



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 4 Deireadh Fómhair, 2023

Wednesday, 4th October, 2023

CEISTEANNA QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

1. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on the Shared Island Youth Forum. — Brendan Smith. [37572/23]
2. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the work of his Department's shared island unit. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [41329/23]
3. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the shared island unit in his Department. — Paul Murphy. [42346/23]
4. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the shared island unit in his Department. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42347/23]
5. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the work of his Department's shared island unit. — Mick Barry. [42617/23]
6. To ask the Taoiseach the extent of his interaction with all parties in Northern Ireland in the context of shared island initiative. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42808/23]
7. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on the National Risk Assessment 2023, and the top strategic risks facing Ireland. — Brendan Smith. [37573/23]
8. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on the National Risk Assessment 2023, and the top strategic risks facing Ireland. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [37574/23]
9. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on the National Risk Assessment 2023 in his Department. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42348/23]
10. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on the National Risk Assessment 2023 in his Department. — Paul Murphy. [42351/23]
11. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on the National Risk Assessment 2023. — Mick Barry. [42618/23]
12. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on his recent discussions with the political parties in Northern Ireland. — Brendan Smith. [37714/23]
13. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on his recent discussions with the political parties in Northern Ireland. — Cathal Crowe. [37715/23]

14. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on his recent discussions with the political parties in the North. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [42603/23]

15. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent discussions with Northern Ireland political parties. — Paul Murphy. [42350/23]

16. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Bernard J. Durkan. [41575/23]

17. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee that deals with disability will next meet. — Cian O’Callaghan. [42509/23]

18. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Cathal Crowe. [42581/23]

19. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee that deals with disability will next meet. — Michael Moynihan. [42584/23]

20. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Aindrias Moynihan. [42590/23]

21. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee that deals with disability will next meet. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [42604/23]

22. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Mick Barry. [42619/23]

23. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Investment will next meet. — Bernard J. Durkan. [41576/23]

24. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Investment will meet next. — Cathal Crowe. [42582/23]

25. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Investment will meet next. — Michael Moynihan. [42586/23]

26. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Investment is next due to meet. — Alan Dillon. [42614/23]

27. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Investment will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42349/23]

28. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Investment will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [42352/23]

29. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Investment will next meet. — Cian O’Callaghan. [42510/23]

30. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent attendance at the recent UN Summit in New York, with particular reference to discussions he had with representatives of other countries. — Bernard J. Durkan. [41347/23]

31. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent discussions with President Biden. — Bernard J. Durkan. [41348/23]

32. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent visit to the UN as it relates to the SDG Declaration. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [41929/23]

33. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his attendance at the UN General Assembly. — Seán Haughey. [42587/23]

34. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent meeting with President Biden. — Seán Haughey. [42588/23]

35. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Bernard J. Durkan. [41577/23]

36. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next. — Michael Moynihan. [42585/23]

37. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Cian O’Callaghan. [42511/23]

38. To ask the Taoiseach To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [41216/23]

39. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet. — Seán Haughey. [42589/23]

40. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the economic policy unit of his Department. — Alan Dillon. [42613/23]

41. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a list of the State apologies issued by Taoisigh in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023. — Peadar Tóibín. [42621/23]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

*42. To ask the Taoiseach to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; and the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review. — Denis Naughten. [43246/23]

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

*43. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the estimated cost in 2024 if the budget allocation for the diaspora affairs fund were doubled. — Alan Kelly. [42902/23]

*44. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he plans to visit Canada before the end of 2023. — Alan Kelly. [42903/23]

*45. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on a report (details supplied) by the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42927/23]

*46. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what representations he has made to the Government of the United States of America to close the detention facilities at Guantánamo Bay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42928/23]

*47. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what engagement he has had with his EU and UN counterparts on the issue of the closure of the detention facilities at Guantánamo Bay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42929/23]

*48. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps being taken to support the humanitarian resettlement of those arbitrarily detained at Guantánamo Bay, in particular the 16 cleared detainees who remain at Guantánamo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42930/23]

*49. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); if he intends to meet the person concerned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [42938/23]

*50. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42950/23]

*51. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to ensure that an application by a person (details supplied) for a passport is processed and any issues are referred back to the applicant. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42986/23]

*52. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to indicate, in respect of the current application process for membership of the international election observation roster, the number of appointments being made to the roster; whether an interview process will take place; if the Public Appointments Commission is likely to play any role in the recruitment process and selection of successful applicants; the date that the results of the recruitment are likely to be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43008/23]

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

*53. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the rationale for the decision to keep Moneypoint open up to 2029; how this aligns with Ireland's carbon emissions targets and sectoral emissions ceilings; what it means for a just transition in the energy sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [42875/23]

*54. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 175 of 16 May 2023, when the low-cost loan scheme for energy upgrades will be made available and opened for applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [42901/23]

*55. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42948/23]

*56. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if and when reliable, high-speed broadband will be provided in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42985/23]

*57. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures his Department is taking to expedite broadband rollout in south Roscommon; if broadband will be rolled out before the estimated date of 2027; the measures in place to improve connectivity and phone signal in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [42990/23]

*58. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has ensured that the infrastructure associated with the deposit return scheme will be universally accessible, in particular for wheelchair users; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [43020/23]

*59. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason a housing estate in County Kildare (details supplied) was not included in the laying of fibre broadband cables, when it was supplied to all surrounding areas only a short number of metres down the road, meaning residents can only access extremely poor, intermittent internet connection, no matter what supplier is used, and therefore cannot avail of any opportunity to work/study from home; and if he will provide a possible timeline for this estate's omission to be rectified. — Patricia Ryan. [43102/23]

*60. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the progress of the Just Transition for former Bord na Móna workers; how many of these workers attained sustainable employment following the transition of the company; if this employment was equivalent to their former grades at the company; what kind of education and retraining schemes found jobs for these workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [43123/23]

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

*61. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the up-to-date position regarding the purchase of a new Government jet; and if the contract for same is likely to be put out to tender before year-end. — Alan Kelly. [42916/23]

*62. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if the contract has been awarded for the installation of multi-beam sonar system on the P60 class vessels. — Alan Kelly. [42917/23]

*63. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42945/23]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*64. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will work with Irish Rail with a view to removing a standing fee for free travel scheme passengers (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [42880/23]

*65. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of the situation with a school in County Donegal (details supplied) where a dangerous incident almost occurred when children were crossing the road; if so, if his Department has been in touch with the school; if his Department has taken any measures to address the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [43125/23]

*66. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the young adult Leap card; and any plans he has to increase the age eligibility criteria. — Pa Daly. [42853/23]

*67. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of schools nominated for round one, in March 2021, of the Safe Routes To School Programme, funded by his Department, where works have completed; the number of schools in the same round where works have not been completed; when he anticipates the remaining works will be completed for round one of the programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [42861/23]

*68. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware that local authorities are prevented from using national active travel funding for the repair and upgrade of existing walking routes, including where there are existing footpaths and walkways; if he is aware that this is having a negative impact on investment in walking infrastructure vis-à-vis other active travel infrastructure by local authorities; his plans to review this policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [42874/23]

*69. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of the Railway Safety (Amendment) Bill; and when this Bill will progress further. — Alan Kelly. [42910/23]

*70. To ask the Minister for Transport when the next date of the EU Council of Transport Ministers will take place. — Alan Kelly. [42911/23]

*71. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are plans to have a public bike scheme in County Tipperary. — Alan Kelly. [42912/23]

*72. To ask the Minister for Transport if the NTA will approve an additional local link bus service route no. 391, going in both directions. — Alan Kelly. [42913/23]

