*330. To ask the Minister for Education when school transport will be facilitated in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40133/23]
- \*331. To ask the Minister for Education the number of children with additional needs awaiting school transport provision, by county. Sean Sherlock. [40134/23]
- \*332. To ask the Minister for Education if she will engage with Bus Éireann to address the situation of children who availed of school transport via the 166 service from Dundalk to Inniskeen and Carrickmacross (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

   Matt Carthy. [40148/23]
- \*333. To ask the Minister for Education if the case of a school (details supplied) has been brought to her attention; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cormac Devlin. [40166/23]
- \*334. To ask the Minister for Education if any increase in the capitation grants to primary and/or post-primary is contained in the expenditure base or existing levels of service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Rose Conway-Walsh. [40167/23]
- \*335. To ask the Minister for Education the steps she is taking to ensure that schools-based gambling education and awareness remains free from the influence of the gambling industry; if she intends to introduce gambling education and awareness in the post-primary curriculum at both junior and senior cycle; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40180/23]
- \*336. To ask the Minister for Education when a project worker will be approved for a school (details supplied) so that the school can benefit from being included in the expansion of DEIS; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [40196/23]
- \*337. To ask the Minister for Education the reason for delays with regard to the new building works at a special education school in County Tipperary; the immediate efforts she will make

- to expedite this project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mattie McGrath. [40197/23]
- \*338. To ask the Minister for Education when an update will be issued to a school to ensure that a pupil (details supplied) will have an escort as part of their already-approved school transport application; and if she will make a statement on the matter. John Brady. [40201/23]
- \*339. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on an application for transportation to and from an adult day service for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. John Brady. [40202/23]
- \*340. To ask the Minister for Education to provide details on the measures her Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40228/23]
- \*341. To ask the Minister for Education if she has received and considered the INTO's prebudget submission; to outline the nature of discussions, if any, with the Minister for Finance in relation to the inclusion of each of their four main demands in the upcoming Budget; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40247/23]
- \*342. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of delays to building of a SEN unit at a school (details supplied); if she will instruct her Department to approve the Stage 2B proposal so works can proceed to tender for a contractor and commence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Louise O'Reilly. [40254/23]
- \*343. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of delays to building of a SEN unit at a school (details supplied); if she will instruct her Department to approve the Stage 2B proposal so works can proceed to tender for a contractor and commence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Louise O'Reilly. [40254/23]
- \*344. To ask the Minister for Education whether she has considered initiating, along with the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, a national dialogue on the reform of the Leaving Certificate; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Richard Bruton. [40280/23]
- \*345. To ask the Minister for Education when school transport will be facilitated in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40285/23]
- \*346. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the Government's commitment to install solar panels on every school; how this will be funded; if it is still the intention to fund this initiative via the climate action fund; if the estimated costs have been revised since the initial announcement; when she expects that the rollout of delivery will begin; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Darren O'Rourke. [40287/23]
- \*347. To ask the Minister for Education if a Circular will issue with respect to adjustments to the 2024 Leaving Certificate Examinations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40291/23]
- \*348. To ask the Minister for Education if she will ensure that school transport tickets are issued in a case (details supplied). Robert Troy. [40295/23]

- \*349. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to increase school bus capacity levels to respond to the increased demand resulting from the lowering of school transport scheme fees for primary and post-primary. Pauline Tully. [40298/23]
- \*350. To ask the Minister for Education when school caretakers will be paid by her Department (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40313/23]
- \*351. To ask the Minister for Education when a secondary school will receive its ICT grant as it is in a position to purchase new equipment but cannot commit, due to the uncertainty of the timing of the grant and is in danger of losing the deal at hand; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [40315/23]
- \*352. To ask the Minister for Education if she and/or her Department will meet with a person (details supplied) to discuss the new RSE curriculum. Peadar Tóibín. [40316/23]
- \*353. To ask the Minister for Education when tickets for school transport will issue to four families (details supplied) who have no other means of getting to school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40317/23]
- \*354. To ask the Minister for Education if all possible assistance can be given to finding a school place for the daughter of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40323/23]
- \*355. To ask the Minister for Education the grounds on which the son of a person (details supplied) was refused assistance by the assistive technology grant, but which was deemed essential by their psychologist's report; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40326/23]
- \*356. To ask the Minister for Education the reason that a person (details supplied) cannot get a bus ticket for their children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40331/23]
- \*357. To ask the Minister for Education the reason that a person (details supplied) cannot get a bus ticket for their children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40332/23]
- \*358. To ask the Minister for Education the reason that a person (details supplied) cannot get a bus ticket for their children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40333/23]
- \*359. To ask the Minister for Education the total number of resource teachers employed at primary and at secondary level, distinguishing those in mainstream classes, special classes and in special schools; and the number of children receiving support in each case. Richard Bruton. [40355/23]
- \*360. To ask the Minister for Education the total number of special needs' assistants employed at primary and at secondary level, distinguishing those in mainstream classes, special classes and in special schools; and the number of children receiving support in each case. Richard Bruton. [40356/23]

- \*361. To ask the Minister for Education the circumstances in which a detailed assessment is required before a child can obtain support in a special class or a special school; the number of cases where this is creating a delay in appropriate placement; and if there are steps under consideration to overcome this. Richard Bruton. [40357/23]
- \*362. To ask the Minister for Education the number of children with special needs receiving home tuition; and the aggregate number of hours of such tuition being provided nationally. Richard Bruton. [40358/23]
- \*363. To ask the Minister for Education when a child (details supplied) will have their special school transport application approved; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40363/23]
- \*364. To ask the Minister for Education to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by her Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to her that have yet to be released by her Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to her; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40367/23]
- \*365. To ask the Minister for Education the full-year cost if the school capitation grants for both primary and post primary schools were increased by 30%. Paul Donnelly. [40407/23]
- \*366. To ask the Minister for Education to provide clarification as to the reason that parents of children attending a primary school, which would be considered a feeder school for a secondary school (details supplied), are now being advised that their children are not entitled to school transport to the secondary school; the reason that this was not explained to the parents at the time they made their application for their child to attend the secondary school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40418/23]
- \*367. To ask the Minister for Education the first- and full-year cost of extending the free schoolbooks scheme to all pupils in public post-primary schools, assuming a grant rate of €192, €200 and €220 respectively, for each student in an eligible year. Rose Conway-Walsh. [40428/23]
- \*368. To ask the Minister for Education the number of students that avail of the school transport each year; and the number of students that avail of the SEN school transport scheme. Rose Conway-Walsh. [40429/23]
- \*369. To ask the Minister for Education if school transport can be provided to siblings (details supplied) attending a gaelscoil; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [40462/23]
- \*370. To ask the Minister for Education the reason that only five hours have been allocated for home tuition to a child (details supplied) when that child, who was diagnosed with autism/ASD in August 2020, has educational challenges attending school; if consideration would be given to granting additional hours; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40466/23]

- \*371. To ask the Minister for Education if she has plans to introduce grants for technology or ICT in primary schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Noel Grealish. [40544/23]
- \*372. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of research (details supplied) on non-religious teachers; what plans, if any, she has to legislate to protect all teachers from religious discrimination, giving teachers the same protections under the Irish system as in Northern Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [40553/23]
- \*373. To ask the Minister for Education to indicate the progress to date in the completion of allocated additional classrooms and subsequent appointment of additional teachers in the case of a special school (details supplied), given that the recent start date for students has now been pushed to November, meaning they have been unable to start school in the interim period; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40556/23]
- \*374. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the new school build for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul McAuliffe. [40566/23]
- \*375. To ask the Minister for Education if a request can be considered (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40571/23]
- \*376. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide details of the availability of a school transport options for the pupils residing in the Corbally area of Limerick attending a school (details supplied), who, despite residing outside of the distance limits from the school have been advised that there is no school bus transport option available; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Maurice Quinlivan. [40583/23]
- \*377. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will provide a one-off grant in respect of transport costs incurred for Ukrainian students (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [40584/23]
- \*378. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to several schools that are unable to hire a substitute teacher in order to fill a fixed-term role temporarily, where that fixed-term role has been advertised but no hire has been found; if she will engage with schools on this issue given the staffing shortages that many are experiencing; if she will consider amending this rule; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40628/23]
- \*379. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider re-evaluating the length of the two-year Professional Masters in Education to account for teachers who have a Teaching Council number and who already have teaching experience; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40629/23]
- \*380. To ask the Minister for Education if she will look at a case (details supplied) whereby a child with autism has been out of school since March this year and is unable to find a school place for the coming year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40632/23]
- \*381. To ask the Minister for Education to review a school transport matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40700/23]

- \*382. To ask the Minister for Education the number of primary school children who received the benefit of free schoolbooks on their return to school this year; and the estimated savings to each child included in the scheme. Richard Bruton. [40727/23]
- Chun an Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán: To the Minister for Tourism, Culture; Arts; Gaeltacht; Sport and Media.
- \*383. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will establish a definitive date for the announcement of the upcoming sports capital funds, which will allow clubs to plan their developments. Sean Sherlock. [39506/23]
- \*384. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will continue to pursue pro-enterprise and pro-competitive policies to ensure the survival of the tourism SMEs in the tourism budget. Michael Healy-Rae. [39528/23]
- \*385. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán an ndéanfaidh sí punann réadmhaoine iomlán Údarás na Gaeltachta a chur ar fáil, lena n-áirítear talamh, suíomhanna, foirgnimh, eastáit tionsclaíochta agus ghnó, aonaid in eastáit agus tithe atá ina sheilbh ar fud na tíre; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. Catherine Connolly. [39569/23]
- \*386. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to detail the preparations being undertaken by her Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by her Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39677/23]
- \*387. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the status of an application by a club (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39720/23]
- \*388. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if consideration has been given to using the Shared Island Initiative to fund cross-Border arts initiatives. Jim O'Callaghan. [39791/23]
- \*389. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will sanction the annual 2% increase for pensioners in the RTÉ superannuation scheme; the role of NewERA in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Haughey. [40183/23]
- \*390. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide details on the measures her Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40241/23]
- \*391. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by her Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to her that have yet to be released by her Department; the dates

- on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to her; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40380/23]
- \*392. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the extra steps that Tourism Ireland will take to promote tourism advertisement campaign in the UK to come to Ireland during the winter period. Paul Donnelly. [40405/23]
- \*393. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the extent to which ongoing discussions are taking place with the relevant authorities, with a view to advancing the Maynooth swimming pool project, having regard to the existence of a large and expanding population and a university; the extent to which a reply has been made available to Kildare County Council regarding negotiations following a previous appeal to her Department; if cognisance is taken of the substantial local offers previously on the table; if these are being followed up; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40409/23]
- \*394. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cé mhéad teaghlach atá fós ag fanacht ar íocaíochtaí faoi Scéim na bhFoghlaimeoirí Gaeilge do chúrsa a ritheadh i rith an tsamhraidh: an méid airgid atá i gceist san iomlán, an spriocdháta faoina n-íocfar le gach duine íoctha; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. Éamon Ó Cuív. [40432/23]
- \*395. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén uair a thabharfar íocaíocht do theaghlaigh a choinnigh scoláirí ar chúrsa Gaeilge faoi Scéim na bhFoghlaimeoirí Gaeilge i rith an tsamhraidh (sonraí tugtha); agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. Éamon Ó Cuív. [40433/23]
- \*396. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén uair a thabharfar íocaíocht do theaghlaigh a choinnigh scoláirí ar chúrsaí Gaeilge faoi Scéim na bhFoghlaimeoirí Gaeilge i rith an tsamhraidh (sonraí tugtha); agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. Éamon Ó Cuív. [40434/23]
- \*397. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will consider amending the sports capital programme guidelines to enable golf clubs that are not owned by their members, to make applications for significant improvements to their facilities to the benefit of members; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Noel Grealish. [40545/23]
- \*398. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when the pension increases for retired RTÉ employees will be implemented; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40631/23]

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

- \*399. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has engaged in discussions with relevant persons with regard to the potential purchase of the Conor Pass; to detail his plans to expand the size of National Parks in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39491/23]
- \*400. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of private rented accommodation inspections that were carried out by all local authorities in each of the

- years 2018 to 2022 and to date in 2023; the number of inspections in which further enforcement action was taken, in tabular form; the procedure for deeming that a property is unfit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Sean Sherlock. [39499/23]
- \*401. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details, in tabular form, of the number of An Bord Pleanála planning appeals have been waiting more than a year, by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Brady. [39512/23]
- \*402. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details, in tabular form, of the number of planning appeals submitted to An Bord Pleanála in the past five years, and their current status, by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Brady. [39513/23]
- \*403. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he expects the role Chief Executive of Dublin City Council will be advertised by the Public Appointments Service; and when he expects a permanent replacement will be appointed to the role Chief Executive of Dublin City Council. Neasa Hourigan. [39536/23]
- \*404. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason a permanent replacement for the role of Chief Executive of Dublin City Council was not selected prior to the departure of the permanent incumbent Chief Executive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [39537/23]
- \*405. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline the Government's position with respect to industrial action (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [39547/23]
- \*406. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if guidance is provided to local authorities for consideration of planning applications in rural areas relating to log cabins; if it is intended to update any such guidance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39550/23]
- \*407. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if planning applications for log cabins in rural areas can be considered as permanent structures, or if there is any legal or planning policy that would oblige a local authority to only consider these developments on a temporary basis to cover the build period of an associated house; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39551/23]
- \*408. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if Government policy supports the development of log cabins in rural areas as a mechanism to address housing need of people living in such areas in an affordable and environmentally sustainable manner; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39552/23]
- \*409. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of staff in each local authority in each of the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [39561/23]
- \*410. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the affordable housing at a location (details supplied) will be open for applicants; how individuals can go about applying for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Chris Andrews. [39563/23]

- \*411. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether Wexford County Council will become a designated local authority under the Remediation of Dwellings Damaged by the use of Defective Concrete Blocks Act 2022 and the regulations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39592/23]
- \*412. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will advise on measures his Department is taking to prevent the arrival of the Asian hornet in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39594/23]
- \*413. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will publish the methodology used by the working group in respect of the review of the allocation of baseline funding in the context of LPT; if he will clarify whether the census of population data were used; the census year the data derived from; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Murphy. [39598/23]
- \*414. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether local connections rules apply to those presenting for emergency accommodation; and whether this is an acceptable reason to refuse emergency accommodation. Thomas Gould. [39638/23]
- \*415. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage where a person who is fleeing domestic violence with a teenage son, making them unsuitable for domestic violence shelter, should present; and if they would qualify for emergency accommodation outside of their county. Thomas Gould. [39639/23]
- \*416. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he intends to publish a 'how members of local authorities are elected' guide in Ukrainian; if such a guide is available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39656/23]
- \*417. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39671/23]
- \*418. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update to the response received from An Taoiseach in early May 2023 to this Deputy's Question on Promised Legislation (details supplied) regarding the residential zoned land tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Willie O'Dea. [39687/23]
- \*419. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the additional €75.4 million increase in local property tax funding to local authorities in 2024 has come from increased LPT tax take, increased revenue allocation, or a mixture of both; and if the latter, to provide a breakdown. Eoin Ó Broin. [39702/23]
- \*420. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total number of contracts approved by his Department to be signed by the Housing Agency under the croí cónaithe scheme; the number of units involved in each contract; and a timeline for when it is expected that these units will be completed, broken down by scheme. Eoin Ó Broin. [39703/23]

- \*421. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of new applications for the defective block remediation scheme since the enhanced schemed opened; the number of existing applications that have transferred to the new scheme to date; the total number of applications in the process, broken down by county, stage in the application process and the total amount of money drawn down in each county to date; and an update on the entry of Clare and Limerick into the scheme. Eoin Ó Broin. [39704/23]
- \*422. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will request the LGMA to introduce a job evaluation process in the local Government sector to assist in averting the staffing crisis in our local authorities. Eoin Ó Broin. [39705/23]
- \*423. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason no Q1 social housing pipeline report was published this year; and when the Q2 report will be published. Eoin Ó Broin. [39706/23]
- \*424. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total number of new positions sanctioned at An Bord Pleánála in the past 12 months; the positions granted; the cost implications of each position; and the number of these positions that have been filled to date.

