



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Máirt, 24 Deireadh Fómhair, 2023

Tuesday, 24th 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 when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [43822/23]
2. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [43823/23]
3. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Cian O'Callaghan. [43831/23]
4. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43867/23]
5. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [43870/23]
6. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Mick Barry. [44962/23]
7. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [46320/23]
8. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Education will meet next. — Alan Dillon. [46343/23]
9. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Mick Barry. [46493/23]
10. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Cian O'Callaghan. [46599/23]
11. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [41216/23]
12. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45021/23]
13. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [43878/23]

14. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet. — Mick Barry. [45264/23]

15. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [46321/23]

16. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the economic policy unit of his Department. — Alan Dillon. [45024/23]

17. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the economic policy unit of his Department. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43875/23]

18. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the economic policy unit of his Department. — Paul Murphy. [43879/23]

19. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the economic policy unit of his Department. — Mick Barry. [45265/23]

20. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the economic policy unit of his Department. — Cian O’Callaghan. [46600/23]

21. 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]

22. 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. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43876/23]

23. 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. — Paul Murphy. [43880/23]

24. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a list of the Cabinet committees on which he sits. — Peadar Tóibín. [44812/23]

25. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a list of the Cabinet committees on which he sits. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46433/23]

26. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a list of the Cabinet Committees on which he sits. — Cian O’Callaghan. [46601/23]

27. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his attendance at the recent European Political Community meeting in Granada, Spain. — Mick Barry. [45266/23]

28. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his engagements during his attending of the European Political Community. — Alan Farrell. [45073/23]

29. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the recent European Political Community meeting in Granada, Spain. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46434/23]

30. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his attendance at the recent European Political Community meeting in Granada, Spain. — Paul Murphy. [46436/23]

31. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the recent European Political Community meeting in Granada, Spain. — Peadar Tóibín. [46373/23]

32. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his attendance at the recent European Political Community meeting in Granada, Spain. — Mary Lou McDonald. [46425/23]

33. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his attendance at the recent European Political Community meeting in Granada, Spain. — Seán Haughey. [46619/23]

34. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent meeting with the UK Prime Minister during the European Political Community meeting. — Alan Farrell. [45074/23]

35. To ask the Taoiseach to report on any recent meetings he has had with the British Prime Minister. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46439/23]

36. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with the British Prime Minister. — Peadar Tóibín. [46374/23]

37. To ask the Taoiseach his views on the Annual Report of his Department recently published. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [43877/23]

38. To ask the Taoiseach his views on the Annual Report of his Department recently published. — Peadar Tóibín. [46370/23]

39. To ask the Taoiseach his views on the Annual Report of his Department recently published. — Paul Murphy. [46438/23]

40. To ask the Taoiseach his views on the Annual Report of his Department recently published. — Mick Barry. [46494/23]

41. To ask the Taoiseach the number of tribunals, public investigations and commissions of investigations in process; the length of time each has been underway; when each will conclude; the cost to date of each; and the estimated cost of each at completion. — Peadar Tóibín. [46827/23]

42. To ask the Taoiseach the number of legal cases taken against his Department in each of the past ten years, and to date in 2023. — Peadar Tóibín. [44815/23]

43. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45328/23]

44. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will meet next. — Alan Dillon. [46344/23]

45. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Peadar Tóibín. [46371/23]

46. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46435/23]

47. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [46437/23]

48. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Mick Barry. [46495/23]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

49. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to outline the next steps in the consultation on the green paper on disability allowance. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [46769/23]

50. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will withdraw the proposals in the green paper on disability reform and implement instead a single tier, non-means-tested payment disability allowance of €350 per week. — Paul Murphy. [46723/23]

51. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the review of means tests for carer's allowance; and whether, in light of increased thresholds in 2024, flexibility can be demonstrated to those being means tested currently. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [46770/23]

52. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the processing times for carer's allowance applications; the sequential processing time for applications sent for review by applicants, and refusals that are under appeals by applicants (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46638/23]

53. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the details of any engagement between her Department and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration, and Youth with regard to the introduction of a payment equivalent to child benefit to all children in the international protection process, as promised in the White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [46451/23]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

54. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider allowing persons in receipt of disability allowance, blind pension, carer's allowance or an invalidity pension to remain part of the free travel scheme if they return to employment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [46446/23]

55. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason for the reduction in outreach services previously provided by Citizens' Information branches across the country before the pandemic; what steps, if any, her Department is taking to restore these outreach services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46414/23]

56. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the changes she is making to her Department's free travel scheme to support people with epilepsy and other medical conditions who cannot drive

but are not in receipt of a social welfare payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46185/23]

57. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which she remains satisfied that all critical issues anticipated in Budget 2024 have been adequately dealt with, notwithstanding the ongoing economic/cost of living issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46441/23]

58. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration is being given to extending the duration of carer's benefit beyond the current 104 weeks. — Michael Moynihan. [46385/23]

59. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason lone parents working on CE schemes are excluded from receiving the €400 cost of living payment, given the scheme's proven track record of helping people who are long-term unemployed and disadvantaged to get back to work by offering part-time and temporary placements in jobs based within their local communities. — Gary Gannon. [46362/23]

60. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the details of the Disability Green Paper proposals in relation to extending the domiciliary care allowance scheme. — Cathal Crowe. [46398/23]

61. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an overview of the recent green paper on reform to disability payments. — Michael Moynihan. [46384/23]

62. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she plans to review the criteria for qualification for the disability allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [46230/23]

63. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she agrees with an organisation (details supplied) that Budget 2024 is regressive because temporary changes like one-off social protection payments are more concentrated among those on lower incomes, whereas the permanent changes favour the already better off; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46428/23]

64. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department is undertaking a review of the criteria for qualification for the State pension; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46415/23]

65. To ask the Minister for Social Protection how many reviews of State (non-contributory) pensions have been carried out in 2023; and how many pensions have been stopped as a result. — Paul McAuliffe. [46228/23]

66. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress made on the review of means testing rules of social welfare schemes; whether it is still intended to complete the review and publish it in quarter four this year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46369/23]

67. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the changes proposed to the means testing rules of social welfare and employment schemes in Budget 2024; whether it is intended to add to these changes in the Social Welfare Bill; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46368/23]

68. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the details of any engagement between her Department and disabled persons organisations and disability organisations in the development of the Green Paper on Disability Reform; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [46452/23]

69. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the ‘best of both’ calculation was undertaken for the period 2020 to 2023; how many State pension recipients were better off under the total contributions approach than under the old system; how many people were worse off under the total contributions approach; and if she will undertake to preserve the ‘best of both’ option for those categories of persons who will be worse off under a total contributions approach calculation. — Sean Sherlock. [46390/23]

70. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she considers that the €4 increase in the qualified child payment will make a significant impact on child poverty; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46427/23]

71. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when she anticipates poverty in this country will be ended; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46429/23]

72. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons in County Clare who availed of an additional need’s payment since 1 January 2023, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [46417/23]

73. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the key aspects of the proposed three-tiered personal support payment for people with disabilities. — Seán Haughey. [46391/23]

74. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider allowing pro-rata pensions on the basis of the proportion of contributions made by the pensioner relative to qualifying number of such contributions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46440/23]

75. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason that after forty-five years of working, a person (details supplied) has no entitlement to anything between the ages of 65-66 years; the reason that Covid years have been counted when work was unavailable to the person; the reason that no discretion or flexibility was shown by her Department, given the person’s date of birth, work record and contributions, which would mean that they were assessed on four years, 27 days, rather than five years, as per Article 48A; how she can ensure that this matter is remedied; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [41353/23]

76. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what engagement she has had with disability groups in relation to the recent green paper on disability supports. — Barry Cowen. [46394/23]

77. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she is aware that the Oireachtas Disability Group recently disclosed that people unable to work due to disability have the highest consistent poverty rates of all economic groupings, at 19.7%; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [32469/23]

78. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the location in County Laois where face-to-face meetings with a community welfare officer takes place; and the procedure to obtain such a meeting. — Brian Stanley. [46322/23]

79. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider an increase in the top-up payments to the CE, TUS and RSS schemes in line with the national minimum wage; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [46365/23]

80. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline the changes to child benefit arising from Budget 2024; when these changes will take effect; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46381/23]

81. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans for aligning people's unemployment benefits with their previous earnings. — Robert Troy. [46382/23]

82. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if time spent acting as a carer can be applied when calculating illness benefit; if time spent caring for children can be applied when calculating illness benefit; if it is possible to apply this retrospectively; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46366/23]

83. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an online system will be made available for application for the public services card; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [46445/23]

84. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline the payment dates for the nine lump sums she announced as part of Budget 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46341/23]

85. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons currently in receipt of the carer's allowance; and the number who were in receipt of the allowance in each of the past ten years. — Peadar Tóibín. [46376/23]

86. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has received any reports on the onerous nature of applying for the domiciliary care allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [46410/23]

87. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review the case of a person (details supplied) regarding their entitlement to partial capacity benefit; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46339/23]

88. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she plans to tackle the introduction of booking fees of between €2-€10 by private transport companies for some passengers who avail of the free travel scheme, to ensure that public transport remains free for those who are eligible for the scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [46411/23]

89. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if personal assistants, who work with those with disabilities at third-level institutes and who have to sign on for jobseeker's allowance during term breaks, including the summer, can have a streamlined application process due to the nature of their work contracts; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [46188/23]

90. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the recent changes to the means test for the carer's allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [46416/23]

91. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason no additional one-off payment of one-parent family payment was included in Budget 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46426/23]

92. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way her Department supports the National Employability Service; the outcomes of any such supports; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [46453/23]

93. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she agrees with the principle of restoring the State pension to its 2020 spending power; and if she will commit to doing this within the lifetime of this Government. — Sean Sherlock. [46388/23]

94. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps that are being taken, in conjunction with other Departments, to address the issue of unemployment blackspots across the State, with particular reference to those in Limerick city; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [44416/23]

95. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration is being given to abolishing the means test for the carer's allowance. — Robert Troy. [46383/23]

96. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason the qualified child payment only saw an increase of €2 in Budget 2023 and €4 in Budget 2024, despite the ESRI repeatedly pointing out that substantially increasing the payment has the potential to make significant reductions in child poverty. — Gary Gannon. [46361/23]

97. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number and percentage of lone parents in receipt of the working family payment from the beginning of 2018 until the end of 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [46363/23]

98. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of additional needs payments made, where a family requested such a payment to cover the costs of a therapy or service required as an urgent need, by county, from 1 January 2023, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [46386/23]

99. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will confirm that under the proposals in the Green Paper on Reform of Disability Payments, no person who is currently in receipt of long-term disability payments will be moved off a disability payment. — Cathal Crowe. [46399/23]

100. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to address the current backlog in processing applications for child benefit. — Paul McAuliffe. [46180/23]

101. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the proposed scheduling of social welfare payments for the Christmas period; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [46229/23]

102. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she is aware of persons who were allowed to remain long-term on illness benefit when restricted duration was first introduced, but who now on reaching retirement age, find that the required paid stamps have increased to 520 paid stamps, and thus have no pension rights, whereas persons on invalidity pension who also have been long-term unable to work, are allowed waive the obligation; the number of persons that are on long-term illness benefit; and her views on the fairness of this apparent differential treatment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [46423/23]

103. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider expanding the illness benefit payment to self-employed persons (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [46444/23]

104. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her views on the current iteration of the means test for social assistance payments; if her Department is taking steps to update the means test; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [46179/23]

105. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline the current processing times for disability allowance, carers allowance and social welfare appeals; if she will compare these waiting times to this time last year; her views on the increase in processing times for these applications; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [46189/23]

106. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when she anticipates that poverty among people with disabilities in this country will be ended; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46430/23]

107. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the details of proposals to address inconsistencies in eligibility for disability payments. — Barry Cowen. [46393/23]

108. To ask the Minister for Social Protection how many people availed of the Activation and Family Support Programme in 2022 to fund the cost of training supports and education courses for people on social welfare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [46412/23]

109. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the new system to enable long-term carers to qualify for a State pension will take effect; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46186/23]

110. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has carried out, or intends to carry out, any evaluation of the wage subsidy scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [46449/23]

111. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has considered introducing a permanent cost-of-living payment for disabled people; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [46447/23]

112. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will publish the Budget 2024 input document for the State pension process in October, given that Ireland is the only Eurozone country that does not index its State pension to earnings or inflation; and the current status of benchmarking the rate of the State pension against 34% of average earnings. — Sean Sherlock. [46389/23]

113. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department has examined the provision of a statutory bereavement leave, and the costs associated with this; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [46413/23]

114. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of face-to-face meetings that took place between community welfare officers and applicants for supplementary welfare allowance in the first six months of 2023. — Brian Stanley. [46323/23]

115. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons currently in receipt of the disability allowance; and the number who were in receipt of the allowance in each of the past ten years. — Peadar Tóibín. [46375/23]

116. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the details of the proposed introduction of new in-work supports for people with disabilities. — Seán Haughey. [46392/23]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

*117. To ask the Taoiseach to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; and if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication. — Carol Nolan. [46552/23]

*118. To ask the Taoiseach if he will direct that an organisation (details supplied) be invited to become a participatory member of the Labour Employer Economic Forum (LEEF); and if so, when an invitation might be forthcoming. — Matt Shanahan. [46575/23]

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

*119. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the amount of grants given by Irish Aid in each of the years 2019 to 2022 to organisations (details supplied); if the money was used for the promotion of abortion or the delivery of abortion services in Africa or other developing regions; how this spending has been monitored and evaluated by Irish Aid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46131/23]

*120. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will intervene in the case of an Irish resident in Gaza and their Irish-born child (details supplied), and include them in any evacuation of Irish citizens. — Chris Andrews. [46210/23]

*121. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when a decision will be made on an application for a foreign birth registration by a person (details supplied) who applied in August 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [46297/23]

*122. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has spoken formally with the United States Secretary of State in the past five months. — Catherine Murphy. [46479/23]

*123. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of foreign birth registrations currently being processed within his Department. — Catherine Murphy. [46480/23]

*124. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46544/23]

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

*125. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a copy of annual accounts of the Climate Action Fund, as submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General for audit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46615/23]

*126. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when a property (details supplied) can expect to be provided with high-speed broadband. — Louise O'Reilly. [46074/23]

*127. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when a property (details supplied) can expect to be provided with high-speed broadband. — Louise O'Reilly. [46075/23]

*128. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the winter moratorium on disconnections applies to dwellings without planning permission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [46156/23]

*129. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason homes with solar panels in an area in County Kildare (details supplied) are being prevented from providing excess power to the grid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46181/23]

*130. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when the supply of energy report will be published (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46192/23]

*131. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide the total amount of gas supplied to data centres for 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [46216/23]

*132. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason incandescent bulbs are banned in Ireland, given people with extreme light sensitivity/ photosensitivity cannot use regular bulbs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46237/23]

*133. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications whether the home energy upgrade grant can be paid for insulation on an extension, and not the whole house; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [46331/23]

*134. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will agree to the temporary warehousing of royalties from 2022 on the activities of a company (details supplied) in an effort to assist the company and the return of workers to the operation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46407/23]

*135. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason for the delay in the renewal of the drilling licence for an area of the operation of a company (details supplied); when a decision will be made on this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46408/23]

*136. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46542/23]

*137. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46581/23]

*138. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how much revenue was earned from the levy paid by holders of Maritime Area Consent in 2022 and in 2023, in tabular form; how much is estimated to be earned in 2024, in tabular form; how the proceeds from the levy have been distributed; whether proceeds are ringfenced for any specific purposes; whether revenues raised are ringfenced for investment in the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46594/23]

*139. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason behind the removal of funding for the 'getting citizens online fund'; if it will be restored going forward to assist vulnerable and isolated members of the community in accessing services online; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [46605/23]

*140. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide the details of the source of the revenues paid into the Climate Action Fund, on an annual basis from 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46612/23]