*73. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of driving tests which did not go ahead as scheduled to date in 2023; the day of the week each test was scheduled, and the reasoning given for each; and the reasoning given for each by test centre, in tabular form. — Holly Cairns. [42919/23]

*74. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide details of the bus fleet serving the 226 Kinsale/Cork route, including the number of single and double decker buses; the age of each vehicle and the number of drivers assigned to the route. — Holly Cairns. [42920/23]

*75. To ask the Minister for Transport if a review has been conducted on the general standard and accessibility of the single decker buses serving the 226 Kinsale/Cork route. — Holly Cairns. [42921/23]

*76. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide a reasoning for the moving of the Clontarf Street bus stop in Cork; and whether a cover could be provided for the new bus stop. — Holly Cairns. [42922/23]

*77. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to oversubscription issues on the 226 Kinsale bus route; and whether a capacity review of the route could be conducted. — Holly Cairns. [42923/23]

*78. To ask the Minister for Transport to fund a local link bus service (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42937/23]

*79. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42960/23]

*80. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Iompair chun a fhiafraí den Aire Iompair cén uair a cheadófar airgead do Chomhairle Contae na Gaillimhe chun dul ar aghaidh le staidéar tionchair timpeallachta a dhéanamh ar Bhóthar Chuan na Loinge le gur féidir an bóthar a ardú leis an taoille a stopadh ag teacht trasna an bhóthair ann faoi scéim na mbóithre straitéiseacha condae, cén fáth a bhfuil moill leis an airgead seo a cheadú; agus an ndéanfaidh sé ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42992/23]

*81. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will review capacity issues on the 272 bus route from Ballybunion to Tralee (details supplied). — Pa Daly. [43005/23]

*82. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will report on any upcoming plans to install electric vehicle charge ports in the Blackrock area and beyond; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43024/23]

*83. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of the issue regarding the 76 bus not showing on time on Monday 25 September and Tuesday 26 September 2023, causing passengers to be late for work; what actions his Department will be taking to address this issue; if compensation will be offered for the passengers being late, for example, two days' free travel in the morning, to compensate for the delays experienced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [43026/23]

*84. To ask the Minister for Transport the plans, if any, the Government has to install motion sensor lights on roads in County Kildare; and if so, what timeline would be envisaged. — Patricia Ryan. [43104/23]

*85. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of candidates currently on the waiting list for NCT tests in County Kildare; the availability of appointments; the earliest appointment currently available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [43105/23]

*86. To ask the Minister for Transport to advise on the process involved in attaining a scribe to support an applicant through the driver CPC case study test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [43117/23]

*87. To ask the Minister for Transport when he anticipates that the next phase of BusConnects in Dublin will be rolled out; the reasons for the continuing delays with the rollout; when these will be resolved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [43121/23]

*88. To ask the Minister for Transport what action he will take to resolve the longstanding problems with the Dublin Bus No. 15 route; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [43124/23]

*89. To ask the Minister for Transport what has been achieved in increasing production of HVO to expand its use in transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43140/23]

*90. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of incidents on a stretch of a road (details supplied) in the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [43159/23]

*91. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of incidents on a stretch of a road (details supplied) in the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [43160/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*92. To ask the Minister for Finance what measures are being considered to reduce the price of motor fuel, given the rising costs of oil globally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43141/23]

*93. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department is reviewing any support package for the farm tillage sector, understanding the importance of the sector and the decimation to many farm family incomes as a result of the worst harvest losses in living memory for many in the sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [42857/23]

*94. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a list of all banks licensed to operate in Ireland; the date each one was issued; and the particular focus of each. — John McGuinness. [42925/23]

*95. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to ensure that all homes within the scope of the vacant homes tax are compliant with the tax, in view of the fact that the tax is self-reported; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [42926/23]

*96. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to include compliance with the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000, as well as the EU Copyright Directive, as a specified requirement in order to avail of the Section 481 Tax Credit, in line with recommendation 8 of the May 2023

“Report on Section 481 - Film Tax Credit” by the Committee on Budgetary Oversight; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42941/23]

*97. To ask the Minister for Finance the details of any engagement between his Department and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht and Sport and Media with regard to the establishment of a stakeholder forum, in line with recommendation 14 of the May 2023 “Report on Section 481 - Film Tax Credit” by the Committee on Budgetary Oversight; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42942/23]

*98. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42949/23]

*99. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider the issues raised by a national organisation concerning taxation matters (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42961/23]

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.

*100. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42955/23]

*101. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the current status of the drafting of the river Shannon management body Bill within his Department; the timeline for presenting the general scheme to Government for approval; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [43062/23]

*102. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will outline the flood mitigation works that have been completed on the old course of the Shannon river between Parteen weir and Limerick City from 2020 to date; the further plans for such works and the funding committed for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [43063/23]

*103. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will increase the minimum statutory flow over Parteen weir from 10 cubic meters per second; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [43064/23]

*104. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when the River Shannon flood risk management committee held its meetings in 2023; the agenda for each meeting and the decisions taken; the specific emergency actions which were taken by the committee in July 2023 to address the serious summer flooding in the Shannon callows resulting in the substantial loss of both summer and winter fodder; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [43071/23]

*105. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if his Department has enough sites to complete the Government's modular homes programme; to identify which sites were offered by each local authority; to identify any local authority that did not engage and identify sites; to identify any local authority that offered sites that were already designated under the Housing For All programme, and if so, which sites; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [43089/23]

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

*106. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what supports and training is available to Irish indigenous SMEs to assist them in competing for public procurement contracts in Ireland and abroad; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43142/23]

*107. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42947/23]

*108. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the position regarding IDA and Enterprise Ireland supported employment in Louth and east Meath; the present investment by both State agencies; the number of jobs supported by them in Louth and east Meath; the total number and location of visits by potential investors brought to Louth and east Meath by both State agencies for each year since 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [43134/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*109. To ask the Minister for Education when primary schools will receive their annual IT funding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42855/23]

*110. To ask the Minister for Education if there are plans/proposals to halving the length of the current postgraduate teacher training courses (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [42854/23]

*111. To ask the Minister for Education if school transport will be provided to a student (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [42881/23]

*112. To ask the Minister for Education if there is any planning in place to facilitate Islamic holidays where children are required to spend time celebrating the holidays during school hours in primary and post-primary schools and where it is currently at the discretion of the principal to make a decision on whether or not Muslim children are permitted time off, which is not the case for other religious holidays, such as Christmas, where students and staff are expected to take time off; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42884/23]

*113. To ask the Minister for Education to provide a list of general schemes referred by her Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to

date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42946/23]

*114. To ask the Minister for Education the reason an application for additional accommodation which was urgently required by a DEIS school in County Mayo (details supplied) has been refused; to outline, in full, the reason this application was unsuccessful; if this decision can be appealed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [42962/23]

*115. To ask the Minister for Education when school transport will be secured for a new pupil who has started in a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [42964/23]

*116. To ask the Minister for Education when the school transport system will be reviewed, in light of unprecedented demand; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [42971/23]

*117. To ask the Minister for Education if an ASD place will be provided for a child (details supplied) for the academic year beginning September 2024. — Denise Mitchell. [42984/23]

*118. To ask the Minister for Education whether, given the shortage of primary teachers, and to assist those anxious to work in the area, she would liaise with the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science on reducing the length of the current PME postgraduate teacher training courses to perhaps one year; to remove from those who are already fluent in Irish, some holding a master's degree in same, the compulsion to attend the Gaeltacht, thereby removing yet another financial barrier to eager candidates; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [42996/23]