   Eoin Ó Broin. [39707/23]
- \*425. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on the review of guidance for local authorities in relation to assisting victims of domestic violence with emergency and long-term accommodation needs. Ivana Bacik. [39714/23]
- \*426. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of industrial action (details supplied) that is due to commence across all local authorities regarding the issue of job evaluations; if he will intervene to assist in its resolution; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Carol Nolan. [39716/23]
- \*427. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a landlord requires their tenant to run a dehumidifier 24/7 to prevent growth/spread of mould, whether the landlord or tenant is liable to pay for the associated energy costs. Patrick Costello. [39727/23]
- \*428. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the criteria on the price limit of properties for acquisition under the local authority and cost rental tenant-in-situ schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [39732/23]
- \*429. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider extending the rent pressure zone across the country to all areas. Peadar Tóibín. [39734/23]
- \*430. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [39761/23]
- \*431. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether the income thresholds for housing adaptation grants for older people and people with a disability will be increased. Paul Murphy. [39787/23]
- \*432. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has engaged with the Minister for Finance on the requests from homeowners affected by defective blocks that the works they are carrying out to remediate their homes and related professional fees, under the

- enhanced defective block grant scheme, be exempt from VAT; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [39793/23]
- \*433. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to explain the long delay in the publication of the draft rural planning guidelines; and to state when these guidelines will be published. Eoin Ó Broin. [39828/23]
- \*434. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to set out in tabular form the progress to date with both the social and cost-rental tenant-in-situ schemes, including number of applications for each scheme, number of rejections, number gone sale agreed and number purchased, with a breakdown by local authority for both schemes. Eoin Ó Broin. [39829/23]
- \*435. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the progress made to date with the review of the mortgage to rent scheme; whether the conclusions of the review will be published; the date it is expected to be completed by; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Éamon Ó Cuív. [39837/23]
- \*436. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an updated figure for the number of croı́ conaithe towns refurbishment grants that have been drawn down; the number of applications made; and the number of applications approved to date. Eoin Ó Broin. [39839/23]
- \*437. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when a decision will issue in relation to a foreshore licence application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39844/23]
- \*438. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a rebate will be made available to people who paid development contributions on planning permission prior to April 2023 and on water connections for new builds prior to April 2023. Robert Troy. [39847/23]
- \*439. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if any reviews or studies have been conducted by his Department into the use of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete in the construction of public buildings and buildings providing public, social, educational or health services in Ireland over past decades; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39869/23]
- \*440. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 33 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39900/23]
- \*441. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the six AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39901/23]

- \*442. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the two AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39902/23]
- \*443. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 18 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39903/23]
- \*444. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 33 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39904/23]
- \*445. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 16 AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39905/23]
- \*446. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39906/23]
- \*447. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39907/23]
- \*448. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39908/23]
- \*449. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 24 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the

- project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39909/23]
- \*450. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39910/23]
- \*451. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the six local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39911/23]
- \*452. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the six local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39912/23]
- \*453. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four local authority housing units approved for construction in a location a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39913/23]
- \*454. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39914/23]
- \*455. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39915/23]
- \*456. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 20 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39916/23]

- \*457. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 14 AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39917/23]
- \*458. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 14 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39918/23]
- \*459. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the six AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39919/23]
- \*460. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39920/23]
- \*461. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 55 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39921/23]
- \*462. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 25 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39922/23]
- \*463. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 12 AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39923/23]
- \*464. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the

- project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39924/23]
- \*465. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39925/23]
- \*466. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the six single rural local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39926/23]
- \*467. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the five AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39927/23]
- \*468. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the three local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39928/23]
- \*469. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 66 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39929/23]
- \*470. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 40 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39930/23]
- \*471. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 30 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39931/23]

- \*472. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 21 AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39932/23]
- \*473. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 21 AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39933/23]
- \*474. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 20 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39934/23]
- \*475. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 20 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39935/23]
- \*476. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 11 AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39936/23]
- \*477. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39937/23]
- \*478. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 12 AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39938/23]
- \*479. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten local authority housing units approved for construction a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the

- project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39939/23]
- \*480. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 29 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39940/23]
- \*481. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 18 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39941/23]
- \*482. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten local authority housing units approved for construction a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39942/23]
- \*483. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39943/23]
- \*484. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 50 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39944/23]
- \*485. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 30 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39945/23]
- \*486. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 14 AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39946/23]

- \*487. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the two AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39947/23]
- \*488. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39948/23]
- \*489. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 13 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39949/23]
- \*490. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the three local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39950/23]
- \*491. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 20 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39951/23]
- \*492. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the local authority housing unit approved for construction in a location (details supplied) has finished construction; if so, its completion date and the Minister by which it was opened; and if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding. Ivana Bacik. [39952/23]
- \*493. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 28 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39953/23]
- \*494. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 20 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not,

- the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39954/23]
- \*495. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39955/23]
- \*496. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 28 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39956/23]
- \*497. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the nine AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39957/23]
- \*498. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the local authority housing unit approved for construction in a location (details supplied) has finished construction; if so, the completion date; the total cost of the project, if the development was officially opened by a Minister and when that happened; and if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39958/23]
- \*499. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39959/23]
- \*500. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 28 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39960/23]
- \*501. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of funding requests that his Department has received from Meath County Council seeking additional funding to purchase additional fire appliances for Meath fire service in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and the number of the requests received that were approved in each of the years in question, in tabular form. Darren O'Rourke. [39975/23]

- \*502. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will extend the croi cónaithe grant timeframe from 13 to 18 months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mattie McGrath. [40007/23]
- \*503. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to clarify who is responsible to pay the legal fees incurred by the local authority as part of the croi conaithe grant scheme regarding the legal charge/clawback on the property receiving the grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mattie McGrath. [40009/23]
- \*504. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 888 of 11 September 2023, the date the comprehensive set of queries were sent to the Office of the Attorney General; and the date the subsequent extensive legal advices were received. Patrick Costello. [40021/23]
- \*505. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if, following the Cabinet decision in May 2023 to extend the rent-a-room scheme to all housing types, including local authority council housing units, he will outline if this includes housing units under approved housing bodies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Chris Andrews. [40022/23]
- \*506. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if, following the Cabinet decision in May 2023 to extend the rent-a-room scheme to all housing types, including local authority council housing units, he will state, in the case of a council tenant renting out a room under this scheme, who will be responsible for dealing with tenant-landlord disputes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Chris Andrews. [40023/23]
- \*507. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if, following the Cabinet decision in May 2023 to extend the rent-a-room scheme to all housing types, including local authority council housing units, he will outline if a tenant renting a room from a council tenant can take a dispute to the RTB for dispute resolution; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Chris Andrews. [40024/23]
- \*508. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to carry out a review into the management of Part V social housing, given the management of Part V social housing in a development is carried out after completion of the overall development, and that major changes are often required to make units suitable for tenants with mobility issues, causing delays and increased cost; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Chris Andrews. [40025/23]
- \*509. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the current decision time for appeals to An Bord Pleanála for single housing projects; the current decision time for appeals on small retention developments; the current decision time on appeals on commercial applications; the current decision time on appeals on public infrastructure projects; the current decision time on roads infrastructure projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [40032/23]
- \*510. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will confirm plans to open an enhanced defective concrete blocks scheme for local authority houses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40044/23]
- \*511. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will establish with the National Standards Authority of Ireland when it will issue a clear directive on the acceptable levels of deleterious materials and compressive strength in concrete blocks that

- will allow sellers and buyers of second-hand homes to have full clarity on their transaction. Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [40104/23]
- \*512. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will establish with the National Standards Authority of Ireland when it will issue a clear directive on the acceptable levels of deleterious materials and structural strength in concrete foundations to assist homeowners who have to rebuild their homes under the enhanced defective block grant scheme.

   Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [40105/23]
- \*513. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in a housing development with developer-provided infrastructure for wastewater treatment plants that cannot be connected to a public mains in order that Uisce Éireann can take these over, if there are plans for this to be addressed by his Department to alleviate the burden that is been placed on residents of the estates that have this infrastructure or if there is any funding available for same apart from the multi-annual programme. Frankie Feighan. [40137/23]
- \*514. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of croí cónaithe towns refurbishment grants that have been drawn down to date, with a breakdown by local authority; and the average amount drawn down in each county and the total draw-down State wide in 2023. Eoin Ó Broin. [40139/23]
- \*515. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to set out the rules or guidelines issued to the Housing Agency for the cost rental tenant-in-situ income eligibility test; and to explain how these rules or guidelines take into account an applicant's change of income in the previous 12 months from the date of application. Eoin Ó Broin. [40140/23]
- \*516. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the date of the past six regional homeless consultative forum meetings for the Munster region. Thomas Gould. [40154/23]
- \*517. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the annual funding provided to the regional homeless consultative forum for the Munster region. Thomas Gould. [40155/23]
- \*518. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he plans to extend the duration of rent pressure zones beyond their current expiry date of 31 December 2024; if not, whether work has begun on plans for a step down from the regulation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [40162/23]
- \*519. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average allocation per house under the EERP funding scheme; if local authorities are required to submit an overall spend receipt; and if so, the average spend, by local authority, on houses under this scheme. Thomas Gould. [40172/23]
- \*520. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of homes targeted under the EERP funding scheme in Cork to 2030. Thomas Gould. [40173/23]
- \*521. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason EERP funding is not allocated on a multi-annual basis. Thomas Gould. [40174/23]

- \*522. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if local authorities can directly employ apprentices; and if so, the number of these employed, by local authority. Thomas Gould. [40175/23]
- \*523. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of significant issues with particular flat complexes in Cork constructed in the 1960s under the design of city architect (details supplied) that have now exceeded the estimated life span by over ten years; and if he will consider a specific funding stream to remedy these flat complexes. Thomas Gould. [40176/23]
- \*524. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason the role of Chief Executive of Dublin City Council was not advertised and appointed ahead of the previous Chief Executive vacating the post, thereby removing the necessity to appoint an acting Chief Executive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40178/23]
- \*525. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will review the means test criteria on housing adaptation for people with disability grants; and if he will examine the possibility of not considering income earned by adult children who live in the home and can prove that they are saving for a deposit on a home of their own. Robert Troy. [40221/23]
- \*526. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40235/23]
- \*527. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has any plans to review the 13-month limit on drawing down funds from croí cónaithe, in light of the current delays in getting tradespeople affecting the construction sector. Martin Browne. [40318/23]
- \*528. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a breakdown, in tabular form, of the number of requests by each county and to each local authority for the right to first refusal since the ending of the eviction ban on 31 March 2023; if he will expedite the legislation to deal with such requests where landlords are unable to progress the sale of a private rented property to a tenant since the eviction ban ended; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40319/23]
- \*529. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a person can apply for the local authority home loan if ground works have already started. Dara Calleary. [40330/23]
- \*530. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the high levels of vacancy in local authority social housing units; his plans to ensure that social housing is allocated efficiently and in a timely manner to those on the social housing list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [40338/23]
- \*531. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which

- any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40374/23]
- \*532. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline the annual capital spend by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive in each year since 2005 of acquiring new emergency accommodation to increase the provision of emergency homeless accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40416/23]
- \*533. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline the average current expenditure by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive in each year since 2005 of leasing or renting emergency accommodation to increase the provision of emergency homeless accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40417/23]
- \*534. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of public water bottle refill stations which have been installed to date, by location, in tabular form; and to outline plans for further installations or expansions of the scheme. Holly Cairns. [40426/23]
- \*535. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on discussions between the banking industry and his own Department in relation to support for Mica-affected homeowners; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Joe McHugh. [40456/23]
- \*536. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of croí cónaithe vacant property refurbishment grants that have been approved; the reason that an application (details supplied) has taken so long to be approved by Cavan County Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40464/23]
- \*537. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many croí cónaithe vacant property refurbishment grants have been approved in each county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40465/23]
- \*538. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 24 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40481/23]
- \*539. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 14 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40482/23]
- \*540. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not,

the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [40483/23]

- \*541. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40484/23]
- \*542. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the six AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40485/23]
- \*543. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40486/23]
- \*544. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the two local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40487/23]
- \*545. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40488/23]
- \*546. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 30 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40489/23]
- \*547. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 30 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40490/23]

- \*548. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 21 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40491/23]
- \*549. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 18 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40492/23]
- \*550. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 17 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40493/23]
- \*551. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 16 AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40494/23]
- \*552. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the six AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40495/23]
- \*553. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40496/23]
- \*554. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40497/23]
- \*555. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the

- project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40498/23]
- \*556. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40499/23]
- \*557. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten AHB housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40500/23]
- \*558. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 32 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40501/23]
- \*559. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40502/23]
- \*560. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 20 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40503/23]
- \*561. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40504/23]
- \*562. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the six local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40505/23]

- \*563. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40506/23]
- \*564. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40507/23]
- \*565. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the two local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40508/23]
- \*566. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the two local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40509/23]
- \*567. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 39 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40510/23]
- \*568. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 30 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40511/23]
- \*569. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 14 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40512/23]
- \*570. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 42 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the

- project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40513/23]
- \*571. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 30 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40514/23]
- \*572. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 20 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40515/23]
- \*573. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 48 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40516/23]
- \*574. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 45 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40517/23]
- \*575. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the nine AHB units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40518/23]
- \*576. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the seven local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. []
- \*577. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four AHB units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. []

- \*578. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the three AHB units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. []
- \*579. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the five AHB units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40522/23]
- \*580. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the purchase by local authorities of 28 turnkey housing units in a location (details supplied) was proceeded with; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40523/23]
- \*581. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the purchase by local authorities of 61 turnkey housing units in a location (details supplied) was proceeded with; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40524/23]
- \*582. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the purchase by local authorities of 26 turnkey housing units in a location (details supplied) was proceeded with; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40525/23]
- \*583. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the purchase by local authorities of 34 turnkey housing units in a location (details supplied) was proceeded with; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40526/23]
- \*584. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 19 AHB units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40527/23]
- \*585. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 12 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the

- project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40528/23]
- \*586. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 12 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40529/23]
- \*587. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 12 single rural local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40530/23]
- \*588. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40531/23]
- \*589. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40532/23]
- \*590. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the nine local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40533/23]
- \*591. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40534/23]
- \*592. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the ten local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40535/23]

- \*593. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the four local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40536/23]
- \*594. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 22 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40537/23]
- \*595. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the 20 local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40538/23]
- \*596. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40539/23]
- \*597. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the six AHB units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40540/23]
- \*598. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the two local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40541/23]
- \*599. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the eight local authority housing units approved for construction in a location (details supplied) have finished construction; if so, their completion date; the final number of units delivered; the total cost of the project; if the development was officially opened by a Minister; if so, when that happened; if not, the reasons for the project not proceeding; the current status of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40542/23]
- \*600. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many applications have been made to appeal the inclusion of agricultural land in the RZLT; how many have been refused; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [40637/23]

- \*601. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will comment on the centralisation of local property tax returns with respect to County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40659/23]
- \*602. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage of the €61 million capital allocation towards the fire service capital programme 2021-2025, the amount that has been spent in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Alan Kelly. [40681/23]

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

- \*603. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the case of a person (details supplied) will be examined; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39463/23]
- \*604. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will remove the means test from full time carers, many of whom are providing 24/7 care for a loved one but who cannot access carer's allowance due to the means of a spouse or partner; if she recognises the savings that these people are providing for the State and the valuable social role that they are performing, especially in light of ever-increasing household cost of living; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

   Seán Canney. [39464/23]
- \*605. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 698 of 25 July 2023, if she will accept that a great injustice has been done in requiring the repayment to her Department of monies caused by the extraordinary requirements of the Covid crisis whereby a person (details supplied) exceeded their allowed working hours to facilitate the national response to maintain nursing care at this critical time; if she will review the decisions made by her Department in this case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Howlin. [39480/23]
- \*606. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if home carer's credits have been correctly applied in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