*141. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to detail, on an annual basis, the specific projects and associated funding allocated through the Climate Action Fund; whether the project is categorised as a climate or biodiversity one; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46614/23]

*142. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is satisfied that all household energy consumers including people availing of prepay systems will benefit from the energy credits announced in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [46422/23]

*143. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department intends to publish the minutes of the recent Government taskforce on offshore energy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [46734/23]

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

*144. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to detail his EU counterparts he has spoken with formally to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [46465/23]

*145. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of vacancies, by rank currently in the Defence Forces School of Music; and when will each of the vacancies be filled, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [46466/23]

*146. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46539/23]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*147. To ask the Minister for Transport if he supports adding additional or express services on the 15-bus route in the mornings to address overcrowding issues in the Knocklyon area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46059/23]

*148. To ask the Minister for Transport if he made any submissions to Dublin City Council during the development plan process calling for rezoning of land at Dublin Port, including land currently used for the storage of imported cars. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46078/23]

*149. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional buses will be added to the number 15 bus route (details supplied); and if not, if alternative services will be added to the route. — John Lahart. [46085/23]

*150. To ask the Minister for Transport if he and Bus Éireann will consider the reinstatement of the Bus Éireann X12 Expressway service between Dublin and Limerick, which also includes a stop in Roscrea, County Tipperary in the event that the return of the X12 service is not feasible; if not, if he and Bus Éireann will consider introducing a public bus service from Roscrea to Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46133/23]

*151. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of funding drawn down by Cork City Council in 2023 for footpath repair. — Thomas Gould. [46147/23]

*152. To ask the Minister for Transport whether he raised concerns with Cork City Council regarding uneven allocation of Active Travel Funding in 2022 or 2023. — Thomas Gould. [46148/23]

*153. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on each of the projects funded under the 2022 active travel scheme for Cork City Council, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [46149/23]

*154. To ask the Minister for Transport the date by which the Road Safety Authority will have completed its review of the road traffic collision data sharing policies, and procedures and resume its statutory remit of issuing reports on road traffic collisions. — Seán Crowe. [46190/23]

*155. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware that roughly 2,260 CIÉ retired salaried staff have not received a pension increase since 2008; if he will ensure that the board of CIÉ assign adequate funds to the CIÉ Superannuation Scheme 1951 to pay increases to CIÉ pensioners in line with the cost-of-living; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46267/23]

*156. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of international ballast water management certificates issued by Ireland from the commencement of the statutory instrument that gave effect to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46282/23]

*157. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of type approval certificates of ballast water mandate system issued by Ireland from the commencement of the Statutory Instrument that gave effect to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46283/23]

*158. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of ballast water management systems which have been installed on or after 28 October 2020, certified by Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46284/23]

*159. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of inspections under section 12(4) of the statutory instrument that gave effect to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46285/23]

*160. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will commit to the ratification of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009, in the coming legislative term; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46286/23]

*161. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will commit to the ratification of the protocol on Preparedness, Response and Co-operation to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances, 2000 (OPRC-HNS Protocol); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46287/23]

*162. To ask the Minister for Transport for updated measures to improve the provision of electric vehicle charging points; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [46292/23]

*163. To ask the Minister for Transport if the charging costs on public electric vehicle charging are included in the pending energy cost price reductions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [46333/23]

*164. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason there has been a huge increase in the past 12 months on the cost of charging an electric vehicle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [46334/23]

*165. To ask the Minister for Transport to outline any plans there are to regulate the public electric vehicle sector in relation to charging costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [46335/23]

*166. To ask the Minister for Transport if plans are in place to extend the local hackney pilot scheme to further rural areas, in particular to areas of Westmeath, such as Clonmellon, Delvin, Raharney, which have no such service at present; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [46349/23]

*167. To ask the Minister for Transport if a person (details supplied) is entitled to a disability pass. — Michael Creed. [46350/23]

*168. To ask the Minister for Transport for clarification regarding the application of penalty points to drivers found operating a vehicle with an expired NCT certificate, when no NCT

appointments are available to that person within 40km of their local area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [46372/23]

*169. To ask the Minister for Transport for the delivery date of all proposed BusConnects routes serving the Swords area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [46457/23]