*119. To ask the Minister for Education whether, for those graduates anxious to enter primary teacher training, she would reduce the term of the current PME postgraduate teacher training courses to perhaps one year; to remove from those who are already fluent in Irish, some holding a master's degree in same, the compulsion to attend the Gaeltacht, both initiatives removing financial barriers to eager candidates, and so, easing the shortage of primary teachers. — Réada Cronin. [42997/23]

*120. To ask the Minister for Education the total parental contribution made for school transport for primary and post-primary schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43021/23]

*121. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the exceptionally poor conditions of the prefabs being used to teach children at a school (details supplied); if she will urgently intervene to provide adequate accommodation for this school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [43037/23]

*122. To ask the Minister for Education the proposals, if any, to reduce the current duration of the postgraduate ITE programmes to one year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [43111/23]

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

*123. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the details of any engagement between her Department and the Department of Finance with regard to the establishment of a stakeholder forum, in line with recommendation 14 of the May 2023 “Report on Section 481 - Film Tax Credit” by the Committee on Budgetary Oversight; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42918/23]

*124. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide a list of general schemes referred by her Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42959/23]

*125. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the reason that the observation of selection process for the basic income for the arts pilot scheme, commissioned from a company (details supplied) and received by her Department in June 2023, at a cost of €8,462.40, is not due to be published; and if she will reconsider this decision. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [42995/23]

*126. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will agree to include the Copyright and Related Rights (Amendment) Act 2007 and the EU Copyright Directive among the specifically listed relevant legislation to which production companies must comply on the statement they must sign in order to obtain a cultural certificate for Section 481 relief; if she will make the provision of a cultural certificate for Section 481 relief contingent on a further assurance, as part of the industry development test, that Irish performers will not be subject to lesser terms and conditions regarding their intellectual property rights in comparison with international performers in similar roles when employed on the same project receiving Section 481 relief, in line with recommendations 7 and 8 of the Budgetary Oversight Committee Report on Section 481 tax relief; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [43031/23]

*127. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media further to Parliamentary Question No. 415 of 13 July 2023, if, in relation to RTE pensioners, many of whom are surviving on low to middle incomes, she intends to sanction RTE to release funds so that the pensions’ trustees can pay out the pension increase, which has been frozen for a number of years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [43088/23]

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

*128. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funds that are available to someone who is eligible for the full housing aid for the older persons’ grant, but where the work done in the house is over the €8,000 maximum; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42883/23]

*129. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what measures are being taken to strengthen the mortgage-to-rent scheme to ensure that it is helping those who need it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43143/23]

*130. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he or his Department are aware of when the energy upgrade will be completed at Carrickmacross fire station. — Niamh Smyth. [43201/23]

*131. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of houseboats currently moored on the Grand Canal, Royal Canal and Barrow Navigation; if, in the event that the revisions currently proposed to the canals bye-laws by Waterways Ireland are adopted, he will outline the projected number of houseboats that will be permitted to moor on these canals; the projected number of current houseboat residents who will lose their homes; the contingency plans which have been made to provide housing for any existing houseboat residents rendered homeless under the new canal bye-laws; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [42858/23]

*132. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the current mooring fees levied on houseboats moored on the Grand Canal, Royal Canal and Barrow Navigation under the existing canals bye-laws; if he will outline, in the event that the revisions currently proposed to the canals bye-laws by Waterways Ireland are adopted, the mooring or houseboat permit fees that will be levied on houseboats; the percentage increase which this represents in mooring fees for individual houseboats; the justification for the introduction of such an unprecedented increase in fees under the new canal bye-laws; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [42859/23]

*133. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider commissioning a new consultation process in line with the Government's 'Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making' regarding Waterway Ireland's proposed revisions to the canals bye-laws, in light of the profound and highly disruptive changes which these revisions will affect to the housing security of existing houseboat dwellers, ranging from exponential increases in mooring and/or houseboat permit fees to eviction and homelessness on the Grand Canal, Royal Canal and Barrow Navigation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [42860/23]

*134. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a foreshore licence was required for the survey activity referred to in Marine Notices Nos. 46 and 47 of 2023; if so, to provide the details of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42873/23]

*135. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department intends on issuing guidance to local authorities on the installation of solar/PV panels on council-owned properties; if funding could be made available to local authorities for the installation of the same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [42876/23]

*136. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if, in view that the grant maximum for housing aid for older people has not gone up in a number of years, he will consider increasing the grant maximum, to fall in line with the increase in costs for essential housing maintenance, such as rewiring, which costs €10-€15,000; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42882/23]

*137. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42953/23]

*138. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide details of plans for a marine national park, as outlined in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [42965/23]

*139. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if additional funding can be provided to local authorities to support the installation of free public drinking fountains; if any related pathfinder projects are under review in his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [42988/23]

*140. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to clarify the position in relation to local authority and croí cónaithe grant applicants drawdown where the local authority legal fees are in excess of €550; which party has the responsibility to pay the excess cost; if responsibility does lie with the local authority, if he will allocate an additional discretionary budget to cover such additional costs above €550; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [43019/23]

*141. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on a project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [43025/23]

*142. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a date has been set for a referendum on enshrining public ownership of Uisce Éireann in the Constitution; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [43030/23]

*143. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason a staff nurse who has returned to this country at the request of the HSE is being refused a local authority mortgage, because their previous two years of continuous employment was in Britain, rather than on the island of Ireland; if he realises that this policy is undermining stated Government policy of trying to recruit key staff within our health service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [43035/23]

*144. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 196 of 28 September 2023, if he can confirm and provide clarity on the reason the timeframe for the approval to completion of works under the croí cónaithe (towns) fund was reduced from 18 months to 13 months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [43044/23]

*145. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will clarify if there are plans for a new fire station in Monasterevin; and if so, if he will provide a timeframe for same. — Patricia Ryan. [43097/23]

*146. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views in response to the confirmation from a person (details supplied) speaking at the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform on Wednesday 27 September 2023, that mortgages can only be issued for a home built to current building regulations; the reason the enhanced defective concrete block grant scheme only provides grant aid for homeowners to remediate or rebuild their homes to previous building regulations that are out of date and that are not mortgageable or re-mortgageable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [43128/23]

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

*147. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will commit to increasing the carer's allowance income disregard from €750 to €1,000 for couples and from €350 to €500 for single carers, with subsequent increases in the following years. — Bríd Smith. [42872/23]

*148. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the PRSI contributions of parents can be made applicable for the provision of glasses, optician services and dental services to their children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [43099/23]

*149. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the measures she would consider putting in place to assist those older people with disabilities who are ageing, in addition to having a disability, who are already living in, or in imminent danger of, falling into poverty due to the cost-of-living crisis, compounded with the additional costs that having a disability incur. — Patricia Ryan. [43100/23]

*150. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will clarify if there are plans to provide an additional payment to those diagnosed with coeliac disease who have to follow a strict gluten free diet as prescribed by their doctor, and the substantial extra costs that entails when in receipt of a social welfare payment; if she will provide advice as to what those on State benefits/low incomes should do in these situations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [43170/23]

*151. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an appeal in the name of a person (details supplied) has been approved. — John McGuinness. [42933/23]

*152. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide a list of general schemes referred by her Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42957/23]

*153. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a statement of non-contributory pension paid to a person (details supplied) for the year 2022 can issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42963/23]

*154. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an exceptional needs payment will be approved for a person (details supplied) to cover the cost of their grandmother's funeral as this person was their carer for the past five years and has limited means and cannot be expected to cover any of the cost; and if she will expedite a positive response. — John McGuinness. [42975/23]