   Bernard J. Durkan. [39521/23]
- \*607. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a disability allowance will be restored in the case of a person (details supplied) who has requested that their payment resumes and who has provided the appropriate documentation in relation to same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39534/23]
- \*608. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what plans her Department has to deal with the gender pension disparity caused by the minimum 520 PRSI contributions rule; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39553/23]
- \*609. To ask the Minister for Social Protection how her Department intends to equalise the gender pay gap in terms of the State pension for women who worked in the home; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39554/23]
- \*610. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a State pension (contributory) claim in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Cork, recently assessed, could be re-examined with a view to ascertaining if there may be some flexibility with this claim, as the person in question contends that theirs may be a 'borderline case between two points on the payscale'. Sean Sherlock. [39565/23]

- \*611. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason carer's allowance was terminated in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39577/23]
- \*612. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for clarification on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [39584/23]
- \*613. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will give consideration to an issue (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [39620/23]
- \*614. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of fraudulent claims of payments through her Department, by payment type of those residing in the State and those residing outside the State, by county in each of the past five years, in tabular form; the number of fraudulent claims, by payment type currently under investigation of those residing in the State, and those residing outside the State, by country; and the cost to the State of all fraudulent claims and legal investigation costs for the same time period, per year of those residing in the State and those residing outside the State, by country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [39640/23]
- \*615. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) qualifies for a supplementary welfare allowance pending decision on their application for the disability allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39649/23]
- \*616. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to outline the projected cost of proposals (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39657/23]
- \*617. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to detail the preparations being undertaken by her Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by her Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39675/23]
- \*618. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the case of a person (details supplied) who had their fuel allowance refused due to being over the threshold by only €1.89 will be examined; and if she will make a statement on the matter. James Lawless. [39708/23]
- \*619. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an appeal has been accepted on behalf of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39717/23]
- \*620. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration would be given to classifying long-Covid as an occupational illness, in line with other European countries such as France, Germany, Spain, Belgium and Denmark, which have formally recognised long-Covid as an occupational disease; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39752/23]
- \*621. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an application for disability allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39765/23]

- \*622. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an interim payment can be facilitated in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39766/23]
- \*623. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if it is her intention that foster carers be allowed to maintain a social protection stamp/credit while continuing their foster caring and not be required to fulfil the signing-on requirements for jobseeker's credits; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Howlin. [39770/23]
- \*624. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for clarification on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [39795/23]
- \*625. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for details of funding for students (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [39820/23]
- \*626. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [39821/23]
- \*627. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when an application (details supplied) will be processed; the reason that this process takes so long; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niall Collins. [39838/23]
- \*628. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of an application for a carer's allowance by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39881/23]
- \*629. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the review of payments to a person (details supplied) will be complete; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [39882/23]
- \*630. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she intends to include fibromyalgia as a recognised long-term illness condition for social protection purposes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Howlin. [39894/23]
- \*631. To ask the Minister for Social Protection why a service funded by her Department is not available at a location (details supplied) in County Cork; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Creed. [40017/23]
- \*632. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of applications by schools, per county, to change from providing a cold lunch to students to the provision of another meal, in tabular form; what the process for this change is; and what funding is available for these schools who wish to change from cold food provision to hot food provision. Sorca Clarke. [40101/23]
- \*633. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of recipients of disability allowance and State pension (contributory) as of August 2023; and the total spend on each payment in August 2023. Catherine Murphy. [40127/23]
- \*634. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will address the delays regarding an appeal by a person (details supplied) for an invalidity pension, as well as the denial of supplementary welfare allowance, and who has had no social welfare supports since 17 August

- 2023, when their illness benefit was stopped; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40147/23]
- \*635. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the workplace equipment adaptation grant can be obtained to hire an interpreter for a deaf employee; and if not, what supports, if any, are available. Pauline Tully. [40185/23]
- \*636. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on the review of a decision on a carer's allowance application in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [40198/23]
- \*637. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review the means test for carers allowance to take into account certain expenses such as rent or mortgage payments. Robert Troy. [40216/23]
- \*638. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has plans to review the qualifying criteria for fuel allowance. Robert Troy. [40217/23]
- \*639. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide details on the measures her Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40239/23]
- \*640. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on her Department's review report in relation to the expansion of free travel scheme to people with epilepsy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40245/23]
- \*641. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost of providing the WALK providing equal employment routes, PEER, employment support service model in all 26 counties for people with disabilities. Louise O'Reilly. [40255/23]
- \*642. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what campaigns are being undertaken to inform people of their ability to purchase voluntary social insurance contributions to help maintain their social insurance record and help them to qualify for social insurance payments in the future. Pauline Tully. [40297/23]
- \*643. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of an appeal (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40308/23]
- \*644. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of the partial capacity benefit for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [40309/23]
- \*645. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when urgent financial assistance will be provided to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40344/23]
- \*646. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether she intends to rectify the anomaly in relation to carers whose periods of care-giving are inferior to 20 years, but which have nonetheless negatively impacted on their eligibility for the State pension (contributory); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Jim O'Callaghan. [40345/23]

- \*647. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether improvements in maternity, paternity or parental benefit is scheduled; and if so, the dates that they will take effect. Richard Bruton. [40354/23]
- \*648. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will indicate her latest estimate for the numbers of recipients of domiciliary care allowance, working family payment, carer's allowance, carer's benefit and carer's support grant; and her estimate of the number of children deriving support from these payments in each case. Richard Bruton. [40361/23]
- \*649. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an appeal for the disability allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); when a decision will issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40362/23]
- \*650. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by her Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to her that have yet to be released by her Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to her; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40378/23]
- \*651. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) in County Cork is entitled to fuel allowance. Michael Creed. [40383/23]
- \*652. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she would consider extending eligibility of the fuel allowance to those in receipt of the working family payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [40427/23]
- \*653. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline the reasons her Department chooses to means test the disability allowance payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40564/23]
- \*654. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) can purchase additional credits in order to qualify the minimum State pension (contributory); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40612/23]
- \*655. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the full-year cost in 2024 of extending parental leave and benefits by four weeks for mothers, and six weeks for fathers. Alan Kelly. [40679/23]
- \*656. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost in 2024 if the carer's support grant increased to €2,000. Alan Kelly. [40680/23]
- \*657. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40685/23]
- \*658. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the State pension contributions of a person (details supplied). Paul McAuliffe. [40686/23]

- \*659. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether the disregard of only a portion of maintenance payments in means tests continues to apply; whether she intends to make changes to this provision in the Social Welfare Bill planned for later in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Richard Bruton. [40717/23]
- \*660. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline how the working family payment is estimated in the case of a single parent who works and is in receipt of the one parent family allowance; and if she will provide some worked examples. Richard Bruton. [40718/23]
- \*661. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated number of people eligible for the free fuel scheme after the implementation of the changes made earlier this year. Richard Bruton. [40719/23]
- \*662. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline the conditions in which an Irish social welfare pensioner can receive the household benefit package; the additional meanstested access available to those who do not have an Irish social welfare pension; the number of those in receipt of Irish social welfare pensions who also receive the household benefit package; the number who do not; and the number of persons who do not have an Irish social welfare pension who receive the package. Richard Bruton. [40720/23]
- \*663. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the conditions in which a telephone allowance is paid. Richard Bruton. [40725/23]
- \*664. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has reviewed the level of claims for exceptional needs being made to her Department; the number of claims and the average payment under the main categories of payment; and if she is considering changes in the guidelines applying to any of the categories in view of the sort of needs being presented. Richard Bruton. [40726/23]

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

- \*665. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of speed checkpoints on Irish roads in each of the past ten years in each county in the State. Peadar Tóibín. [39481/23]
- \*666. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of drink and drug driving check points in Irish roads in each of the past ten years in each county in the State. Peadar Tóibín. [39482/23]
- \*667. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of prosecutions for excess speed, drink driving, drug driving and dangerous driving on Irish roads in each of the past ten years in each county in the State. Peadar Tóibín. [39483/23]
- \*668. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí who have been employed in the roads policing unit in each county in each of the past ten years. Peadar Tóibín. [39485/23]
- \*669. To ask the Minister for Justice when the visa applications for the family of a person (details supplied) are expected to be finalised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39533/23]
- \*670. To ask the Minister for Justice to confirm if penalty points for speeding have been applied in specific circumstances (details supplied) in each of the past five years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [39560/23]

- \*671. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide details of the total amount paid by the State to a company (details supplied) each year since the start of its most recent contract for its services in monitoring and enforcing speed limits on State roads. Catherine Murphy. [39581/23]
- \*672. To ask the Minister for Justice if there are minimum quotas or targets that operators of a company (details supplied) must meet in terms of recording speeding vehicles; if so, what these quotas are; and the way in which are they determined. Catherine Murphy. [39583/23]
- \*673. To ask the Minister for Justice if her Department will provide more family reunification admission programmes for Syrian refugees and their families who have got Irish citizenship through naturalisation and humanitarian programmes; and if they could sponsor other family members especially elderly parents who wish to join their adult children. Peter Burke. [39611/23]
- \*674. To ask the Minister for Justice when a visa application for the mother of a person (details supplied) will be assessed with a view to granting the application; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39642/23]
- \*675. To ask the Minister for Justice if she was aware that prior to the publication of the EU Terrorism Situation and Trend Report (TE-SAT) in June 2023, Spanish authorities would categorise the Catalan independence movement as an ethno-nationalist and separatist terrorist group (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [39653/23]
- \*676. To ask the Minister for Justice if she is in agreement with Europol's categorisation of the non-violent Catalan independence movement as an ethno-nationalist and separatist terrorist group, in the EU Terrorism Situation and Trend Report (TE-SAT) in June 2023 (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [39654/23]
- \*677. To ask the Minister for Justice what oversight procedures and protocols the EU council of Justice Ministers has in place to ensure the veracity of the qualitative and quantitative data provided by member states on which reports such as the EU Terrorism Situation and Trend Report (TE-SAT) are based (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [39655/23]
- \*678. To ask the Minister for Justice to detail the preparations being undertaken by her Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by her Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39672/23]
- \*679. To ask the Minister for Justice the up-to-date position regarding the review of historic cases (details supplied); if a recommendation has issued to her; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [39725/23]
- \*680. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will outline, in the light of the recent UK government decision to carry out a fresh statutory investigation into the 1998 Omagh bombing atrocity, how she proposes that the Government will respond to such an inquiry; if she will accept that the most appropriate response would be the setting up of a parallel statutory inquiry in this jurisdiction; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Charles Flanagan. [39735/23]

- \*681. To ask the Minister for Justice to outline in detail the progress that has been made to date in respect of having a single application process for employment permits and entry visa applications; the progress that has been made to date by the interdepartmental group established between her Department and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment to review the matter; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39773/23]
- \*682. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will outline, notwithstanding the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382, her plans to put in place a recording system of the number of Ukrainian refugees who have transferred or sought a transfer to Ireland from another EU Member State, having originally sought protection in that state; the country from which they transferred or sought a transfer; their reasons for doing so; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [39824/23]
- \*683. To ask the Minister for Justice when a person (details supplied) will have their naturalisation application decided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niall Collins. [39825/23]
- \*684. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of a visa application by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niall Collins. [39861/23]
- \*685. To ask the Minister for Justice the current average allocation of unused annual leave for all members of An Garda Síochána; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39888/23]
- \*686. To ask the Minister for Justice to detail the offence that is punishable by imprisonment in Ireland for a maximum period of at least one year referred to in a document (details supplied), in light of the fact that Ireland does not and has never maintained a conscription regime, or imposed any legal obligation to serve in the armed forces; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

   Catherine Connolly. [39890/23]
- \*687. To ask the Minister for Justice if she is aware of any letters which purport to be issued from her Department seeking the extradition of military age men from Ukraine who have sought refuge in Ireland under the Temporary Protection Directive; if she or her Department has ever received correspondence from Ukrainian authorities with regard to the extradition of military-age men who sought refuge in Ireland; if she will provide a breakdown for 2022 and to date in 2023 of the number of military-age men from Ukraine who have sought refuge in Ireland under the Temporary Protection Directive as qualifying for an exemption from military service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [39896/23]
- \*688. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in the determination of an application to the undocumented scheme in the case of a person (details supplied), whose vetting was completed on 29 April 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39964/23]
- \*689. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of Garda mountain bikes allocated to each Garda district within the Meath division as of 5 September 2023, in tabular form. Darren O'Rourke. [39972/23]
- \*690. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of sexual offences reported to gardaí within the Meath division in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Darren O'Rourke. [39973/23]

- \*691. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide an update on the case of a child (details supplied), whose parents applied for a citizenship application which was refused due to the child not having five years' residency at the time of application; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Maurice Quinlivan. [39978/23]
- \*692. To ask the Minister for Justice if the Government will change the rules precluding refugees from working for six months (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39994/23]
- \*693. To ask the Minister for Justice the individual who is responsible for allocating specific Garda resources to an area on a given day; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40043/23]
- \*694. To ask the Minister for Justice if operational guidance has been issued to An Garda Síochána in relation to implementation of the Road Traffic and Roads Act 2023, in particular the new s.109A of the Road Traffic Act 1961. Paul McAuliffe. [40061/23]
- \*695. To ask the Minister for Justice if there are plans to have 1400cc motorcycles in use in the Garda fleet; and the number of moped bikes in the fleet. Catherine Murphy. [40118/23]
- \*696. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of stables currently in use in the Garda mounted unit; and if there are any stables not being used but are available to be used in the Garda mounted unit. Catherine Murphy. [40119/23]
- \*697. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of a citizenship application (details supplied).