*170. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of new licence exchange agreements with non-EU/EEA countries, that would allow for HGV companies to expand the pool of potential employees they could hire from; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [46459/23]

*171. To ask the Minister for Transport the funding that will be provided in 2024 and 2025 to purchase additional, larger carriages for the LUAS on both lines. — Catherine Murphy. [46470/23]

*172. To ask the Minister for Transport the new measures that are being taken to ensure greater capacity bicycle storage facilities on new Bus Éireann coaches. — Catherine Murphy. [46471/23]

*173. To ask the Minister for Transport in relation to the Air Navigation (Carriage of Munitions of War, Weapons and Dangerous Goods) Order for US military contracted planes to take weapons through Shannon Airport and Irish airspace, if he can clarify what weapons if any have been transported through Shannon Airport with the purpose of being transferred to the Israel Defence Forces to be used on Palestinian civilians; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [46491/23]

*174. To ask the Minister for Transport if he can confirm that all US military contracted planes that have transported weapons through Shannon Airport and Irish airspace since 1 October 2023 to Israel have been checked for appropriate cargo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [46492/23]

*175. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46554/23]

*176. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the new draft e-scooter regulations currently exclude shared e-scooters due to the fact that they include a 25kg weight limit; if he is aware that shared services include enhanced safety features which make such scooters heavier than 25kg; if he will outline his plans for such shared services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [46573/23]

*177. To ask the Minister for Transport in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46590/23]

*178. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the expansion of young adult leap cards to include 24-and 25-year-olds; a timeline for the introduction of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [46604/23]

*179. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional testers have been allocated to deal with the backlog of people awaiting driving tests; if he will provide an update on applications (details supplied), and if he is aware the delays are causing extreme hardships to people on apprenticeships who require cars to travel to work. — Peter Burke. [46606/23]

*180. To ask the Minister for Transport when the new rail fares for the proposed Dublin community zone will be announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [46624/23]

*181. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional funding will be provided to repair road infrastructure in Cork city and Cork county, following severe flooding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [46680/23]

*182. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of his plans, and those of Irish Rail, to install public toilets and a roof covering at Tara Street station. — Catherine Murphy. [46688/23]

*183. To ask the Minister for Transport if any assessment has been made or will be made of the potential role of the lack of lighting at motorway junctions in recent fatalities (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [46691/23]

*184. To ask the Minister for Transport for a detailed timeline for the enactment of the Road Traffic and Roads Act 2023, specifically in relation to the antisocial use of scramblers and quad bikes, which will give gardaí the necessary powers to seize and dispose of vehicles used dangerously, whether at the scene of an offence or at the location where the vehicle is kept; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [46692/23]

*185. To ask the Minister for Transport if an aircraft (details supplied) which was on contract to the US military, was authorised to carry weapons or munitions through Shannon Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [46715/23]

*186. To ask the Minister for Transport if there have been any reports compiled on the safety of electric vehicles, particularly when parked in multi-storey car parks, given there have been a number of fires in the UK caused by electric scooter and bike batteries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [46724/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*187. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the appointment of a new Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeal, given that there is no appeal function for decisions on primary medical certificates. — Cathal Crowe. [46174/23]

*188. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount levied under the vacant homes tax to date in 2023; and the number of properties this has been levied against by county, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [46139/23]

*189. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will engage with the Revenue Commissioners to address concerns regarding the inadequate and inefficient operation of the automated import and automated export system, which is having a seriously adverse financial impact on haulage companies (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46196/23]

*190. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of taxpayer units who may have either underpayments or overpayments for the 2021 and 2022 tax years, respectively, and who have not yet submitted a tax return; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46222/23]

*191. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider allowing one member of a couple to get their share of the help to buy scheme if their partner previously benefited in their own right; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [46231/23]

*192. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason healthcare assistants cannot avail of the flat rate expenses the same as other occupations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46233/23]

*193. To ask the Minister for Finance when the new national infrastructure fund will be established; the amount to be transferred into the fund each year; if there is a ceiling on the fund; how he will ensure the fund will be used efficiently; how projects will be prioritised from this fund; and how he will ensure these projects are rolled out and completed efficiently and in a timely manner. — Robert Troy. [46258/23]