*155. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a pay claim submission for its staff, and a request for extra staff for 2024, has been received by her Department from the Citizens Information Board; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [42978/23]

*156. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a school (details supplied) can be included in the rollout of the hot meal programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43012/23]

*157. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason for the refusal of an allowance for a person in County Sligo (details supplied). — Marian Harkin. [43028/23]

*158. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if, with regard to the 18.5 hours per week limited allowed to work/study in order to qualify for carer's allowance, she acknowledges that this would exclude most part-time jobs/part-time course, as these usually are minimum 20 hours per week; if the 18.5 hours limit could be increased to allow for carers to take up part-time work or to upskill with part-time courses. — Patricia Ryan. [43098/23]

*159. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if any financial supports are available through her Department to facilitate the board of a school (details supplied) purchasing off-road parking; if she is aware of the urgency of this matter, in light of a near-tragic incident occurring on the N56, with children crossing the road to attend the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [43185/23]

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

*160. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 1185 of 11 September 2023, if she has received the necessary information from the Garda authorities. — Alan Kelly. [42907/23]

*161. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of Garda public order unit vans allocated to each Garda division as of 28 September 2023, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [42908/23]

*162. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 719 of 20 September 2023, if she has received the necessary information from the Garda authorities. — Alan Kelly. [42909/23]

*163. To ask the Minister for Justice how the Disregard of Convictions for Certain Qualifying Offences related to Consensual Sexual Activity between Men legislation is progressing; for a timeline on when a draft legislation will be completed, as it was not included in the Government legislation programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [42931/23]

*164. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide a breakdown of spending, in tabular form, of the two allocations made to the Drogheda implementation board of €167,884 from the dormant accounts fund in 2022 and €268,407 from the dormant accounts fund in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [42932/23]

*165. To ask the Minister for Justice for an update on an application with INIS (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42935/23]

*166. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide a list of general schemes referred by her Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42954/23]

*167. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to raise criminal legal aid fees paid to solicitors to pre-2008 levels; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [42966/23]

*168. To ask the Minister for Justice if she has considered the case made by barristers that the FEMPI restrictions are being unfairly still applied to them; if any engagement is underway on the issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [43007/23]

*169. To ask the Minister for Justice for an update on plans for the Old Cork Prison. — Thomas Gould. [43009/23]

*170. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will ensure that a person (details supplied) is permitted to attend their placement in ARAS drug treatment course, given that the person is two years' drug free and eager to attend the drug treatment course. — Paul Murphy. [43029/23]

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

*171. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the construction on the new deep-water quay at Ros An Mhíl fisheries harbour has commenced; and when his Department expects these works to be completed. — Alan Kelly. [42904/23]

*172. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount of food products seized by his Departmental officials at Dublin Airport in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [42905/23]

*173. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the construction on the smooth point pier extension at Killybegs fisheries harbour has commenced; and when his Department expects these works to be completed. — Alan Kelly. [42906/23]

*174. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42943/23]

*175. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide a list of farms in receipt of the hen harrier payment in County Clare, in tabular form. — Cathal Crowe. [43003/23]

*176. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if, with regard to the Indecon report 'Review of certain aspects of the Irish Horse Racing Industry', he will provide an update on the provision of a seat on Horse Board Ireland for a northern representative; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [43016/23]

*177. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on the seat of the Northern Ireland Horse Board on the Horse Sport Ireland Breeding and Production Advisory Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [43017/23]

*178. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department engaged with the Northern Ireland Horse Board around provision of funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [43018/23]

*179. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to explain the differences between; the Irish injured jockeys' fund, qualified riders' accident fund company and the jockeys' accident fund company limited by guarantee; the reason there is a need for three separate funds; and how each differs from the other. — Paul Murphy. [43022/23]

*180. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how his Department engages with non-governmental bodies and private companies on compiling and distributing information

leaflets to farmers, such as the example of a recent leaflet distributed to farmers across the State (details supplied) and the GDPR rules around sharing information from a private company in this way; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [43027/23]

*181. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in light of the very serious losses as a result of the summer flooding in July 2023 on the Shannon callows resulting in the substantial loss of both summer and winter fodder, if he will outline his plans to provide alternative fodder and assistance to farmers in the callows; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [43087/23]

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

*182. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number and location of therapist posts, including speech and language therapists, occupational, psychological and other, appointed to special schools to date in 2023, setting out the CHO areas of each appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [43112/23]

*183. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason a person (details supplied) has lost their respite entitlement and has not received any respite since the beginning of Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42934/23]

*184. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children in receipt of AIMS support in early years settings for 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form. — Kathleen Funchion. [42939/23]

*185. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the current full and first year costs associated with the AIM programme; the cost per child; the total cost per hour to deliver the programme; the cost to extend the programme to five hours per day, per child, in total; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [42940/23]

*186. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42944/23]

*187. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if an individual who is approved for 24/7 adult disability services can also attend adult disability day services; how funding for both types of services is coordinated for the individual; if funding can be rearranged to meet the need for the individual; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [42989/23]

*188. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide a full breakdown of the funding allocated to the early years sector for 2022 and 2023 in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [42999/23]

*189. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide a breakdown of the funding allocated to all service types within the early years sector, i.e., community childcare, privately-owned operators and childcare providers in the home, for 2022 and 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [43000/23]

*190. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide a breakdown of the allocations going to the different State bodies, i.e., Tusla, Pobal, the Department of Education, Better Starts and the County Childcare Committees, for 2022 and 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [43001/23]

*191. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide an update on the case of a child (details supplied) awaiting an appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [43126/23]

*192. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the extent of the waiting list for children requiring assessments of need in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [43163/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*193. To ask the Minister for Health if he will allocate funding in Budget 2024 to extend the National Treatment Purchase Fund to include timely assessment for both child and adult psychological services, as committed to in the Programme for Government, and extend it to include occupational therapy, speech and language therapy and physiotherapy until backlogs are cleared; if he will fully fund the carer’s guarantee; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [42872/23]

*194. To ask the Minister for Health the way a person (details supplied) can access old medical records in order to follow up on some historic issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [42885/23]

*195. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a cohort of nursing staff (details supplied) have yet to be paid their Covid-19 pandemic payment. — Michael Creed. [42898/23]

*196. To ask the Minister for Health the reason that the community intervention team nurses across Wexford, Waterford, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Carlow and Wicklow have not received their pandemic special recognition payments to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [42899/23]

*197. To ask the Minister for Health the number of resuscitation bays in each hospital part of the South/SouthWest Hospital Group, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [42914/23]

*198. To ask the Minister for Health the number of ophthalmology procedures, by type, that were carried out at University Hospital Limerick in the years of 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [42915/23]

*199. To ask the Minister for Health the action being taken to provide recognition for those professionals operating as athletic therapists in Ireland, who have been campaigning for the recognition for the past 15 years; to outline the process for such matters; and the reason for the

inordinate delay in completing consideration of this particular group. — John McGuinness. [42924/23]

*200. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42952/23]

*201. To ask the Minister for Health when a decision will be made on a primary medical certificate for a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [42967/23]

*202. To ask the Minister for Health when all remaining agency staff will receive their pandemic payment; the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [42968/23]

*203. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the payment of the Covid-19 recognition payment to CIT nurses employed by SouthDoc. — Thomas Gould. [42969/23]

*204. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on a case (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [42972/23]

*205. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline his plans to extend the special scheme of paid leave for healthcare workers suffering from long-Covid; if he intends to extend or replace this scheme before it is due to end on 31 October 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42979/23]