   Joe Flaherty. [40132/23]
- \*698. To ask the Minister for Justice how many prisoners have been granted probation, but due to an inability of community-based probation teams to facilitate early release, have instead remained in prison, by institution, in each the past ten years in tabular form. Patrick Costello. [40163/23]
- \*699. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide an update on the status of an application for a Peace Commissioner by a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. John Brady. [40212/23]
- \*700. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide details on the measures her Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40236/23]
- \*701. To ask the Minister for Justice if an application by persons (details supplied) will be reviewed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40269/23]
- \*702. To ask the Minister for Justice the timeframe from application to issuing of a long-stay (join family) visa under the International Protection Act 2015 for international protection beneficiaries. Pauline Tully. [40299/23]
- \*703. To ask the Minister for Justice if a decision (details supplied) will be reconsidered, given that the reasons cited for refusal are incorrect; if she will confirm with this Deputy that this case is being reviewed as a result of the information being furnished; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niall Collins. [40314/23]

- \*704. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by her Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to her that have yet to be released by her Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to her; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40375/23]
- \*705. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of aggravated burglaries reported to gardaí in the K district within the DMR in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Paul Donnelly. [40395/23]
- \*706. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will report on Garda Operation Satailt; and the number of persons arrested and charged under this operation. Paul Donnelly. [40396/23]
- \*707. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of full-time staff, by grade, working in the border management unit of her Department as of 12 September 2023, in tabular form. Paul Donnelly. [40397/23]
- \*708. To ask the Minister for Justice to clarify how those who made applications for Irish citizenship by naturalisation earlier in 2023 have received their decision and have now been invited to the next citizenship ceremony in Dublin on 2 October, while those with applications for Irish citizenship by naturalisation who applied prior to 2022 are still awaiting a decision; the reason this delay has occurred for earlier applications; the action that her Department is taking to improve the timeframe for applications such as these; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40421/23]
- \*709. To ask the Minister for Justice if a person (details supplied) will be permitted to apply for citizenship in February 2024 rather than May 2024, as they arrived into Ireland in February 2021 where they were given the join spouse stamp at Dublin Airport and were told to register at Burgh Quay, which remained closed until May 2021 due to the pandemic, and in view that if they had lived outside of Dublin, it would have been possible for them to register at their local Garda station immediately, rather than being delayed for three months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40445/23]
- \*710. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of Garda members in each roads policing unit, by Garda division, in 2022 and to date in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Murphy. [40463/23]
- \*711. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will ensure that a visa application (details supplied) will be processed as a matter of urgency as the delay has cost the person their job and is having a very real and negative impact on their mental and physical health; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [40552/23]
- \*712. To ask the Minister for Justice to indicate if and when a visa is likely to issue in the case of a person (details supplied) who has been awaiting decision for a number of weeks, who is employment permit approved and whose employer requires their assistance as soon as possible; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40555/23]
- \*713. To ask the Minister for Justice if she is aware of the huge financial burden placed on those using a service (details supplied) for supervised visits with their children; if she will

- provide the State support needed to ensure money is not a barrier for parents who want to see their children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [40572/23]
- \*714. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of community gardaí in the DMR each year from 2020 to 2023, broken down by division; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40582/23]
- \*715. To ask the Minister for Justice if Operation Tombola will commence in September this year; whether additional resources will be allocated to police the sale and misuse of fireworks, particularly in built-up areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Crowe. [40598/23]
- \*716. To ask the Minister for Justice to review a hardship case (details supplied) of a person whose travel plans faced significant disruption because of the sudden decision of the Department of Justice to implement a visa requirement for Bolivian nationals travelling to Ireland, effective 12 September 2023; if she will assess this particular situation and determine whether any exceptions or alternative solutions can be provided to mitigate the hardship faced by individuals caught unaware of this sudden change; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Matt Shanahan. [40644/23]
- \*717. To ask the Minister for Justice if there are plans to issue frontline gardaí with PAVA spray instead of CS spray. Alan Kelly. [40667/23]
- \*718. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of recruit prison officers that were recruited for the Irish Prison Service in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and the number of prison officers that left the Irish Prison Service during this period, in tabular form. Alan Kelly. [40668/23]
- \*719. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí and full-time civilian staff that are based in each of the four Garda National Cyber Crime Bureau satellite hubs as of 14 September 2023, in tabular form. Alan Kelly. [40669/23]
- \*720. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of standard motorcycles held for gardaí within the Tipperary division in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Alan Kelly. [40670/23]

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

- \*721. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of the 12,483 non-coursing greyhounds born and registered with the Irish Coursing Club between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021 that were registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland only.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [39501/23]
- \*722. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of the 11,698 non-coursing greyhounds born and registered with the Irish Coursing Club between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022 that were registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland only. Neasa Hourigan. [39502/23]

- \*723. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of non-coursing greyhounds re-homed for each of the years 2018 to 2022, broken down by year of birth, in tabular form. Neasa Hourigan. [39503/23]
- \*724. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of non-coursing greyhounds that participated in a least one official trial at an RCE-registered track, broken down by year of birth, for each of the years 2018 to 2022, in tabular form. Neasa Hourigan. [39504/23]
- \*725. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason persons (details supplied) are still waiting on payment for the TAMS scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39579/23]
- \*726. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will devise a scheme with improved compensation for those with plantations impacted by ash dieback; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [39607/23]
- \*727. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39661/23]
- \*728. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of an application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39693/23]
- \*729. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a final report from the National Deer Management Strategy Group will be completed and published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39701/23]
- \*730. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide a list of all key life events recorded by the RCETS in respect of non-coursing greyhounds; whether the data recorded for each key life event applies to non-coursing greyhounds registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland only; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39767/23]
- \*731. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if references to the 'Irish economy' in a report (details supplied) refers to the economy of the Republic of Ireland only; if so, the reason owners and trainers resident outside the Republic of Ireland were included when calculating the value of greyhound racing to the 'Irish economy'; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39768/23]
- \*732. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if references to the 'Irish economy' in a report (details supplied) refers to the economy of the Republic of Ireland only; if so, the reason coursing and non-coursing greyhounds registered to owners normally resident outside the Republic of Ireland were included when calculating the cost of preparing and racing greyhounds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39769/23]

- \*733. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if any financial assistance is available to farmers who need to remove ash trees infected with ash dieback; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Willie O'Dea. [39775/23]
- \*734. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason farmers' ANC farm payments are delayed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [39788/23]
- \*735. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the total hectares of land excluded from afforestation activity under bird exclusion zones within the new forestry programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jackie Cahill. [39848/23]
- \*736. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the area of land excluded from afforestation activity due to hen harrier designation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Jackie Cahill. [39849/23]
- \*737. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the area of acid sensitive land excluded from afforestation activity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jackie Cahill. [39850/23]
- \*738. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if there is a new or expanded hen harrier layer increased geographical area on IForIS which will impact on applications in the new forestry programme; the protocol around this new hen harrier layer and when it was introduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jackie Cahill. [39851/23]
- \*739. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the scientific research used to agree bird exclusion zones in the new forestry programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jackie Cahill. [39852/23]
- \*740. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027 document, particularly sections 6.8, whether such conditions and requirements apply to existing and new farmers considering entering the organic farming scheme and other such farming schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jackie Cahill. [39853/23]
- \*741. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to outline details of European Forestry legislation on planting on peat and details of his Department's policy on planting on peat; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39855/23]
- \*742. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what timelines his Department are working to, to process afforestation sites approved and afforestation sites waiting approval; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39856/23]
- \*743. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how his Department will communicate to key stakeholders to ensure the forestry programme is fully understood; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39857/23]
- \*744. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027 document, specifically section 6.8, if the definition of a farmer for farmer rate of premiums is consistent with national policies on rural regeneration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39858/23]

- \*745. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the qualified authority who decided on bird exclusion zones within the forestry programme 2023-2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39860/23]
- \*746. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how forestry premiums compare to other farming enterprises per hectare per year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39864/23]
- \*747. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his Department's target for afforestation this autumn; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39865/23]
- \*748. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027 document, section 6.8, to clarify what is the active farmer check; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39866/23]
- \*749. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if it is scientifically solid and adherent to silvicultural standards to state that every area to be planted is suitable for growing 20% broadleaves; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39867/23]
- \*750. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department will conduct an investigation into a local issue (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Michael Healy-Rae. [39868/23]
- \*751. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if new forestry grant rates are in line with inflation since 2015; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Sean Sherlock. [39871/23]
- \*752. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if grants for afforestation cover 100% of costs associated in establishing a plantation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Sean Sherlock. [39872/23]
- \*753. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how the annual number of licences required by the forestry industry are calculated by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Sean Sherlock. [39873/23]
- \*754. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if advisors providing services to farm families considering succession and availing of his recently announced succession planning advice grant will have to inform the young people taking over the family farm that they will not qualify as farmers for the farmer rate of premium under the forestry programme for a period in excess of four years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Sean Sherlock. [39874/23]
- \*755. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the table detailing the fencing rates for the afforestation programme 2023 to 2027 contains any error, as the max per hectare of €880 at forest level does not allow for the erection of 160 meters of stock/sheep and stock/rabbit at the rates per linear meter determined in the table for IS436 and non-IS436; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Sean Sherlock. [39875/23]
- \*756. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if holders of valid forest road approvals can start their forest road projects and that current provision to opt into the forestry

- programme 2023-2027 exists, as the de minimis options are no longer available; if this also applies to the ash dieback RUS schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Sean Sherlock. [39876/23]
- \*757. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how many native woodland scheme training courses are scheduled before the end of 2023, given it is now mandatory to have this scheme done to lodge applications for FT1, FT2, FT3 and FT 5; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [39887/23]
- \*758. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027 document, section 6.8, to clarify and detail the percentage of persons who commenced farming in 2023, who are recognised as carrying out a farming activity by his Department, who will qualify as a farmer for farmer rate of premiums under the forestry programme 2023 to 2027, in 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027, in tabular form, particularly given the requirement to be a member of BISS or BPS for the previous four years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Shanahan. [39892/23]
- \*759. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the Deer tree shelter, hare and deer fencing schemes are currently available to applicants about to commence afforestation projects who without such supports are at a serious financial disadvantage; if he will agree to providing the deer tree shelter, hare and deer fencing scheme grant retrospectively for applicants that erect tree shelters during the afforestation process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Shanahan. [39981/23]
- \*760. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027 document, specifically section 6.8, is this definition of a farmer confined to the afforestation programme only or does it apply to any other schemes or conditionality across his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Shanahan. [39984/23]
- \*761. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the total hectares of High Nature Value grassland now excluded from the forestry programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [39996/23]
- \*762. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine who was the qualified authority who decided the definition and area of high nature value grasslands to be removed form afforestation activity in the forestry programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [39997/23]
- \*763. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine If he will provide actual details of European forestry legislation relating to planting on peat; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [39998/23]
- \*764. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the qualified authority who advised his Department on peat definition which will be used to exclude land from commercial afforestation activity in the forestry programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40000/23]
- \*765. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department will carry out in-person training to prepare foresters for the new programme specifically regarding organomineral soil with a peat depth or equal to 30cm; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40001/23]

- \*766. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department will carry out in-person training to prepare foresters for the new programme specifically on how to identify modified fen of modified cutaway raised bog; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Fitzmaurice. [40002/23]
- \*767. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what supports will provided for farmers negatively impacted by the new nitrates programme following the failure to secure a derogation from the EU Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40046/23]
- \*768. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the failure to secure a derogation under the new nitrates programme from the EU Commission will result in a reduction in the national herd; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40047/23]
- \*769. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the estimated full-year cost to recruit one additional WTE deputy chief analyst and one additional WTE chief analyst for his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Murphy. [40120/23]
- \*770. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide, in tabular form, the total number of private felling licences issued by his Department in each year since 2014; the number of felling licences issued to Coillte for the same period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40186/23]
- \*771. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to specify the length of time the director of forestry is in place; to list, in tabular form and date form, the associations, societies and semi-State bodies that the director has met since his appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40187/23]
- \*772. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if, in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027 document, specifically section 6.8, the definition of a farmer as outlined in the section acts as a disincentive for persons commencing farming, particularly the previous four years' applicant for BISS or BPS, from entering the afforestation scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40188/23]
- \*773. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if, in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027 document, specifically section 6.8, the definition of a farmer for farmer rate of forestry payments as defined was a decision made by his Department or one instructed by the European Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40189/23]
- \*774. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine whether his Department has conducted research into possible health effects of the use of roundup, which contains glyphosate; and if he intends on extending the licence renewal for roundup. Holly Cairns. [40209/23]
- \*775. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40225/23]

- \*776. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will clarify a matter (details supplied) in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027 document; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40271/23]
- \*777. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will clarify a series of matters (details supplied) in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40272/23]
- \*778. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will clarify a series of matters (details supplied) in relation to the afforestation scheme 2023-2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40273/23]
- \*779. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of tree shelters that must be erected for a one-hectare example forest of FT12 to protect the 20% broadleaf component, by area; the grant that will be payable under the deer tree shelter, hare and deer fencing scheme for this one-hectare example forest; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Michael Healy-Rae. [40275/23]
- \*780. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to outline in detail his proposal for the future of the forestry sector, with particular reference for plans to plant 8,000 hectares of land each year for the foreseeable future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Charles Flanagan. [40296/23]
- \*781. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if there are any plans to recruit an animal welfare inspector for Limerick city, appreciating the high number of wandering horses and unaccompanied dogs within the city; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Maurice Quinlivan. [40312/23]
- \*782. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will advise on his engagement with the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform on the transfer of Brexit adjustment reserve funding to the RePower EU fund; if he has made submissions on securing resources for agricultural purposes within the fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [40336/23]
- \*783. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40364/23]
- \*784. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount of each bonus payment to employees of Greyhound Racing Ireland and Horse Racing Ireland in 2021 and 2022. Paul Donnelly. [40404/23]
- \*785. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will report on the policy in relation to occupancy of States assets at a location (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Emer Higgins. [40415/23]

- \*786. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the details of the farm restructuring guidelines to qualify for farm consolidation relief (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [40424/23]
- \*787. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when he will appoint an animal welfare inspector for Limerick; what efforts the Government is making to deal with the increase in cases of animal cruelty; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Willie O'Dea. [40472/23]
- \*788. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the new forestry grant scheme for native Irish trees will be open for applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Robert Troy. [40624/23]
- \*789. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide a progress update on the plan to provide supports to the forgotten farmers; if he can now provide a definite schedule for its implementation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Johnny Guirke. [40635/23]
- \*790. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the estimated cost of increasing the grant ceiling for the tillage capital investment scheme to €150,000; and the current annual cost of the scheme with existing ceiling levels. Rose Conway-Walsh. [40645/23]
- \*791. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the value of counterfeit veterinary prescription drugs and animal growth hormones seized by customs officials at privately owned and State airports and ports of entry and exit that were passed to his Department for examination; and if he will provide the information in tabular form, by location, item and value, for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023. Catherine Murphy. [40693/23]

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

- \*792. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total number of persons across all services awaiting respite service in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39469/23]
- \*793. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what facilities are available for independent living in County Tipperary for a young adult with an intellectual disability and more specifically, if there are any services available for a young 18-year-old man whose parents have died and is being cared for by his sister; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jackie Cahill. [40261/23]
- \*794. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth whether the full investigation report into the 'Brandon' case will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40608/23]
- \*795. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will ensure that funding is in place to fully staff a community neurorehabilitation team in each of the nine CHOs across the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Robert Troy. [40627/23]

- \*796. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the engagements he has had with the HSE CEO regarding the recent testimony by a safeguarding expert that they were instructed by senior HSE managers to halt an investigation into the possible sexual abuse of residents in a nursing-home associated with the 'Emily' case; what actions are being taken on foot of this testimony; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [39465/23]
- \*797. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the current number of adult disability respite beds vacant in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39470/23]
- \*798. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total number of adult disability respite beds in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39472/23]
- \*799. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the current number of child disability respite beds vacant in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39473/23]
- \*800. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of adult disability respite beds available in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39474/23]
- \*801. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the persons with a disability in County Wexford approved for a residential placement awaiting an allocation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39475/23]
- \*802. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of high-support disability residential placements available in County Wexford in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39476/23]
- \*803. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many childcare providers in Mayo were overpaid in their Core funding 2022 allocations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [39487/23]
- \*804. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the steps he will take to disregard the Core funding 2022 overpayments to childcare providers that are in an already compromising position; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [39488/23]
- \*805. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children aged 0 to 18 years who are waiting for first-time intervention in all areas of early intervention in each CHO, by individual area and by each composite LHO within each CHO; the number on the public list; the number on the children's disability network team list in each CHO, in tabular form; and the length of time that they are awaiting intervention, by age. Sean Sherlock. [39498/23]
- \*806. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of negotiations for a permanent facility for a service (details supplied). Sean Sherlock. [39505/23]

- \*807. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total number of assessment of needs applications carried out in-house by the HSE and which were not outsourced, by CHO, in 2022 and to the end of June 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Denis Naughten. [39507/23]
- \*808. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when respite will be restored in the case of the son of a person (details supplied), whose respite has been continuously cancelled over the summer months; the plan of action in their case going forward; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39517/23]
- \*809. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will respond to concerns raised by a person (details supplied) in respect of the IFCA budgetary requests; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [39544/23]
- \*810. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to confirm the additional measures that his Department will take to support childcare workers, to both support those currently working in the sector and to encourage more people into the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39574/23]
- \*811. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to confirm the additional supports that his Department will put in place to help crèches and childminding facilities with their costs, in light of the difficulties faced by these facilities recently; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39575/23]
- \*812. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason for the increased number of children diagnosed with psychological conditions (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39593/23]
- \*813. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for an explanation on a serious issue (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [39600/23]
- \*814. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason he excluded St. Patricks Guild, Rathmines, from the mother and baby home redress scheme and will he reconsider the exclusion. Robert Troy. [39634/23]
- \*815. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will ensure that family resource centres (details supplied) will have their funding increased in Budget 2024 in recognition of the additional services being provided. Robert Troy. [39635/23]
- \*816. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a person (details supplied) will receive overnight respite care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39643/23]
- \*817. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he intends to deliver a respite care centre for children with disabilities in County Monaghan; the timeframe in which such a centre will be delivered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39644/23]
- \*818. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the current capacity of respite care in counties Cavan and Monaghan for children with disabilities;