*206. To ask the Minister for Health if a young person can be referred to a different CHO area for CAMHS-ID services if their CHO does not have a team in place; if so, to outline the procedure for this to operate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [42987/23]

*207. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant orthopaedic surgeons and orthopaedic registrars at Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown, in 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [42994/23]

*208. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant ophthalmologist and ophthalmologist registrars working in the Mater Hospital in 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [42991/23]

*209. To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting time for people to be seen and treated at the pain clinic in Galway; the number of people, waiting for an appointment, by length of time/ number of years on the waiting list, in tabular form; the number of people on the waiting list for pain relief in Galway who have an appointment date; the number still waiting for an appointment date; the reasons for a delay in four to five years in people receiving pain relief treatment in Galway and what steps are being taken to reduce the waiting times. — Noel Grealish. [43013/23]

*210. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on the pain relief waiting list in Galway University Hospital who have had their treatment outsourced to private hospitals or clinics in the Republic and to hospitals or clinics in the North of Ireland or elsewhere outside

the jurisdiction in each of the past five years and to date in 2023; how many are expected to be referred within the next six months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [43014/23]

*211. To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting time for people on the waiting lists for gastroenterology to be seen and treated at Galway University Hospital; the number of people waiting for an appointment, by length of time on the waiting list, in tabular form; the number of people on the waiting lists to be seen who have an appointment date; the number still waiting for an appointment date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [43015/23]

*212. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding a discretionary medical card for a person (details supplied) in Dublin 9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [43023/23]

*213. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1560 of 11 September 2023, if further investigation can be given to this matter as the person (details supplied) informs this Deputy that this procedure did not go ahead as the surgical procedure was cancelled and they are still awaiting surgery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [43032/23]

*214. To ask the Minister for Health the reason Covid-19 booster vaccines are being restricted to older and vulnerable people when US health officials are recommending that everyone over the age of six months receive the latest annual Covid-19 vaccine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [43033/23]

*215. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) can expect to receive an appointment with the HSE audiology services for hearing aids, which he is without since 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [43034/23]

*216. To ask the Minister for Health the timeline he is working towards for the publication of his amendments to the Health (Assisted Human Reproduction) Bill 2022; when he expects this Bill to reach Committee Stage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [43036/23]

*217. To ask the Minister for Health for a progress report on the spending of funding allocated in Budget 2023 for the development of a national paediatric diabetes audit, in conjunction with NOCA, following the publication of a detailed feasibility study; the status of the recruitment of a programme manager and data analytics staff; if recruitment has been paused in view of the recruitment freeze; if so, if he will request the HSE to immediately begin recruiting these new posts; if unused funding from Budget 2023 will carry over to 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [43072/23]

*218. To ask the Minister for Health to report on the spending of the €110,000 which was allocated in Budget 2023 for the development of a diabetes register; if unused funding from Budget 2023 will carry over to 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [43073/23]

*219. To ask the Minister for Health if he will request that the HSE immediately begin recruiting the project manager post for the diabetes register; to provide a timeline as to when

the HSE recruitment freeze will end; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [43086/23]

*220. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) in County Clare will receive an urgent appointment in the oncology clinic at University Hospital Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [43090/23]

*221. To ask the Minister for Health the measures he will take to address the serious underfunding in mental health, which has been exposed in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and the extraordinary demands made on already-overstretched services. — Patricia Ryan. [43095/23]

*222. To ask the Minister for Health if he can look into the fact that there is no sick leave/absence cover provided for home care workers; and to clarify the reason the HSE has to call the family of the person in receipt of the home care to have them step in when a home care worker is either sick or absent. — Patricia Ryan. [43096/23]

*223. To ask the Minister for Health the measures being considered to address the recruitment and retention crisis being experienced in Section 39-funded organisations, where lower pay levels are causing those in Section 39 agencies to leave for jobs/grades in Section 38 and HSE positions with more remuneration, where the Section 39 agencies are still operating on a level of funding, which is now 40 cent less per hour of service than what was allocated in 2005; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [43103/23]

*224. To ask the Minister for Health the reasons for the delay in recruitment or advertisement of recruitment for the new genomic resource associate roles at the Department of Clinical Genetics at CHI Crumlin, as specified as part of implementation of the National Genetics and Genomics Strategy, despite the fact that he allocated €2.7 million to the implementation of the strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [43115/23]

*225. To ask the Minister for Health the reason that recruitment for new genomic resource associate roles at the Department of Clinical Genetics at CHI Crumlin, as specified as part of implementation of the National Genetics and Genomics Strategy, is being held up, in spite of the fact that he allocated €2.7 million to the implementation of the strategy. — Paul Donnelly. [43118/23]

*226. To ask the Minister for Health if any investigations will be considered in light of findings from the Data Protection Commissioner that officials in his Department kept dossiers in a manner that was unlawful and unnecessary, containing sensitive information on families of children with autism who had previously engaged in litigation with the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [43122/23]

*227. To ask the Minister for Health when a person in County Donegal (details supplied) can expect to receive a date for an operation from Galway University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [43127/23]

*228. To ask the Minister for Health the reason there is no respite available to an elderly gentleman (details supplied); the reason the public health nurse said that they would look for respite but would be unable to give a date for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [43133/23]

*229. To ask the Minister for Health the budget available to an individual (details supplied) in the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [43156/23]

*230. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the progress on the spending of a sum of money (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [43157/23]

*231. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the progress of a national paediatric diabetes audit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [43158/23]

*232. To ask the Minister for Health his views on extending continuous glucose monitoring to all patients with type 1 diabetes who require it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [43161/23]

*233. To ask the Minister for Health the approvals for a scheme (details supplied), by CHO, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [43162/23]

*234. To ask the Minister for Health when a person can expect an appointment (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [43184/23]

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

*235. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide a list of general schemes referred by his Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42951/23]

*236. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to raise the PhD stipend level to €25,000 per year, as recommended in the National Review of State Supports for PhD Researchers: First Report (May 2023); the details of any analysis carried out by his Department with regard to the implementation of this recommendation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42998/23]

*237. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 1085 of 20 September 2023, the current number of apprentices waiting for off-the-job training at levels 2, 4 and 6; the numbers waiting for such training in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [43004/23]

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

*238. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will have the issues of concern to a number of organisations given detailed consideration (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [42936/23]

*239. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide a list of general schemes referred by her Department to an Oireachtas Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny from 1 January 2016 to date; the date each was referred; the date that the general scheme was published for the public to review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [42956/23]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 5 DEIREADH FÓMHAIR, 2023
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 5 OCTOBER, 2023**

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

1. To ask the Minister for Transport what plans there are for improved bike security measures, turning points for buses, electric vehicle charging points, and car parking measures at Portmarnock train station; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [42897/23]

2. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on running a national communications campaign to address driving to, and engine idling at, school gates, to help improve education and awareness of the need for safe roads and clean air for children and to support the rollout of the green schools: ‘safe routes to school’ programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [41927/23]

3. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to enhance the impact of the work of smarter travel workplaces and campus programmes in relation to workplaces located in business parks on the outskirts of towns and cities where the planning and design of the parks have resulted in over-reliance on the private car; whether he has considered the provision of electric shuttles and bike share schemes to assist with modal shift in these locations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [41928/23]

4. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which it might be possible to ensure the availability of extra carriages to meet commuter demands affecting the towns of Kilcock, Maynooth, Leixlip, Confey and Celbridge, Hazelhatch, Sallins and Newbridge; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43077/23]

5. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the N4 upgrade; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [43166/23]

6. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is satisfied with discussions between the NTA and other agencies and a private developer in relation to privately developed transport infrastructure (details supplied). — Richard Bruton. [43050/23]

7. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure that the promised bus routes and improved services for students attending Blachardstown TU in Dublin 15 will be initiated before the promised 2025 deadline. — Paul Donnelly. [42831/23]

8. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to accelerate delivery of active travel networks in order to provide appropriate infrastructure for persons with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [43183/23]

9. To ask the Minister for Transport to intervene and arrange a meeting with the NTA with public representatives and a resident representation regarding the removal of several bus routes in Dublin (details supplied), as to date the NTA has refused to do so. — Joan Collins. [42970/23]

10. To ask the Minister for Transport if he supports the abolition of fees for park-and-ride facilities at outer public transport stops, such as the Red Cow and Cheeverstown, to incentivise greater use of public transport and reduce car dependency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [43108/23]

11. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the R312; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [43082/23]

12. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the development of Kishogue train station; when this can be expected to be completed; the additional cost to works caused by the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [43175/23]

13. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the commitment in the Programme for Government to maintain the existing road network to a high standard and fund safety improvements; if he will ensure that much-needed additional funding will be provided for the non-national road network, taking into account the urgent requirement for additional investment due to the very substantial increase in costs that have arisen over the past two years in road maintenance products and construction work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [43113/23]

14. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the situation whereby lifts in train stations across Dublin seem to be out of order on a regular basis, causing an issue for the elderly and people with disabilities; who has the maintenance contact; the frequency with which the lifts are serviced; when they were last upgraded; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Donnelly. [42832/23]

15. To ask the Minister for Transport what plans he has to reduce air pollution from traffic in order to comply with World Health Organisation limits; his views on the recent research finding (details supplied) that almost everyone in Ireland is breathing dangerously polluted air; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [43109/23]

16. To ask the Minister for Transport whether he will make further resources available to the NTA to ensure that it can provide capacity along rural routes to ensure that passengers are not regularly left stranded at bus pick-up points because buses are full; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42785/23]

17. To ask the Minister for Transport the efforts he is making to improve the 109 and 109A bus services in County Meath; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [42983/23]

18. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will outline the mechanisms available to a resident in north Louth (details supplied) whose home has sustained over €50,000 worth of damage following three serious road traffic accidents on the road in the past six months,

including one fatal accident; when Louth County Council will install a crash barrier or other traffic mitigation measures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [43040/23]

19. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide a detailed update on a road project (detail supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [43093/23]

20. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the southern relief road in Carlow. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [43010/23]

21. To ask the Minister for Transport to outline if he is satisfied with the public consultation aspect of active travel projects supported by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [42891/23]

22. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware that a portion of the Luas line, which is expected to extend into Finglas, has not been included in the National Development Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [43066/23]

23. To ask the Minister for Transport what engagement he has had with TFI and bus service providers in North County Dublin regarding the regular occurrence of buses not turning up, and thus leaving commuters with no service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [42895/23]

24. To ask the Minister for Transport whether he is aware that there are bus routes on the rural link services where bus stops are up to 14km apart, thus rendering them unsuitable for use by people living in dispersed rural communities; if he is aware of the issue, the steps he has taken to ensure in dialogue with the NTA that all rural dwellers have access to these services along the routes they travel on, similar to the basis that Bus Éireann provides pick-up for passengers along rural routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [42784/23]

25. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will allocate funding for building the Metro West Liffey bridge, ahead of the construction of Metro West, in order to facilitate walking and cycling and a more direct W4 bus route from Dublin 15 to Tallaght (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [43110/23]

26. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure that sufficient funding is allocated to allow the N2 Clontibret-to-the-Border and the N2 Ardee-to-Castleblayney bypass road schemes to progress to the next respective stages without further delay. — Matt Carthy. [43043/23]

27. To ask the Minister for Transport his engagement with the RSA regarding the danger of wild deer on our roads; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43145/23]

28. To ask the Minister for Transport the total spent so far, as of September 2023, on the MetroLink project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [42893/23]

29. To ask the Minister for Transport whether he will consider provision of a bus route to upper Glanmire, Glenville and other rural areas in Cork. — Thomas Gould. [43061/23]

30. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 410 of 11 September 2023, for a status update on the rollout of park-and-ride in Galway city; for an

update on the site location analysis; the expected timeline for the rollout of park-and-ride in the identified areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42976/23]

31. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are any plans to improve the Dublin to Sligo rail service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [43167/23]

32. To ask the Minister for Transport what plans/strategies are being introduced to reduce waiting times in Cavan's driving test centre; if he is aware of the lengthy waiting times at present; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [41551/23]

33. To ask the Minister for Transport the details of the fine applied to the NCT operator (details supplied) by the Road Safety Authority; if he will outline the timeline when this occurred; when his Department became aware of the fine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [43094/23]

34. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on Shannon Airport permanently remaining part of the regional airports programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [43155/23]

35. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure that Local Link services can accept school transport tickets when those services provide the most effective arrangements for pupils. — Matt Carthy. [43042/23]

36. To ask the Minister for Transport to make whatever arrangements are necessary to ensure that full Part 8 planning requirements are followed with regard to active travel schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [42892/23]

37. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will allocate funding from the active travel budget to fund monitoring stations to determine air quality on streets undergoing active travel projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [43182/23]

38. To ask the Minister for Transport what engagement he has had with the Dublin Airport Authority, Fingal County Council, the Irish Aviation Authority and residents of Fingal regarding the excessive aircraft noise over residential areas, as of September 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [42894/23]

39. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide the details of the Local Link services currently available in County Cavan; if he will outline plans for additional routes or an expansion of this service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [41550/23]

40. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the most industrious bus routes in Cork city and county are under resourced and unable to fulfil their obligations at peak times; the reason that schoolchildren are waiting up to two hours to get on a bus (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [42833/23]

41. To ask the Minister for Transport the up-to-date position regarding progressing the N86 Tralee to Dingle Road upgrade and the N22 Farranfore to Lisivigeen (Killarney bypass) projects in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [43052/23]

42. To ask the Minister for Transport the action his Department is taking to progress the North Ring Road in Cork city; what level of funding will be allocated for the coming year, in

view of the large volume of traffic which is now forced to travel through Mayfield, including traffic heading for the port facilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [43081/23]

43. To ask the Minister for Transport what plans he has to reduce fares in Budget 2024, in light of the cost of living and climate crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [43106/23]

44. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will allow the Mallow bypass to proceed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [43057/23]

45. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration is being given to designing a new grant for EVs in Budget 2024, bearing in mind the current grant will be reducing from €5,000 to €3,500 in July 2023; if further incentives are being considered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [30142/23]

46. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the need to introduce traffic signals at the junction of the Shanaway Road and N85 just outside of Ennis, as part of an overall solution to improve safety at this location and access for the communities nearby; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [43051/23]

47. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has considered increasing the off-peak frequency of the Luas to encourage greater use of public transport and reduce car dependency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [43107/23]

48. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the proposed changes by BusConnects for services that operate through Clondalkin, particularly the 13 and 68 bus services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [43176/23]

49. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on plans to increase capacity on train lines serving Clondalkin, Hazelhatch and Adamstown; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [43039/23]

50. To ask the Minister for Transport if the National Transport Authority will consider a surrender grant for non-wheelchair taxi licence holders, so as to increase the overall supply of wheelchair taxis. — Paul McAuliffe. [43181/23]

51. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is satisfied with the manner in which transport planning and road and transport infrastructures respond to the needs of fast-growing population areas, particularly around our cities. — Richard Bruton. [43049/23]

52. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has undertaken a review of the availability of charging points for electric buses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [43067/23]

53. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the Northern Ring Road for Cork. — Thomas Gould. [43060/23]

54. To ask the Minister for Transport what plans he has to increase frequency on existing routes and expand the number of routes and reduce fares, in light of the climate and cost-of-living crises; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43120/23]

55. To ask the Minister for Transport to devolve powers to local authorities to enable them to erect bus shelters as their councillors and engineers are best placed to decide on the safest and most appropriate location; and to change the current process whereby the funding is administered by the National Transport Authority. — Brian Stanley. [42411/23]

56. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the implementation of a full W6 route; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [43038/23]

57. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are uniform guidelines or matrixes for local authorities on traffic management and calming measures and their implementation in housing estates; if not, if he plans to introduce them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [43041/23]

58. To ask the Minister for Transport what plans he has to resolve the ongoing problems with the 59 bus route and many other Go Ahead routes; his views on whether it is now time to reabsorb these routes back into the Dublin Bus network; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43119/23]

59. To ask the Minister for Transport if he stands over the NTA's refusal to meet public representatives and residents in relation to a request from this Deputy to meet the NTA before the NTA attempts to implement changes to bus services (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [42973/23]

60. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to increase capacity on Irish trains. — Peadar Tóibín. [42632/23]

61. To ask the Minister for Transport if there is a safety programme for the N80, given that numerous incidents have occurred on the road, including a fatal collision. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [43011/23]

62. To ask the Minister for Transport the action his Department is taking to progress the Mallow relief road project; what level of funding will be allocated for the coming year, in view that €100,000 was allocated in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [43080/23]

63. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress, if any, to upgrade the N25 between Carrigtwohill and Youghal, County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [43069/23]

64. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 247 of 25 July 2023, for a status update on the feasibility study on light rail in Galway; the expected timeline for the public consultation on the draft Galway metropolitan area transport strategy; the expected timeline for the completed updated strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42977/23]

65. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent, if any, to which the best possible traffic management can be brought into play to effectively manage traffic congestion on some workdays where there is an obvious need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43076/23]

66. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on Intercity rail services between Westport and Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [43083/23]

67. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has undertaken any study to determine if car use on roads has been increasing or decreasing since he took office; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [42633/23]

68. To ask the Minister for Transport what measures are being put in place to increase driving test capacity to address the long delays experienced by learner drivers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43144/23]

69. To ask the Minister for Transport for a statement on what plans there are to increase the number of public charging points for electric vehicles; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [42896/23]

70. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional funding will be provided to Cavan and Monaghan local authorities for the non-national roadworks programme, taking into account the importance of this particular road network for both counties and the substantial increase in costs for road maintenance and construction over recent years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [43114/23]

71. To ask the Minister for Transport the efforts he is making to improve the 103, 103X, 105 and 105X bus services in County Meath; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [42982/23]

72. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration will be given to providing targeted grants for electric vehicles for workers in the home care sector in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [43173/23]

73. To ask the Minister for Finance to confirm that consideration would be given to increasing the small gift exemption for capital acquisitions tax from €3,000 to €5,000 from each person per year, due to the increase in the cost of living; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [43079/23]

74. To ask the Minister for Finance his views, and the Department's analysis, of the capacity and number of borrowers eligible to switch from lenders to the mainstream mortgage market under the recently published eligibility criteria published by the Banking and Payments Federation and retail banking sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [43138/23]

75. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the implementation of the recommendations of the Retail Banking Review. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [43179/23]

76. To ask the Minister for Finance what his engagement to date has been with the Central Bank of Ireland and the Irish banking sector to increase the availability of long-term, fixed-rate mortgages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43146/23]

77. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount taken in by the Government in fuel tax in each of the past ten years and to date in 2023, by fuel type, and in monetary value. — Peadar Tóibín. [42634/23]

78. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount the State has taken in for tax receipts for income tax, corporation tax and VAT to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [43078/23]

79. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the progress being made on the funds review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [43169/23]

80. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will be bringing forward any new tax measures to support indigenous businesses looking to develop export markets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [43165/23]

81. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 137 of 22 June 2023, the status of the Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeal; the details of any engagement between his Department and the National Rehabilitation Hospital with regard to resolving issues which led to the withdrawal of its services in February 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42980/23]

82. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on corporation tax receipts to for the first three quarters of 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [42878/23]

83. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of businesses in Cavan, Monaghan, Sligo, Leitrim and Donegal that successfully applied for inclusion under the temporary business energy support scheme, in tabular form; the estimated value or worth of the support in each county; if he has plans for any other similar scheme in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42870/23]

84. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will reduce the taxes applied to building activity and materials in respect of residential construction to reduce the cost of building a dwelling; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [43056/23]

85. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of individuals who have benefitted from the help-to-buy scheme in County Mayo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [43084/23]

86. To ask the Minister for Finance to report on any work his Department has undertaken to advance the recommendations contained in the Commission on Taxation and Welfare's report on capital taxes; if he agrees that the balance between income and capital taxes needs to change; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [43053/23]

87. To ask the Minister for Finance what his engagement to date has been with the Central Bank of Ireland and the Irish banking sector about the interest rates available to lending and savings customers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [43147/23]

88. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update of the number of people in Dublin that are currently availing of the rent tax credit, in tabular form; if he has plans for any changes to the credit in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [42863/23]

89. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has any plans to amend the VAT treatment of the hiring of means of transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [43164/23]

90. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 55 of 9 May 2023, his plans for the phasing out of the help-to-buy scheme; the details of any planned changes to the criteria of the scheme in the interim; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [42981/23]

91. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will extend the bike-to-work scheme to those who are self-employed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [43085/23]

92. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department has engaged with the NTMA regarding the ISIF investments in companies that are listed on the UN Human Rights Council Database of business enterprises involved in certain activities related to the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, published by the UN Human Rights Council in February 2020, A/HRC/43/71; if so, the outcome of any such engagements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [43045/23]

93. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will announce in Budget 2024 the abolition of the universal social charge for those earning under €100,000 per year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43154/23]

94. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on Revenue's work on the implementation of a vacant homes tax. — Thomas Gould. [43070/23]

95. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department has undertaken any study to determine the merit of a public banking system. — Peadar Tóibín. [42635/23]

96. To ask the Minister for Finance the total USC income collected by the State for each year since its introduction; if he will provide a breakdown, per annum, of the rates and amounts collected in each rate category; if he will provide details of the percentage of overall income tax collected that the USC has represented each year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [43055/23]

97. To ask the Minister for Finance if, with respect to Annex III of the Reduced VAT Rates Directive (details supplied), his Department is considering the potential implications on lowering the VAT rate applied to newspapers and periodicals either on physical means of support or supplied electronically; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [42189/23]

98. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of people in Cork and Kerry that are currently availing of the rent tax credit, in tabular form; if he has plans for any changes to the credit in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [42865/23]

99. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on whether tax policy can play a more active role in incentivising climate action; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [43048/23]

100. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the outlook for job creation in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [31675/23]

101. To ask the Minister for Finance if, in Budget 2024, all insulation products, for example, solar panels, attic insulation, wall insulation and foam insulation, will be VAT-free, thus enabling those on low incomes the opportunity to insulate their homes. — Michael Collins. [42056/23]

102. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the operation of the defective concrete products levy, its application to precast concrete products and autoclave aerated concrete, its impact on residential construction costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [43135/23]

103. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of businesses in Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford, and Wexford that successfully applied for inclusion under the temporary business energy support scheme, in tabular form; the estimated value or worth of the support in each county; if he has plans for any other similar scheme in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [43188/23]

104. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of businesses in Cork and Kerry that successfully applied for inclusion under the temporary business energy support scheme, in tabular form; the estimated value or worth of the support in each county; if he has plans for any other similar scheme in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [42864/23]

105. To ask the Minister for Finance regarding revenue duty and charges levied on motor dealers, traders, and registered vehicle importers during and after the Brexit period; as the Minister is aware Revenue demands specific documentation before granting clearance and releasing vehicles to their owners; if he is aware that Revenue is currently re-evaluating the duty and charges applied to vehicles imported into Ireland from the UK over the past three years; if he is also aware that Revenue is now imposing an additional 10% fee on these vehicles; the reason why Revenue introduced new guidelines and altered the requirements; if he concurs that the imposition of this additional 10% levy appears unjust, especially considering that motor dealers, traders, and registered vehicle importers had diligently adhered to Revenue's requirements at the time of import; furthermore, if he could explain the removal of the 2020/21 guidelines for compliance that were initially provided to motor dealers, traders, and registered vehicle importers on the Revenue website; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [42886/23]

106. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the review of national payments strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [43131/23]

107. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of people in Cavan, Monaghan, Sligo, Leitrim and Donegal that are currently availing of the rent tax credit, in tabular form; if he has plans for any changes to the credit in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [42871/23]

108. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will introduce a scheme to help people unable to obtain a mortgage due to unfortunate medical history; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [42850/23]

109. To ask the Minister for Finance for a report on the operation of the living city initiative; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [43129/23]

110. To ask the Minister for Finance what the Government's priorities are in respect of insurance competition work and reform of the insurance market for the remainder of 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [42888/23]

111. To ask the Minister for Finance his views, and his Department's analysis, of the recent departure of companies from Euronext Dublin; the causes of these departures and potential policy measures to support the Irish stock exchange; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [43139/23]

112. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the operation of the vacant homes tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [43130/23]

113. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has any plans with regard to the application of VAT to returns under the deposit return scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [43168/23]

114. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of people in Limerick, Clare and Tipperary that are currently availing of the rent tax credit, in tabular form; if he has plans for any changes to the credit in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [42867/23]

115. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an overview of the trends in corporation tax receipts in the recent past. — John Lahart. [42890/23]

116. To ask the Minister for Finance his assessment of Exchequer returns for the first three quarters of 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [42879/23]

117. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is considering additional tax measures in Budget 2024 on information and communication companies, including social media and digital streaming companies, to fund public broadcasting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43150/23]

118. To ask the Minister for Finance the value of uncollected local property tax in 2022 as a consequence of exemptions and deferrals; if he will provide the figure as a percentage of gross; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [42849/23]

119. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of people in Offaly, Laois, Longford and Westmeath that are currently availing of the rent tax credit, in tabular form; if he has plans for any changes to the credit in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [42869/23]

120. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of businesses in Offaly, Laois, Longford and Westmeath that successfully applied for inclusion under the temporary business energy support scheme, in tabular form; the estimated value or worth of the support in each county; if he has plans for any other similar scheme in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [42868/23]

121. To ask the Minister for Finance if the Office for the Promotion of Competition in the Insurance Market produce end of year reports on the progress made on its aims, objections and targets, and if not, will the Minister commit to doing so; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [42887/23]

122. To ask the Minister for Finance the details of the uptake from the rent credit tax from Budget 2023; how many people applied for the tax credit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [43092/23]

123. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update of the number of businesses in Dublin that successfully applied for inclusion under the temporary business energy support scheme, in tabular form; the estimated value or worth of the support in Dublin; if he has plans for any other similar scheme in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [42862/23]

124. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on his Department's latest projections for windfall corporation tax revenues; the possible uses for these revenues that he is considering in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43152/23]

125. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department is considering further emergency measures to reduce fuel prices in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [43091/23]

126. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is considering any changes to the tax treatment of REITs and other property-related investment vehicles in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43151/23]

127. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will be reviewing the tax reliefs available for the SME sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [43190/23]

128. To ask the Minister for Finance what measures he intends to apply in Budget 2024 to reverse the trend in sales of large and heavy vehicles for private use, in recognition of the increased safety risk to vulnerable road users posed by heavier and larger vehicles, the increased demand for fuel and energy and the overall impact on the carbon budget for the transport sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [43174/23]

129. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of businesses in Limerick, Clare and Tipperary that successfully applied for inclusion under the temporary business energy support scheme, in tabular form; the estimated value or worth of the support in each county; if he has plans for any other similar scheme in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [42866/23]

130. To ask the Minister for Finance what he is doing to ensure that public bodies maintain their existing payment methods in relation to cash acceptance. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [43178/23]

131. To ask the Minister for Finance what action he will be taking on the regulation of the provision of cash services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [43172/23]

132. To ask the Minister for Finance when the Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeal will again begin to hear appeals. — Matt Carthy. [43046/23]

133. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he remains aware of the needs of the people throughout the country, given the continued challenge of inflation/cost of living increases; the extent to which he can assist in these areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43075/23]

134. To ask the Minister for Finance if, with respect to Annex III of the Reduced VAT Rates Directive (details supplied), his Department is considering the potential implications on lowering the VAT rate applied to bicycles, including electric bicycles, and supply of services relating to the transport of passengers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [42188/23]

135. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the establishment of an interdepartmental mortgage arrears group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [43148/23]

136. To ask the Minister for Finance to report on his attendance at the National Economic Dialogue. — Mick Barry. [30627/23]

137. To ask the Minister for Finance if any changes are planned in regard to the regulation of ATM machines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [43149/23]

138. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he can support the affordable housing programme/local authority housing to meet the challenges of an increasing population and its ongoing housing requirements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [43074/23]

139. To ask the Minister for Finance to comment on the increasing number of first-time buyers receiving mortgage approval; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [32907/23]

140. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is concerned at the low number of individuals who pay the domicile levy; if he has any plans to reform the levy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [43054/23]

141. To ask the Minister for Finance the legislation, Irish or EU, that must change before Irish credit unions are able to avail of the same ECB deposit interest rates as commercial retail banks. — Brian Stanley. [42609/23]

142. To ask the Minister for Finance the current status of the Disabled Drivers and Disabled Passengers Scheme; when the Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeal will recommence hearings; the number of appeals and request for appeal hearings that have been lodged since November 2021 and his response to the recent annual report of the Ombudsman with respect to same. — Pearse Doherty. [43137/23]

143. To ask the Minister for Finance the action he is taking to ensure that cash payments continue to be accepted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [43132/23]

144. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on a county basis of the number of people in Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford, and Wexford that are currently availing of the rent tax credit, in tabular form; if he has plans for any changes to the credit in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [43189/23]

145. To ask the Minister for Finance when it can be expected to see the Credit Union (Amendment) Bill 2022 completed and enacted. — Brian Stanley. [42608/23]

146. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the OECD BEPS process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [43171/23]

147. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on his engagement with the retail banking sector, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and representative groups of homeowners affected by defective concrete blocks with respect to bridging finance and the significant funding shortfall homeowners face to remediate their homes. — Pearse Doherty. [43136/23]

148. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is aware that an organisation (details supplied) recently published wealth tax measures that the Government could take that could raise up to €8 billion; if he will announce measures such as this in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43153/23]

149. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is considering any measures to leverage the billions in savings accounts held by Irish people into investment opportunities in areas such as state affordable housing vehicles or other investment vehicles directed towards the public good; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [42889/23]

150. To ask the Minister for Finance how the international economic outlook will bear on Ireland's economic performance and budgetary strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [43047/23]