- the number of children that are provided with respite care each week in these counties; his proposals to increase this capacity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39645/23]
- \*819. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children with disabilities on waiting lists for overnight respite care in counties Cavan and Monaghan; the number of those who currently receive respite care but who require more nights; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39646/23]
- \*820. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when it is expected to enact the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the reasoning for failing to meet the 2022 deadline for transposing the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39660/23]
- \*821. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39662/23]
- \*822. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on what aggressive recruitment strategies he will employ with respect to personal assistance supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [39744/23]
- \*823. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the procurement process will be expedited and finalised for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39774/23]
- \*824. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the financial support that his Department provides to an organisation (details supplied); if he will ensure that annual operational financial support is allocated to this important centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39777/23]
- \*825. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will liaise with an organisation (details supplied) to assist in their endeavours to source a larger premises in order to meet the growing demand for its important services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39778/23]
- \*826. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware of the demands put forward by an organisation (details supplied); if he supports these demands; if he will ensure that they are implemented in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39780/23]
- \*827. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when appropriate supports will be provided to the son of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39790/23]
- \*828. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline the support dog services currently available to children with autism; if he has any plans to review the current support systems in place, with a view to widening same to ensure more

- children can avail of autism support dog services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   James O'Connor. [39797/23]
- \*829. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when he expects to publish one or more of the general schemes for the referendum Bills; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Kathleen Funchion. [39819/23]
- \*830. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide an update on the work of the inter-departmental group tasked with progressing the Referendum on Article 41. Kathleen Funchion. [39823/23]
- \*831. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he plans to increase the foster care allowance in Budget 2024; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the allowance has not been increased since 2009; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39879/23]
- \*832. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when an AON report will be sent to CAMHS for a child (details supplied) in county Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pearse Doherty. [39963/23]
- \*833. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to address the unacceptable level of vacancies for key positions in the Children's Disability Network Teams in Donegal; and if he is aware of the serious impact this is having on the children affected and their families. Pearse Doherty. [39980/23]
- \*834. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what percentage of tracing applications made under the Birth Information and Tracing Act 2022 have been allocated to a social worker by the Adoption Authority of Ireland and Tusla the Child and Family Agency respectively (with the percentage provided for each body). Joan Collins. [39992/23]
- \*835. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his Department received the recent business case from a school (details supplied); and if his officials have examined the business case contained therein. Patrick Costello. [40004/23]
- \*836. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will report on progress to establish a minimum of six regional assessment of needs units; and the contingencies put in place to present a backlog building on the list of assessments of need. Ivana Bacik. [40010/23]
- \*837. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the funding that has been allocated to each CHO area for the supply of assistive technology in 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form; if the HSE in each CHO area carries out its own assessments of those applying for assistive technology or if applicants are referred to other organisations for these assessments. Pauline Tully. [40108/23]
- \*838. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of applications in each CHO for assistive technology in 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and the number of applications in each CHO in each of these years that were unsuccessful, in tabular form. Pauline Tully. [40109/23]

- \*839. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if it is standard practice for the HSE to supply a person who is unsuccessful in their application for assistive technology with the reasons they were unsuccessful. Pauline Tully. [40110/23]
- \*840. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason a child (details supplied) is waiting on speech and language therapy in County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40150/23]
- \*841. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to a report (details supplied); his views on the challenges affecting the sustainability of the early years' sector outlined in the report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40156/23]
- \*842. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when it is expected to open applications for the mother and baby institutions payment scheme; the number of staff assigned to administer the scheme, by grade; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [40161/23]
- \*843. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to correspondence (details supplied) on behalf of a charity; the engagements he has had with this charity in relation to its funding situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40195/23]
- \*844. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of public changing places facilities available, by location, in tabular form; the actions being taken by his Department to increase the number of available facilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [40207/23]
- \*845. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will review the funding granted to centres run by an organisation (details supplied). Robert Troy. [40219/23]
- \*846. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40226/23]
- \*847. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 1010 of 13 June 2023, if a key contact has now been appointed (details supplied); when the child will be called for speech and language and occupational therapy appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Denis Naughten. [40288/23]
- \*848. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to confirm that a request for transfer has been received from a person (details supplied); and if the request will be considered. Eoin Ó Broin. [40292/23]
- \*849. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will consider removing the requirement for crèche operators to have professionally produced accounts; if he will consider increasing funding to the sector to keep pace with the rising cost of living; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Willie O'Dea. [40320/23]

- \*850. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will examine the case of a child (details supplied) who, having been referred in January 2023 to the St. Gabriel's children's disability early intervention team, has yet to receive an appointment date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Maurice Quinlivan. [40321/23]
- \*851. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of residential care for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40329/23]
- \*852. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children getting support under the universal childcare payment of €1.40 per hour; and their distribution, by age, and by average weekly hours claimed. Richard Bruton. [40346/23]
- \*853. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children getting support under the enhanced level of support available to those below an income threshold; and their distribution, by band of reckonable income, by age, and by average weekly hours claimed. Richard Bruton. [40347/23]
- \*854. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how the hourly rate of support for childcare in different age groups is calculated in the different bands of reckonable income. Richard Bruton. [40348/23]
- \*855. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children benefiting from the core funding payment for childcare; their distribution, by age, and by hours delivered; and the number of children in classrooms led by graduate leaders. Richard Bruton. [40349/23]
- \*856. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he has considered innovations to reduce the amount of administration and record keeping associated with the core funding payment for childcare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Bruton. [40350/23]
- \*857. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of hours funded under the free early childhood care and education scheme; the number of children who take it up, indicating those who complete two years; the hourly payment made to providers; and when this was last increased. Richard Bruton. [40351/23]
- \*858. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated number of children being cared for in the private home of the carer; the number of applications which have been made for the interim support to such carers; and what steps need to be taken before these carers could be included within the supports of the national childcare scheme. Richard Bruton. [40352/23]
- \*859. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the latest number of children participating in the various streams of support under the access inclusion model; and the number of staff deployed in delivering services. Richard Bruton. [40353/23]
- \*860. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth whether improvements in maternity, paternity, or parental leave is scheduled; and if so, the dates that they will take effect. Richard Bruton. [40354/23]

- \*861. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40365/23]
- \*862. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth whether a school (details supplied) has been assigned therapist hours. Thomas Gould. [40382/23]
- \*863. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for a breakdown of the cost to allow services to use service capacity rather than the child's attendance as the mechanism for measuring funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Kathleen Funchion. [40455/23]
- \*864. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a child will receive an appointment (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Denis Naughten. [40458/23]
- \*865. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of people with a declared physical, intellectual and learning disabilities and people with psychological or emotional conditions who are currently employed by HSE, in tabular form. Pauline Tully. [40557/23]
- \*866. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if an application (details supplied) can be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niall Collins. [40558/23]
- \*867. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what grant assistance could be provided by his Department, or by agencies under the remit of his Department, to assist an early education not-for-profit centre (details supplied) providing childcare in a disadvantaged area, to carry out repairs and renovations to their premises; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Seán Haughey. [40559/23]
- \*868. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if as part of his Department's budgetary proposals this year will they propose measures to address issues raised by a report (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [40563/23]
- \*869. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to increase the payment through the national childcare scheme for vulnerable children funded through sponsor referrals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul McAuliffe. [40565/23]
- \*870. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to increase the fostering allowance, given that it has not been increased since 2009; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul McAuliffe. [40569/23]
- \*871. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will verify the total number of children on waiting lists for assessment of need; the number of children

- waiting on historical waiting lists; the number of new applications; the number of children or families still awaiting assessment following a preliminary team assessment review, broken down by CHO area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40580/23]
- \*872. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason that an accommodation provider (details supplied) is again suffering from late payment of invoices for months; and if his Department will review the interest due on late payment of invoices. Michael Creed. [40597/23]
- \*873. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what the staffing complement of the new community engagement team in his Department will be; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40662/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

- \*874. To ask the Minister for Health if, in relation to the IVF plans, there will be a rebate scheme in place to 'claim back' one round of assisted human production (AHR) if they are not accepted into the scheme in time, assuming they meet all criteria; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peter Burke. [40905/23]
- \*875. To ask the Minister for Health if, in relation to the IVF plans, couples who are already engaged with private providers, and not the HSE hubs, will be offered a round of coverage by that provider (the same private provider who would be in place through a HSE referral), assuming there is no 'claim back' system in place. Peter Burke. [40906/23]
- \*876. To ask the Minister for Health if he will ensure a person (details supplied) will be allocated a residential care bed at a suitable facility. Robert Troy. [39467/23]
- \*877. To ask the Minister for Health the current total number of respite beds available in County Wexford; how many of the respite beds are allocated to older person services; how many of the respite beds are allocated to disability services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39468/23]
- \*878. To ask the Minister for Health the number of new persons approved for HSE home care supports hours in County Wexford to date in 2023; the number of existing clients approved for additional home care supports hours in County Wexford to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39477/23]
- \*879. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of persons awaiting delivery of approved and additional home care support hours in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39478/23]
- \*880. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of persons in County Wexford currently in receipt of home care support hours; the total current number of home care support hours being delivered in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Verona Murphy. [39479/23]
- \*881. To ask the Minister for Health whether there are drugs available, or there are any plans to make available, drugs for the long-term illness Hashimoto's thyroiditis, a chronic, long-term, incurable disease, on the HSE reimbursement list; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Alan Dillon. [39490/23]

- \*882. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the planned Ballyhaunis primary care centre, Ballyhaunis, County Mayo, which had a scheduled operational date of Q4 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Rose Conway-Walsh. [39510/23]
- \*883. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1005 of 8 November 2022, if a case manager has been appointed and met with the family of a person (details supplied); the steps currently being taken to provide them with the care required; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39514/23]
- \*884. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who have presented at the long-Covid clinics in Dublin and Cork; and the measures being taken to support these clinics, including ringfenced funding. Sean Sherlock. [39524/23]
- \*885. To ask the Minister for Health the number of staff now employed at Mallow General Hospital, those for the original sections and those hired for the new section recently built; and the number of vacancies and staff grades remaining, in tabular form. Sean Sherlock. [39525/23]
- \*886. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on when the report on the cariban reimbursement scheme review will be published; if further changes will be made to the scheme than the changes (details supplied) that were announced at the end of August 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [39530/23]
- \*887. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a HSE hardship scheme application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [39539/23]
- \*888. To ask the Minister for Health when he intends to introduce legislation regulating surrogacy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jim O'Callaghan. [39540/23]
- \*889. To ask the Minister for Health if he will designate special funding to the healthy homes co-ordinators in local authorities to assist them in their role to help older and vulnerable people; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mattie McGrath. [39541/23]
- \*890. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 815 of 13 July 2023, to provide a breakdown of where the €14 million of new development funding was allocated for new services in mental health; for an update on overspend or underspend of this funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [39543/23]
- \*891. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the significant shortfall that clients of the cross-Border scheme are experiencing when their reimbursement comes through (details supplied). Robert Troy. [39549/23]
- \*892. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) in County Cork will receive an urgent appointment in respect of a facets joint injections procedure. Sean Sherlock. [39566/23]
- \*893. To ask the Minister for Health for an update following on from a primary medical certificate appeal (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39591/23]
- \*894. To ask the Minister for Health if he will give urgent consideration to a request (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [39613/23]

- \*895. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the location of the site on Lusk Main Street referred to in the 2023 Health Capital Plan in 'Appendix 2 Mental Health' that refers to the "Construction of a 30-bed purpose-built Psychiatry of Later Life facility on Main Street, Lusk including purchase of the site"; and if the site has been acquired by the HSE to date. Duncan Smith. [39614/23]
- \*896. To ask the Minister for Health the geographical areas in which it is not possible for medical card holders to get free access to vasectomies; if he will resolve this situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39631/23]
- \*897. To ask the Minister for Health whether support is available for the extension of Coolmine into Galway. Thomas Gould. [39637/23]
- \*898. To ask the Minister for Health to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39670/23]
- \*899. To ask the Minister for Health when the national discharge and annual review plan will be implemented for existing paediatric eye care patients aged eight years and over; if this will be implemented nationally, given that it is being progressed in some areas while discussions are continuing in relation to the fee structure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39689/23]
- \*900. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm if paediatric eye care patients aged eight years and over who are entitled to State support and funding but have been forced to pay for private treatment due to long wait times; if those who are now not existing patients will be denied access to State funding for an annual review delivered by independent optometrists under the new paediatric pathway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39690/23]
- \*901. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department issues guidance to hospitals and car park operators in respect of waiving parking fees for individuals who are admitted as in-patients without prior notice and who are experiencing financial hardship. Ivana Bacik. [39710/23]
- \*902. To ask the Minister for Health if he will ensure that funding is provided for the expansion of the Ballyhale Health Centre, County Kilkenny, as a matter of urgency, given the demand on the practice for services and the increase in population in the catchment area of the centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John McGuinness. [39715/23]
- \*903. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the primary care centre in Blarney. Thomas Gould. [39719/23]
- \*904. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update with respect to all future plans for development of Ennis Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [39738/23]
- \*905. To ask the Minister for Health the number of applications received under a scheme (details supplied); those which were successful, and those not approved, since the beginning of the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [39741/23]

- \*906. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the review of a scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [39742/23]
- \*907. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the aggressive recruitment strategies needed with respect to homecare supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [39743/23]
- \*908. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the tendering of haemodialysis services at a hospital (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [39746/23]
- \*909. To ask the Minister for Health if, in view of limited evidence in respect of the use of puberty blockers for the treatment and care of children, he will establish an independent external evidence review of the use by the HSE of a discredited clinic (details supplied), which treated hundreds of Irish children; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Charles Flanagan. [39750/23]
- \*910. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration would be given to extending the special leave with pay scheme (SLWP), which is due to end on 31 October 2023, until there is an effective treatment for long-Covid, particularly in view that approximately 120 employees of the HSE are affected by long-Covid since 2020 as a result of working on the frontline during the Covid-19 pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39751/23]
- \*911. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration would be given to classifying long-Covid as a disability, in view that long-Covid is characterised by extreme exhaustion after minimal exertion, cardiovascular issues including MI, myocarditis/pericarditis, clots, arrhythmias, and neurological issues such as cognitive impairment, stroke, and ultimately that there is no treatment for the condition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39753/23]
- \*912. To ask the Minister for Health the action his Department is taking to reduce waiting times for long-Covid clinics; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39754/23]
- \*913. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration would be given to the establishment of a fit-for-purpose surveillance system or registry of those who have been infected with Covid-19 to be able to monitor long-term outcomes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39755/23]
- \*914. To ask the Minister for Health the action his Department has taken to date to ensure that those who became infected with Covid and as a result required hospital care; if these patients were given follow-up appointments for aftercare; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Colm Burke. [39756/23]
- \*915. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on an appointment for surgery (details supplied); if he will expedite same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39785/23]
- \*916. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE clinical nurse specialists in permoneal dialysis at Mayo University Hospital in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Duncan Smith. [39805/23]

- \*917. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant orthopaedic and trauma surgeons at St. James's Hospital in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form.

   Duncan Smith. [39806/23]
- \*918. To ask the Minister for Health The number of WTE Clinical Nurse Specialist in Stroke Services based at Tullamore Regional Hospital in 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Duncan Smith. [39807/23]
- \*919. To ask the Minister for Health the number of MRI scanners in use at Roscommon University Hospital. Duncan Smith. [39808/23]
- \*920. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE vacant nursing posts at Our Lady's Hospital, Navan; and the steps being taken to fill these vacancies. Duncan Smith. [39809/23]
- \*921. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to expand the pathfinder alternative care pathway to Bantry General Hospital. Duncan Smith. [39810/23]
- \*922. To ask the Minister for Health the number of full-time emergency department nurses at St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny, in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form; and if this number will be further increased. Duncan Smith. [39811/23]
- \*923. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE vascular surgery registrars at the Mater Hospital in 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Duncan Smith. [39812/23]
- \*924. To ask the Minister for Health the amount of revenue generated through parking charges within public car parks at Portiuncula University Hospital in 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Duncan Smith. [39813/23]
- \*925. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE emergency medicine registrars working in Portlaoise Regional Hospital in 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Duncan Smith. [39814/23]
- \*926. To ask the Minister for Health the number of CT scanners in use at Louth County Hospital. Duncan Smith. [39815/23]
- \*927. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant paediatric neurologists at University Hospital Waterford in 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Duncan Smith. [39816/23]
- \*928. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE staff, by job title, working in the accident and emergency department at Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown. Duncan Smith. [39817/23]
- \*929. To ask the Minister for Health the initial date that concerns were raised within the HSE regarding a nursing home's management of a Covid-19 outbreak in December 2020 or early 2021 (details supplied); the dates of subsequent concerns/complaints; and the action taken in response to each complaint. Thomas Gould. [39831/23]
- \*930. To ask the Minister for Health the number of investigations, hearings or disciplinary matters undertaken by The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland regarding patient care from December 2020 to March 2021 (details supplied). Thomas Gould. [39832/23]

- \*931. To ask the Minister for Health to urgently intervene and provide direct support to family (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [39843/23]
- \*932. To ask the Minister for Health to respond to concerns in respect of counselling and psychotherapy services (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [39877/23]
- \*933. To ask the Minister for Health if he will work with the HSE to provide urgent access to CAMHS for a person (details supplied) who cannot be discharged from the CHI nephrology ward until support is secured. Emer Higgins. [39884/23]
- \*934. To ask the Minister for Health the provision that is made for patients who have to travel to hospital appointments on a regular basis but do not drive or cannot afford a taxi service; if a service is offered by the HSE to cover the cost; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [39895/23]
- \*935. To ask the Minister for Health if a transport service is available for an elderly person (details supplied) to facilitate their hospital appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [39897/23]
- \*936. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details of any contracts granted by the HSE for building and maintenance works in Beaumont Hospital since January 2020; the number of companies in each case that tendered for the works; and the name of the company that was granted the contract in each case, in tabular form. Darren O'Rourke. [39969/23]
- \*937. To ask the Minister for Health if Our Lady's Hospital, Navan, has availed of any public or private external services that has been provided to it by the HSE acute services in reducing the number of patients on the hospital waiting list for orthopaedic procedures. Darren O'Rourke. [39970/23]
- \*938. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for braces after a public orthodontist recommended them for braces under the PRSI system; and the average waiting time for CHO8. Darren O'Rourke. [39971/23]
- \*939. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a hospital appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40008/23]
- \*940. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be called for assessment by the primary care centre in Longford. Robert Troy. [40016/23]
- \*941. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the HSE is no longer accepting referrals from nursing homes (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40020/23]
- \*942. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the average waiting time and minimum waiting time respectively for a medical card for persons diagnosed with cancer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael McNamara. [40027/23]
- \*943. To ask the Minister for Health if he will review extending the access to a new treatment (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peter Burke. [40028/23]

- \*944. To ask the Minister for Health if he will extend the review cycle for medical card holders with a spinal cord injury to ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40038/23]
- \*945. To ask the Minister for Health if he will adjust medical card provision for persons (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40039/23]
- \*946. To ask the Minister for Health if he will implement a crisis management plan at a hospital (details supplied), in view of recent significant overcrowding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40040/23]
- \*947. To ask the Minister for Health if he will publish the HSE winter plan for this year as soon as possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40041/23]
- \*948. To ask the Minister for Health when he will publish the HSE Winter Plan for this year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40042/23]
- \*949. To ask the Minister for Health who is the final decision maker with respect to the reinstatement of accident and emergency services at a hospital (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40045/23]
- \*950. To ask the Minister for Health if there is any consideration being given to the automatic provision of medical cards to people with a spinal cord injury based on certified medical needs, rather than means; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [40053/23]
- \*951. To ask the Minister for Health to outline if there is any consideration being given to extending the review cycle for medical card holders with a spinal cord injury to ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [40054/23]
- \*952. To ask the Minister for Health to expedite an appointment (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40057/23]
- \*953. To ask the Minister for Health the status of new legislation to replace the Dentists Act 1985; the timeline he is working towards; the reason for the delay in progressing this legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40065/23]
- \*954. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 403 and 404 of 8 February 2023 and No. 481 of 3 May 2023, if he is aware of the position of the HSE's Heads of Psychology Services Ireland (HPSI) and the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) on the use of certain titles, given that these titles are not recognised as being currently in use by the HSE's national HR office; if not, if he will engage with the HPSI and the PSI on this matter to establish how these titles came to be in use; if these individual managers should refrain from using these titles as they imply a wider remit or higher level of authority than the title that is in use for such managers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40067/23]
- \*955. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the independent radiation therapist review which began in December 2022 with representatives from a union (details supplied), his Department, the national cancer control programme (NCCP) and the radiation oncology services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40068/23]

- \*956. To ask the Minister for Health what action his Department and the HSE are taking to address the critical shortage of radiation therapists in the sector, which has increased from a 15% to a 40% shortage since a survey (details supplied) was carried out earlier this year, and in view that over the summer months, a skin cancer unit had to close for a time due to a lack of qualified staff to operate same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40069/23]
- \*957. To ask the Minister for Health the measures that his Department and the HSE are taking to address recruitment and retention in the radiation therapy sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40070/23]
- \*958. To ask the Minister for Health if he explored extending the flu programme to the 50-64-year-old group first, rather than examining the benefits of an enhanced flu vaccine for the 65+ cohort; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40096/23]
- \*959. To ask the Minister for Health if he has explored the use of the heel prick test for spinal muscular atrophy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40097/23]
- \*960. To ask the Minister for Health if, in light of HPSC data on excess mortalities seen last winter, he will outline the new measures which he is bringing in for this coming winter to protect the over-65s population of Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40098/23]
- \*961. To ask the Minister for Health following the vacancy in May 2023 of the Director of Midwifery Post in the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland, the steps taken to advertise the now vacant post; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40099/23]
- \*962. To ask the Minister for Health if someone has been appointed or recruited to the role of the Director of Midwifery post in the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland; if so, when this took place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40100/23]
- \*963. To ask the Minister for Health the number of full-time multiple sclerosis nurse specialist employed by the HSE in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and the locations in which these MS nurses are located, in tabular form. Catherine Murphy. [40123/23]
- \*964. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE optometrists and orthoptists based in CHI Crumlin in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Catherine Murphy. [40124/23]
- \*965. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant vascular surgeons at St. Vincent's University Hospital in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Catherine Murphy. [40125/23]
- \*966. To ask the Minister for Health the number of brain scans carried out at Beaumont Hospital in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Catherine Murphy. [40126/23]
- \*967. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to ensure that non-consultant hospital doctors (NCHDs) are not consistently emergency taxed each time they change hospitals; to respond to matters raised in correspondence (details supplied); the engagements he has had with the HSE and the Minister for Finance on this matter; when he expects this unsustainable

- problem for NCHDs to be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40141/23]
- \*968. To ask the Minister for Health the date at which he expects the National Taskforce on NCHD Workforce to publish its report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40142/23]
- \*969. To ask the Minister for Health how medical card holders can access replacement dentures at a time when dentists are not accepting medical-card-holder patients (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40170/23]
- \*970. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the number of pregabalin-related deaths between 2012 and 2020, as reported by the Health Research Board (details supplied); the actions he intends to take to address the substantial rise in pregabalin-related deaths; if he intends to curtail the source of pregabalin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40177/23]
- \*971. To ask the Minister for Health if, further to the announcement of additional annual funding of €3.5 million for drugs and inclusion health services, he will provide further details on how this additional funding is to be allocated if this money is to be used to remediate deficits in local and regional drug and alcohol task force projects' funding; if it will apply to all DATF projects, including those projects that are not aligned to or channelled through the HSE; if so, the role DATFs have in its allocation; if the additional monies will be recurring; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40179/23]
- \*972. To ask the Minister for Health his views on partnerships between gambling industry-funded bodies and addiction services (details supplied); his views on whether it is appropriate for agencies in receipt of State funding to be engaged in such partnerships; the steps he is taking to ensure gambling addiction treatment is free from the influence of the gambling industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40181/23]
- \*973. To ask the Minister for Health if employees of a company (details supplied) will be entitled to the Covid-19 recognition payment, having worked throughout the pandemic to support acute mental health services. Alan Dillon. [40190/23]
- \*974. To ask the Minister for Health when a replacement GP will commence at a location (details supplied); if a temporary replacement GP will be provided until a permanent GP is secured for the vacant position; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Ring. [40194/23]
- \*975. To ask the Minister for Health to investigate the reason that there is no board of management for the medical primary certificate application office, resulting in the refusal of all medical primary certificate grant applications and appeals; to advise when this will be rectified to facilitate people with disabilities and brain injuries to drive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40199/23]
- \*976. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1788 of 11 September 2023, how this funding will be delivered; and whether DATFs will have a role in this or if it will come through the HSE. Thomas Gould. [40203/23]

- \*977. To ask the Minister for Health when it is expected to take Committee Stage for the Health (Termination of Pregnancy Services) (Safe Access Zones) Bill 2023. Holly Cairns. [40210/23]
- \*978. To ask the Minister for Health to request an urgent dental appointment for a child (details supplied) in UHK dental clinic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40214/23]
- \*979. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the checks which are carried out by private care companies to ensure employees are competent within their roles in providing community care. Robert Troy. [40220/23]
- \*980. To ask the Minister for Health to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40234/23]
- \*981. To ask the Minister for Health if he has been notified of any changes to SouthDoc services in the Cork/Kerry region over the past six months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40265/23]
- \*982. To ask the Minister for Health if he will supply information in regard to the fair deal scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Marian Harkin. [40270/23]
- \*983. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the Health (Assisted Human Reproduction) Bill 2022, particularly in relation to international surrogacy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Denis Naughten. [40286/23]
- \*984. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 735 of 20 June 2023, if the vacancy has since been filled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40289/23]
- \*985. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 661 of 31 January 2023, what efforts have since been made (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40290/23]
- \*986. To ask the Minister for Health if there is a grant for HSE-supplied powered mobility equipment (PME); what the current maximum grant amount for PME is; what the maximum grant amount for PME was in each of the past five years; and how much funding was allocated in the budget in each of the past five years to the HSE for PME. Pauline Tully. [40300/23]
- \*987. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) in County Donegal can expect an appointment from a cardiologist and a neurologist from Letterkenny University Hospital; if this person is on the routine or urgent waiting list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [40305/23]
- \*988. To ask the Minister for Health the considerations that his Department is giving to the inclusion of the drugs saxenda and ozempic, both now recognised as valuable medications in the treatment of obesity, to the drugs payment scheme or medical card scheme for non-diabetic patients; if there are plans to widen the prescription of saxenda and ozempic to medical card holders with a BMI of greater than 35 as a preventative medicine or to those over 70 years; to

- outline the current criteria being used to determine prescribing these drugs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [40310/23]
- \*989. To ask the Minister for Health if he considers it acceptable, as outlined by the head of the radiology department in Letterkenny University Hospital, that on-call staff at the weekend have no paediatric experience to perform a contrast x-ray on a sick child who requires same (details supplied); the reason that it has taken a year for a report to be given to the family following this complaint being submitted for a response where no recommendations can be made to improve the service for sick children who require local services, where the paediatrician is in support of the family accessing these services locally to avoid unnecessary travel of four hours each way for a 15-minute test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [40340/23]
- \*990. To ask the Minister for Health the process to be followed to apply for reimbursement for an urgent cataract removal operation which had to be carried out at short notice in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40342/23]
- \*991. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40373/23]
- \*992. To ask the Minister for Health the number of paediatric heart transplant and kidney transplant procedures that have been performed to date in 2023. Paul Donnelly. [40398/23]
- \*993. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost of providing two additional HSE air ambulance helicopters on a 24-7 basis. Paul Donnelly. [40399/23]
- \*994. To ask the Minister for Health the latest update on the rollout of oral immunotherapy for children; the location of each facility in which the treatment is dispensed; and the funding and timeline for same. Paul Donnelly. [40400/23]
- \*995. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE clinical nurse specialists in the heart failure clinic at the Mater Hospital in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form.

   Paul Donnelly. [40401/23]
- \*996. To ask the Minister for Health the new services or technologies that have been deployed recently for neurology in CHO9. Paul Donnelly. [40402/23]
- \*997. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant neonatologists based at the National Maternity Hospital, Holles Street, in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Paul Donnelly. [40403/23]
- \*998. To ask the Minister for Health when a 15-year-old child in Donegal (details supplied) who has been on the waiting list for orthodontic treatment in Letterkenny since January 2022 will receive urgently needed orthodontic treatment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [40412/23]

- \*999. To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting times for orthodontic assessments and for orthodontic treatment in Donegal and in every other county in Ireland, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [40413/23]
- \*1000. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the Health (Termination of Pregnancy Services) (Safe Access Zones) Bill 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Patrick Costello. [40414/23]
- \*1001. To ask the Minister for Health for an update for a progress report on the provision of primary care centre for Mayfield and Glanmire in Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40419/23]
- \*1002. To ask the Minister for Health the amount of revenue generated through parking charges at Cork University Hospital in 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form; what the money was spent on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40420/23]
- \*1003. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE will provide funding to a person with a disability in County Kerry (details supplied) to carry out essential works, not covered under the local authority grant scheme, to their home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [40422/23]
- \*1004. To ask the Minister for Health if he can confirm which department the issue of non-medical costs associated with caring for a child with a life-limiting illness falls into.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Kathleen Funchion. [40430/23]
- \*1005. To ask the Minister for Health to expedite an appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40436/23]
- \*1006. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to increase the mental health budget to 10% of the total health budget; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40437/23]
- \*1007. To ask the Minister for Health e progress to date on the Programme for Government commitment to establish a national leadership role for mental health in the HSE; the timeline for the role to be filled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40438/23]
- \*1008. To ask the Minister for Health the status of plans to reform the Mental Health Act 2001; the timeline for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40439/23]
- \*1009. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to increase funding in Budget 2024 across a range of mental health areas, namely dual diagnosis, self-harm/suicide, early intervention in psychosis, eating disorders, ADHD and perinatal mental health; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40440/23]
- \*1010. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm his plans for increased mental health supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40441/23]

- \*1011. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm that mental health spending will be increased to 10% of the overall health budget, in line with international standards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40442/23]
- \*1012. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to awarding people with spinal cord injuries medical cards without the need for means testing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40444/23]
- \*1013. To ask the Minister for Health when a person will receive an appointment (details supplied); the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Denis Naughten. [40459/23]
- \*1014. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the service provision (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. James Lawless. [40460/23]
- \*1015. To ask the Minister for Health if he will make the drug, vydura (rimegepant), available on the DPS scheme; if there is any other scheme available to help an individual with the cost of this drug; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Noel Grealish. [40546/23]
- \*1016. To ask the Minister for Health when the new HSE fertility treatment service will be rolled out; and if any additional information is available on the scheme (details supplied). Robert Troy. [40554/23]
- \*1017. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details of the model of care, assessment procedure, governance structure and legal and service arrangement in place between the HSE and a private gender service clinic in Antwerp, Belgium (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Charles Flanagan. [40560/23]
- \*1018. To ask the Minister for Health if he will confirm the existence of a funding arrangement under the EU Cross Border Healthcare Directive between the HSE and a private gender service clinic (details supplied) in Antwerp, Belgium. Charles Flanagan. [40570/23]
- \*1019. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people waiting for home support services, broken down by CHO area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40578/23]
- \*1020. To ask the Minister for Health the number of home support services hours currently provided by each CHO area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40579/23]
- \*1021. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting for a CAMHS appointment by CHO, LHO and time waiting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40581/23]
- \*1022. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults and children in Donegal on HSE dental waiting lists at the end of May and June of each year 2019 to 2023, broken down by standard waiting times, by clinic, in tabular form. Pearse Doherty. [40593/23]
- \*1023. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults and children in Donegal on HSE orthodontic waiting lists at the end of May and June of each year 2019 to 2023, broken down by standard waiting times, by clinic, in tabular form. Pearse Doherty. [40594/23]

- \*1024. To ask the Minister for Health whether the full investigation report into the handling of Covid-19 at a facility (details supplied) in the Phoenix Park, Dublin, in 2020, will be published; whether he has discussed this report with the HSE CEO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40607/23]
- \*1025. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the progress made in developing a new Rare Disease Plan; when further information will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40609/23]
- \*1026. To ask the Minister for Health when the implementation working group established following the publication of the Mazars Report and tasked with reviewing the policy, legal and institutional framework within which the HSE operates, in particular the requirements as set out in the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013 is due to report to the Minister; if he will outline the patient groups, industry reps, and stakeholders consulted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40610/23]
- \*1027. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the expansion of the National Newborn Bloodspot Screening Programme; when the review is due to conclude and be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40611/23]
- \*1028. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm that a school bus escort (details supplied) who worked during the pandemic is entitled to a pandemic recognition payment; when the payment will be made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40623/23]
- \*1029. To ask the Minister for Health if he will introduce, in context of Budget 2024, the automatic provision of medical cards to people with a spinal cord injury based on certified medical needs, rather than means. Robert Troy. [40625/23]
- \*1030. To ask the Minister for Health to extend the review cycle for medical card holders with a spinal cord injury to ten years. Robert Troy. [40626/23]
- \*1031. To ask the Minister for Health when the review of the long-term illness scheme will take place; if the age limit of 16 years old in the mental health category of the scheme will be reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40630/23]
- \*1032. To ask the Minister for Health to outline, in tabular form, how many referrals to CAMHS were made in the past five years; how many of those were refused; and the reasons given for refusal. Paul Murphy. [40640/23]
- \*1033. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the approach that is to be taken by CAMHS in circumstances where an applicant has diagnosed autism and potentially has ADHD, whether CAMHS will assess for ADHD. Paul Murphy. [40641/23]
- \*1034. To ask the Minister for Health his views regarding funding for training staff members (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40663/23]
- \*1035. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant cardiothoracic surgeons based at Cork University Hospital in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form.

   Alan Kelly. [40673/23]

- \*1036. To ask the Minister for Health the number of health recruitment fairs in the UK that officials from University Hospital Limerick were in attendance, either in-person or virtually in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, to seek to recruit additional nurses, doctors, physiotherapist, dentists, and so on, to work in UHL; if so, the number of jobs offered, per recruitment fair; the number of jobs offered that were accepted, per recruitment fair; and if any officials from UHL plan to be present at any additional health recruitment fairs before the end of the year in the UK.

   Alan Kelly. [40674/23]
- \*1037. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on perinatal services in CHO areas 3+5. Alan Kelly. [40675/23]
- \*1038. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE dietitians, speech and language therapists and occupational therapists working in South Tipperary General Hospital in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. Alan Kelly. [40676/23]
- \*1039. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to reform the Dental Act 1985; if he will provide a timeline for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Murphy. [40695/23]
- \*1040. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to empower the Dental Council to inspect dental practices, to be given authority to regulate dental practices which are not owned by dentists, and to investigate allegations of dental care being provided by persons who are not registered dental practitioners; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Murphy. [40696/23]
- \*1041. To ask the Minister for Health if he will set out a schedule of engagements that his Department has with the Dental Council on the matter outlined in the RTÉ Primetime investigates programme of 7 September 2023 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Catherine Murphy. [40697/23]
- \*1042. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1154 of 21 March 2023, 597 of 25 April 2023 and 703 of 27 June 2023, if he will provide an update on the formation of the development team, announced by Cork HSE management in May 2022, tasked with conducting an options appraisal for the construction of a new ten-bed mental health rehabilitation/continuing care residential service in Midleton, County Cork; the names of HSE management staff who have been appointed to the team; the dates of any development team meetings held to date or engagements with the local authority; the details on the progress the development team has made on identifying a site for the service over the past fifteen months and on the acquisition of capital funding; to provide an update on the timeframe for the commencement and completion of this project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40721/23]
- \*1043. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 719 of 17 May 2023, the length of time that the HSE plans to continue its use of a facility (details supplied) as a mental health facility; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40722/23]
- \*1044. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1155 of 21 March 2023, the total cost of the HSE's use of a facility (details supplied) as a mental health facility since the property was first rented in April 2020 to 14 September 2023, in tabular form; and the cost of rent, cleaning fees, investment in the kitchen, insurance and any other costs covered by the HSE in respect of this property. Neasa Hourigan. [40723/23]

- \*1045. To ask the Minister for Health the exact requirements for the advertising of local recruitment competitions for HSE staff grade and senior grade psychology posts, such that they are compliant with the Commission for Public Service Appointments and the HSE's own recruitment protocols; the way these differ from other forms of psychology recruitment competitions run by the HSE for psychology posts; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Neasa Hourigan. [40724/23]
- \*1046. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1375 of 25 July 2023, the status of the development of a primary care centre on Inisbofin; the status of the land transfer and acquisition of the site; if a design team has been appointed to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40734/23]
- \*1047. To ask the Minister for Health the details of the new surgical hub planned in advance of the delivery of the new permanent elective hospital in Merlin Park; the total projected cost of the surgical hub; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40735/23]
- \*1048. To ask the Minister for Health when the parents of a child (details supplied) can expect to receive services from the early intervention team in Buncrana; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [40738/23]

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

- \*1049. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will facilitate an appeal in relation to the awarding of a SUSI grant to a person (details supplied) who, due to their being abroad during the allowed appeal period, in line with Teaching Council requirements, has been unable to forward an appeal under the statutory provisions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Howlin. [39486/23]
- \*1050. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware that an increase in the State contribution towards graduate entry medicine from a rate of €11,950 per student in the 2021/2022 academic year to a new rate of €14,500 has not led to a decrease in cost to the students, and that, combined with the withdrawal of the only graduate loan program for such students, it has resulted in students applying overseas; what measures he intends to take to increase access to graduate medicine entry in view of the shortage of doctors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [39515/23]
- \*1051. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will address matters raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39555/23]
- \*1052. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science how many instructors are employed nationwide to conduct pipefitting apprenticeship training (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39556/23]
- \*1053. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if pipefitting apprenticeship training can be facilitated online, as was done during the pandemic (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39557/23]

- \*1054. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the projected timeframe for completion of an apprenticeship (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39558/23]
- \*1055. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if apprentices who are delayed completing their apprenticeships will be compensated (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39559/23]
- \*1056. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if SUSI will be encouraged to reconsider the refusal of a higher education grant in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [39576/23]
- \*1057. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether any essential expenditure from an inheritance, such as purchase of a car to travel to college can be included in a SUSI means assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Denis Naughten. [39608/23]
- \*1058. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if an inheritance is only taken into account for a higher education grant in the year in which it is received; if not, if it is assessed as income throughout the individual's period of study; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Denis Naughten. [39633/23]
- \*1059. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to detail the preparations being undertaken by his Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by his Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39669/23]
- \*1060. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what action his Department is taking to attract people into motor mechanic apprenticeships, given there is a growing shortage of qualified motor mechanics in the motor industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [39697/23]
- \*1061. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider a lower threshold for SUSI qualification in respect of applicants from households in receipt of a widow's pension; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [39721/23]
- \*1062. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider extending SUSI supports to lone parents participating in part-time courses to help offset childcare costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [39722/23]
- \*1063. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the case of a person (details supplied) will be reviewed; if advice will be provided in relation to this case; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39786/23]
- \*1064. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason for the delay in the completion of an apprenticeship by a person (details supplied) in County Cork; when the person can anticipate being offered the awaited off-the-job phase 4

training; the reason that this four-year apprenticeship is likely now to take closer to six years before being completed; the number of instructors that are currently employed to deliver this particular apprenticeship training in pipefitting; the reason that the backlog has not been dealt with online as was previously done during Covid; how his Department proposes to compensate apprentices for this delay in completing their apprenticeship; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [39799/23]

- \*1065. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on student grants (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Danny Healy-Rae. [39822/23]
- \*1066. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason that a person (details supplied) has only been called for a one-off job education phase; and when they will be called for their next phase. Thomas Gould. [39830/23]
- \*1067. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if student numbers for radiation therapy courses at third level have increased in 2023 in comparison to numbers in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40072/23]
- \*1068. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what engagement has taken place to date between his Department and higher education institutions in the expansion of existing radiation therapy programmes from 2023; what progress, if any, has been made to date between his Department and the Department of Health in increasing corresponding student placements in the health sector for these additional radiation therapy students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40073/23]
- \*1069. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on the working group, established by his Department in 2022, to identify and address barriers to expansion in the health and social care professions, including radiation therapy; what progress has been made to date in particular with regard to radiation therapy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40074/23]
- \*1070. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if consideration would be given to his Department engaging with the Department of Health and the HSE with regard to funding the master's programme in University College Cork for radiation therapy, in view that the master's programme in University College Cork is funded for diagnostic radiographers by the HSE, whereby it is more difficult to attract students onto the radiation therapy course; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40075/23]
- \*1071. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on partnerships between gambling industry-funded bodies and addiction studies programmes in higher education institutes (details supplied); his views on whether such partnerships are appropriate; the steps he is taking to ensure addiction studies is free from the influence of the gambling industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Róisín Shortall. [40182/23]
- \*1072. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will intervene in the case of person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Kathleen Funchion. [40205/23]

- \*1073. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the full- and first-year cost of increasing the number of social work courses provided by third level institutions by 5%, 10%, 20% and 25%; and how many extra places this would add, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Kathleen Funchion. [40211/23]
- \*1074. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide details on the measures his Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40233/23]
- \*1075. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of places currently in the Masters of Arts in Social Work at the Atlantic Technological University. Kathleen Funchion. [40248/23]
- \*1076. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of places currently in the Masters of Social Work; Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work Studies and the Bachelor of Social Work at University College Cork, in tabular form. Kathleen Funchion. [40249/23]
- \*1077. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of places currently in the Masters of Arts in Social Science (Social Work) and Professional Master of Social Work, at University College Dublin, in tabular form. Kathleen Funchion. [40250/23]
- \*1078. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of places currently in the Masters in Social Work, Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work and Bachelor in Social Studies at Trinity College Dublin, in tabular form. Kathleen Funchion. [40251/23]
- \*1079. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of places currently in the Masters in Social Work at the National University of Ireland Galway. Kathleen Funchion. [40252/23]
- \*1080. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of places currently in the Masters of Social Science Maynooth University. Kathleen Funchion. [40253/23]
- \*1081. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if consideration can be given to the case of a person (details supplied) in relation changes to the assessment of the SUSI grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Kehoe. [40262/23]
- \*1082. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if funding can be accessed by third-level institutions to increase student accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40268/23]
- \*1083. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware of the constraints on the children of certain categories of visa holders, including stamp 3 visa holders, who are often the children of critical skills visa holders working in the

healthcare sector, given that these children, who have completed their Leaving Certificate, are now excluded from grant aid under SUSI, are unable to avail of certain QQI level 5 courses given the 150 hours' work experience requirement of same which they are unable to complete due to their visa restrictions; the proposals, if any, which he has put to the Department of Justice to resolve these issues; his views on the impact that this may have on attracting critical skills workers to the Irish economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [40307/23]

- \*1084. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40372/23]
- \*1085. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the current number of apprentices waiting for off-the-job training at level 2, 4 and 6, disaggregated by craft apprenticeship type, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40431/23]
- \*1086. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the current offerings available at the TUS Ennis campus; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40660/23]
- \*1087. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he has enquired as to what the cause of the delay in the allocation of funding (details supplied); and what is currently being done with these funds. Mairéad Farrell. [40739/23]

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

- \*1088. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the status of a project (details supplied); the amount awarded; the amount drawn down to date; the contractors engaged; and the minutes of all meetings relating to the fund under the Rural Regeneration Development Plan. Sean Sherlock. [39466/23]
- \*1089. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if a fund for urban-village signage is available in Cork city. Sean Sherlock. [39509/23]
- \*1090. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to detail the preparations being undertaken by her Department in advance of the European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882); the guidance that is being issued by her Department to organisations and businesses in advance of the enactment of the directive; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Holly Cairns. [39674/23]
- \*1091. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will consider including provision for local history projects in one of her Department's funding streams; if she

- sees the value of such projects for communities; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

   Brendan Griffin. [39726/23]
- \*1092. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development for an update on an organisation (details supplied); the services the organisation provides in counties Cavan and Monaghan; how many persons are provided with a service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39728/23]
- \*1093. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will confirm the date when funding will be allocated (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

   Violet-Anne Wynne. [39739/23]
- \*1094. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide clarity on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [39800/23]
- \*1095. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if the social inclusion and community activation programme (SICAP) budgets will be increased to reflect the exorbitant inflation experienced over recent years and with due consideration given to the demands on SICAP, which have grown considerably; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [39801/23]
- \*1096. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if, with respect to Government policy, specifically within 'DRCD: Sustainable, Empowered and Inclusive Communities, Action Point 4.1' on page 27, which commits to moving towards a multi-annual funding model for organisations in the community and voluntary sector, on the basis that annual funding arrangements create uncertainty and inefficiencies within the voluntary sector, she will detail how this area is to be developed over the coming years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [39803/23]
- \*1097. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide a schedule of applications received by municipal districts in Wicklow County Council's local authorities under the 2023 allocation; if she will provide a breakdown, by the library branch that was allocated funding and amount, in the local authority under the libraries capital programme in 2023; if she will provide a schedule of the proposals received for a small-scale capital works programme in public libraries to date in 2023 under the new libraries capital programme by each municipal district in County Wicklow and/or by Wicklow County Council, by amount; and to provide an outline of the proposed project. Catherine Murphy. [40102/23]
- \*1098. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development how much of the budget allocated towards the community centres investment fund has been spent to date. Catherine Murphy. [40117/23]
- \*1099. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide details on the measures her Department has taken to implement specific action points (details supplied) of the action plan to support the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021. Carol Nolan. [40238/23]

\*1100. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by her Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to her that have yet to be released by her Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to her; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [40377/23]

## CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 21 MEÁN FÓMHAIR, 2023 QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER, 2023

## Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

- 1. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people waiting for genetic testing for each of the years 2018 to 2022 and to date in 2023, disaggregated by waiting times 0-6, 6-12, 12-18 and 18+ months, in each hospital, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [39630/23]
- 2. To ask the Minister for Health the reason no additional funding was given to the National Clinical Programmes in Mental Health for 2023; what this means for the timelines for completion of the expansion of the National Clinical Programmes; if increased funding will be delivered in Budget 2024 for the National Clinical Programmes for Mental Health; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [40731/23]
- 3. To ask the Minister for Health when he will publish a multi-annual investment plan to address the capacity deficit in hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40790/23]
- 4. To ask the Minister for Health if, in light of the opening of the second cath lab in University Hospital Waterford, he will outline the anticipated timeline for moving to a cardiac care service operating 8am to 8pm, seven days a week; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [40037/23]
- 5. To ask the Minister for Health if more beds will be opened at West Kerry Community Hospital; the current bed and staffing breakdown; how this compares with each of the past five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [40649/23]
- 6. To ask the Minister for Health the revised care plan for those seeking gender identity services, taking into account WPATH standards of care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Neasa Hourigan. [40454/23]
- 7. To ask the Minister for Health what steps his Department is undertaking to ensure that more dentists in the State will accept medical card patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40282/23]
- 8. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an estimate of the average number of inpatient and outpatient procedures that have been delivered by public hospitals and by the NTPF

to date in 2023; and if he is considering any innovations to deliver more procedures. — Richard Bruton. [40277/23]

- 9. To ask the Minister for Health if therapists (details supplied) who have qualified in Queens University Belfast or Ulster University have to complete a compensation measure, comprising either an adaptation period under supervised practice or an aptitude test before their qualification is recognised by CORU. Pauline Tully. [40690/23]
- 10. To ask the Minister for Health if a public health awareness campaign around cocaine use and its adverse effects will be considered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [40650/23]
- 11. To ask the Minister for Health if he supports the provision of the chicken pox varicella vaccine free to all children through the primary or schoolchild immunisation programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40550/23]
- 12. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding dedicated services to address long-Covid in each of the regions; the steps his Department is taking to provide services and supports for those affected by long-Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [40036/23]
- 13. To ask the Minister for Health the extent of the estimated health budget overrun in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40788/23]
- 14. To ask the Minister for Health if he will legislate for safe staffing levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40789/23]
- 15. To ask the Minister for Health the total amount paid out in compensation by the HSE in each of the past ten years and to date in 2023. Peadar Tóibín. [40281/23]
- 16. To ask the Minister for Health to provide defined commencement timelines with regard to the long-awaited public inquiry into the handling of the Covid pandemic in nursing homes; if he can provide the terms of reference for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [40603/23]
- 17. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he will take to provide funding for a day care centre for the elderly in Youghal, County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. James O'Connor. [40616/23]
- 18. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that recent data has shown that 100,800 children are on some form of National Treatment Purchase Fund waiting list, with one in five of those 20,600 young people waiting longer than a year for treatment or assessment in public hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gino Kenny. [40712/23]
- 19. To ask the Minister for Health the criteria that would be used to recruit medical staff from third countries to assist with the staffing crisis that exists within the Irish health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [39628/23]
- 20. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the measures that are being taken to fill the 51.4 WTE vacancies across medical assessment services at model 2 hospitals at St John's, Ennis and

Nenagh Hospitals; the timeline that is being considered to put staff in these posts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [40716/23]

- 21. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the Mental Health Commission report into CAMHS services in each CHO, in particular the lack of out-of-hours services in CHO3 and CHO5; the shortage in the provision of in-patient beds and dedicated CAMHS specific psychiatric assessment room in CHO5; the measures that will be taken to facilitate accessible service locations that are currently unavailable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Martin Browne. [40715/23]
- 22. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the accessibility to acute care in the midwest region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40655/23]
- 23. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the provision of new and upgraded primary care centres in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [40620/23]
- 24. To ask the Minister for Health if he is considering extending eligibility to the long-term illness scheme for reimbursement of blood glucose test strips (insulin and metformin) to all women who develop gestational diabetes during pregnancy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Stanton. [37850/23]
- 25. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of the fact that medical students from Northern Ireland are unable to apply for internship posts in the Republic of Ireland due to an administrative loophole whereby their results are not ready in time for the HSE to consider them, and are therefore lost to the health services for ongoing employment to aid services here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [39629/23]
- 26. To ask the Minister for Health what steps have been taken to address the patient waiting list in respect of scoliosis; the number of patients that have been facilitated to date in 2023; the number still awaiting treatment; when it is expected that their needs are likely to be met; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40702/23]
- 27. To ask the Minister for Health how he is making the Health (Termination of Pregnancy Services) (Safe Access Zones) Bill 2023 a priority, to have it in operation by Christmas 2023 (details supplied). Joan Collins. [40652/23]
- 28. To ask the Minister for Health if he will review dental practice regulations, in line with calls from the Dental Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40787/23]
- 29. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that an organisation (details supplied) has called for the emergency department taskforce to meet urgently to discuss how the HSE plans to tackle the persistent overcrowding problem in Irish hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gino Kenny. [40713/23]
- 30. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that an organisation (details supplied) recently published data showing that the mental health budget has declined as a percentage of the overall health budget from 13% in 1984 to 5.1% in 2023; if he is aware that the organisation has called for the mental health budget to be at least 10% of the overall health budget; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gino Kenny. [40711/23]

- 31. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the involvement, if any, of his Department in the provision of a new building for the Cork University Dental School and Hospital; the indicative timetable for the construction and completion of the new building; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Stanton. [40411/23]
- 32. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on his Department's latest work in tackling overcrowding in hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [40744/23]
- 33. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to tackle to ongoing trolley crisis in emergency departments throughout the country in advance of the oncoming winter season; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40549/23]
- 34. To ask the Minister for Health the plans he has in place to prevent a serious hospital crisis in the coming winter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [40791/23]
- 35. To ask the Minister for Health when the new National Children's Hospital is expected to open; what the final cost of the project will be; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gino Kenny. [40710/23]
- 36. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the reopening of the day centre in Áras Mhic Dara in Carraroe; the reason the day centre did not reopen on 11 September 2023, as planned; if the promised bus service is in place to date; to clarify whether the promised nursing role has been filled to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40728/23]
- 37. To ask the Minister for Health his views that the assessment processes for accessing new medicines are too stringent; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40476/23]
- 38. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the progression of, and the timeline for, the establishment of a commission on care for older people and the establishment of a commissioner for ageing and older people; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [40604/23]
- 39. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which ongoing measures are taking place to deal with the issue of waiting lists in all hospitals throughout the country in respect of all procedures; if steps have been taken to fill the various vacant posts which might facilitate this work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40701/23]
- 40. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that there are only 51 CAMHS inpatient beds operational across the country at any one time, falling well short of the 130 beds recommended in the Government's 'A Vision for Change' strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gino Kenny. [40714/23]
- 41. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1373 of 25 July 2023, to provide a status update on the Strategic Assessment Report/ Preliminary Business Case for the new emergency department, women and children's block at University Hospital Galway; the timeline for the completion of the SAR/PBC; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40729/23]

- 42. To ask the Minister for Health the hospitals that currently have free Wi-Fi in public areas as of August 2023, in tabular form; and the estimated cost of ensuring that every public hospital in this country has Wi-Fi available for patients. Colm Burke. [40619/23]
- 43. To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date in recruiting additional personnel for CAMHS teams in areas such as Cavan/Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

   Brendan Smith. [40707/23]
- 44. To ask the Minister for Health if pharmacist services can be expanded to aid in alleviating some of the pressures currently experienced in GP services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40264/23]
- 45. To ask the Minister for Health what measures are being taken to ensure adequate GP services are in place for Cork north-west; if he is aware of the difficulties that people are experiencing in securing a GP in their area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40263/23]
- 46. To ask the Minister for Health to what extent hospital wards are mixed gender due to over-capacity in the health service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mick Barry. [31340/23]
- 47. To ask the Minister for Health the digital reforms he has undertaken, and those he intends to undertake; and his views on whether a greater use of digital health will improve patient outcomes, improve efficiencies and be a solution to escalating costs. Robert Troy. [40600/23]
- 48. To ask the Minister for Health the reason that a person (details supplied) has been waiting so long for their operation. Joan Collins. [40651/23]
- 49. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on actions being taken by his Department to ensure that the services of a general practice medical doctor remain in Newmarketon-Fergus, County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [40621/23]
- 50. To ask the Minister for Health if it is proposed to increase the level of funding for the North-East Drug Task Force, in view of the increased demand for services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40708/23]
- 51. To ask the Minister for Health if the Government has any plans to regulate CAMHS under the Mental Health Act 2001 to give the Mental Health Commission statutory oversight of CAMHS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [40730/23]
- 52. To ask the Minister for Health when the management of the MRH Mullingar can expect approval to recruit the necessary staff for the new MRI scanner which has recently been commissioned. Robert Troy. [40599/23]
- 53. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the provision of a much-needed primary care centre for Swords in north County Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40551/23]

- 54. To ask the Minister for Health his views on expanding Jigsaw services on the ground into County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40656/23]
- 55. To ask the Minister for Health what the key drivers of the reported overruns in health expenditure are; whether there are improvements that can be made in spending management; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Bruton. [40276/23]
- 56. To ask the Minister for Health how many primary care centres had construction halted due to increased construction costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [40745/23]
- 57. To ask the Minister for Health if he will contact the Cuban Ambassador to request that Cuba assist with the provision of Cuban doctors and medical staff from to help with the staffing crisis in our health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Thomas Pringle. [39627/23]
- 58. To ask the Minister for Health the number of applicants notified to his Department in the years 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023 for a primary medical certificate; and if he believes the system is fit for purpose as constituted. Sean Sherlock. [32068/23]
- 59. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the provision of a primary care centre in Youghal, County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. James O'Connor. [40617/23]
- 60. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting times for children with scoliosis; the number waiting 0 to 4, 4 to 12, and over 12 months, by hospital, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40477/23]
- 61. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of an organisation (details supplied); if so, his views on the organisation's role in assisting recovery through exercise; if he can commit to ensuring support for current classes in line with other support partners; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [40548/23]
- 62. To ask the Minister for Health if there are plans in place to further restrict the sale of single-use vapes in the country, especially those aimed at children; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40618/23]
- 63. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1625 of 11 September 2023, the reason therapists (details supplied) who have qualified in Queens University Belfast or Ulster University have to complete a compensation measure comprising either an adaptation period under supervised practice or an aptitude test before their qualification is recognised by CORU if CORU states that "the existing programmes in Northern Ireland have a good alignment with the Irish standard for these professions. Pauline Tully. [40740/23]
- 64. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the efforts that are being made to expand places in third-level courses for mental healthcare; what assistance is being given by his Department to assist third-level institutions in offering these increased places; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [40606/23]

- 65. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to report on his engagements with the management at SETU in relation to the university-enterprise quarter planned for the Waterford Crystal site; when it can be expected to see detailed capital plans for the development of the site; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [40035/23]
- 66. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the up-to-date position regarding plans to redevelop the former Pretty Polly plant and site in Killarney, County Kerry, into a further education centre of excellence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [40647/23]
- 67. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science how the destination of graduates after qualification has evolved over the past five years; and whether any lessons can be drawn from the impact of the Covid experience. Richard Bruton. [40279/23]
- 68. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he deems it appropriate for universities and colleges to increase their cost of accommodation for this academic year while the country experiences a cost-of-living crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gary Gannon. [40450/23]
- 69. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department has ever undertaken a study on the physical accessibility of third-level institutions for persons with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peadar Tóibín. [40284/23]
- 70. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to outline the progress made to date on Dundalk Institute of Technology becoming a technological university under the Technological Universities Act 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [40334/23]
- 71. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what plans and funding he has in place for student accommodation in Carlow, now that it is a university town and county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [40746/23]
- 72. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the average wait time for an apprentice to enter each of the taught phases, by county, in tabular form; if he is aware of delays (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40478/23]
- 73. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what engagement he has had with other Ministers and Departments concerning the rising cost of living for students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40750/23]
- 74. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to further expand further and higher education in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40657/23]

- 75. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on increasing the throughput of craft apprentices through the system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40589/23]
- 76. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his view on a phased abolition of the student contribution charge, reflected by a total reduction of €1,500 in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Violet-Anne Wynne. [40658/23]
- 77. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider reforms of SUSI to include part-time students and better conditions for students from households in receipt of a widow's pension or lone-parent families; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Griffin. [40648/23]
- 78. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his Department's plans to respond to and resource the Digital Inclusion Roadmap, particularly with respect to the 280,000 people over the age of 60 years who do not use the internet at all, according to CSO data, and cognisant of the Roadmap's high-level commitment to delivering the United Nations principle of "Leave No One Behind"; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [40034/23]
- 79. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what steps his Department is undertaking to ensure that students from the Travelling community are welcomed and encouraged to progress within the third-level education sector. Peadar Tóibín. [40283/23]
- 80. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to increase the allocation to the Fund for Students with Disabilities in Budget 2024. Pauline Tully. [40741/23]
- 81. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of SUSI grants that have been granted/refused in the current year; the action proposed to ensure that grants are available to the greatest extent possible, having regard to individual circumstances and the possible necessity of improving the qualification limits; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40703/23]
- 82. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the latest measures he is deploying to meet the skills shortages that Ireland faces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Fergus O'Dowd. [40335/23]
- 83. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which adequate higher level places have been made available to the student population in the current year, with particular reference to the identification of the sensitive areas that at present are having difficulty identifying sufficiently qualified personnel to fill the various posts at technical and academic levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Bernard J. Durkan. [40704/23]
- 84. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide clarification on the status and cost of the student contribution fee; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gary Gannon. [40448/23]

- 85. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if, in view of the particular cost-of-living pressures at present, he will ensure that additional financial support will be provided to reduce undergraduate student contribution fees for this academic year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40698/23]
- 86. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on the funding announced for Cavan IT; the plans for its development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40749/23]
- 87. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the action his Department is taking to improve the number of places in healthcare and therapy areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40446/23]
- 88. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of institution-owned accommodation places of third-level institutions in Limerick; the projected bed space demand for third-level institutions in Limerick; the steps being taken to increase the number of on and off-campus institution-owned accommodation places; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brian Leddin. [40688/23]
- 89. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on the centre of excellence for EV identified for Columb Barracks, Mullingar. Robert Troy. [40601/23]
- 90. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if measures are to be introduced to reduce undergraduate student contribution fees this academic year; if he will ensure that students studying outside of the State will receive such supports, as requested previously by this Deputy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40699/23]
- 91. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what measures are being taken to address the issue of delays for in-class progression on apprenticeship programmes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40267/23]
- 92. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will review the CAO process to ensure that students do not get excluded without warning due to clerical errors, such as missing exam numbers. Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [40748/23]
- 93. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when he expects the tender will be issued to establish a new veterinary school in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brian Leddin. [40689/23]
- 94. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on the work that his Department is conducting with regard to technological universities; how this work is making Ireland more regionally balanced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [40743/23]
- 95. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science pursuant to the Public Service Apprenticeship Plan, the status of the commitment for all local authorities and the HSE to recruit at least five craft apprenticeships annually; to clarify how the

implementation of this commitment will be monitored; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [40733/23]

- 96. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what mechanisms, if any, are available to him to prevent third-level institutions from increasing rents in college-controlled accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [40747/23]
- 97. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on the specialist MSc in children's mental health at Trinity College Dublin (details supplied); the efforts his Department has made to enable this course to continue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [40605/23]
- 98. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether he has considered initiating, along with the Minister for Education, a national dialogue on the reform of the Leaving Certificate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Richard Bruton. [40278/23]
- 99. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he plans to put in place financial assistance for graduate entry medicine candidates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [26723/23]
- 100. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what his plans are in relation to including graduate entry medicine within the free fees initiative; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40588/23]
- 101. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 121 of 1 June 2023, for a status update on the proposed new further education college in Galway city; the status of the development of the preliminary business case; if it has been completed and returned to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [40732/23]
- 102. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if university-funded PhD scholarships will be allocated additional State funding for this academic year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gary Gannon. [40452/23]
- 103. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is considering any one-off cost-of-living measures for higher education, similar to last year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40592/23]
- 104. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what measures his Department has taken to improve student accommodation across the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Alan Dillon. [40742/23]
- 105. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the action his Department is taking to recruit more women to construction, in view that the shortage of construction workers is one of the biggest challenges facing the building industry, with not enough skilled labour to meet the demand for housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40447/23]

- 106. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for the number of complaints submitted concerning the SUSI application process this year by students or parents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gary Gannon. [40449/23]
- 107. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware of delays in SOLAS in providing block release for electrician apprenticeships in Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [40479/23]
- 108. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the plans, if any, he has in relation to changes to the SUSI grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40591/23]
- 109. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans for increasing North-South mobility in third-level education institutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40590/23]
- 110. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the recommendation to increase PhD stipends to €25,000 per annum from 1 January 2024 applies to all PhDs, inclusive of SFI, IRC, and university/college-funded scholarships; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Gary Gannon. [40451/23]
- 111. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what measures are being taken to address the shortage of third-level student accommodation for this academic year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40266/23]
- 112. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way his Department is encouraging and supporting students to study to PhD level in Irish third-level educational institutions; the number of PhD qualifications awarded in each of these centres in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022; the amount expended by his Department in each of these years in direct support to PhD students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Stanton. [40386/23]
- 113. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science how many third-level institutions have plans to provide/increase student accommodation on their campus; and the lead-in time for same. Robert Troy. [40602/23]