*194. To ask the Minister for Finance if he plans to review Ireland's financial services tax regime, as encouraged by the Commission on Taxation and Welfare; if he plans to review the deemed disposal tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46264/23]

*195. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has plans to match the VAT threshold for a sector (details supplied) as has been done in other EU countries that have updated their regulations in support of the circular economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [46308/23]

*196. To ask the Minister for Finance if there has been any reduction in the VAT rate applied to sports and fitness classes in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46309/23]

*197. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 161 of 17 October 2023, to name the third party sources used to cost the zero-rating of VAT on e-books and audiobooks in Budget 2024; to provide the third party's estimate for household expenditure used to calculate the €3 million cost figure; and to comment on the due diligence, if any, undertaken by his Department of the third party in question and its figures. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [46355/23]

*198. To ask the Minister for Finance when he expects to have the long awaited revised qualifying criteria for the primary medical certificate which will be fit for purpose; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [46406/23]

*199. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department has made funding applications for projects under the EU anti-fraud programme 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and if so, the applications that were approved, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [46472/23]

*200. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46543/23]

*201. To ask the Minister for Finance in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46582/23]

*202. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated proportion of corporation tax receipts that were spent on capital expenditure from 2015 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46591/23]

*203. To ask the Minister for Finance the total corporation tax receipts and the total tax receipts under all headings for each of the years 2010 to date, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46592/23]

*204. To ask the Minister for Finance if a portion of corporation tax receipts were ring-fenced for capital expenditure from 2015 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46593/23]

*205. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 432 of 11 September 2023, when the facility to set up a repeat rental notification at monthly intervals, including an instruction for remitting the NLWT to Revenue directly from the tenant's bank account, will be implemented. — Ivana Bacik. [46657/23]

*206. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider a policy change to Government's various assistance schemes for first-time buyers based on a policy matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46682/23]

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.

*207. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform in view of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce survey on remote and hybrid working patterns for non-State employees, if the State is currently reviewing or considering similar adjustments to its remote working practices for civil and/or public servants (details supplied). — Noel Grealish. [46360/23]

*208. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he is aware that the new e Tender platform is not functioning and does not have the ability to accept submissions; if he will investigate this serious situation for contractors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [46123/23]

*209. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the year in which a person who worked in a semi-State company and took early retirement in 2010, should have ceased paying the pension levy. — Emer Higgins. [46153/23]

*210. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will address a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46155/23]

*211. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46549/23]

*212. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46586/23]

*213. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the amount of funding set aside, from windfall taxes, for the Climate Action Fund for 2024-2026, as referenced in the Summer Economic Statement 2023, including the amount ringfenced for nature restoration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46611/23]

*214. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he has taken steps to ensure that across the public service, there are alternative forms of access for those who are not equipped to use digital systems; and if telephone access alternatives with monitored speed of response and hubs in the community are part of a robust alternative. — Richard Bruton. [46618/23]

*215. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide support for homes and businesses affected by flooding in Cork city. — Thomas Gould. [46672/23]

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

*216. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will expedite a work permit for a person (details supplied) as it is needed to get a visa renewal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [46695/23]

*217. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will expedite a work permit for a person (details supplied) as it is needed to get a visa renewal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [46698/23]

*218. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to respond to correspondence from an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46708/23]

*219. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the amount spent by his Department on legal advice and/or legal representation between 2015 to date, broken down on an annual basis. — Paul Murphy. [46136/23]

*220. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide this Deputy with a reply regarding issues presented by a person (details supplied) in relation to regulations

that exist pertaining to the recruitment of workers from outside of Ireland. — Pauline Tully. [46137/23]

*221. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the reason a permit application (details supplied) was refused; the relevant governing body/person that was consulted by his Department concerning this employment permit which led to a decision to refuse; what exactly is section 12(1I)(b) of the Employment Permits Act 2006; the reason the permit was under this section; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46195/23]

*222. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the anticipated timeframe for the determination of an appeal lodged subsequent to the refusal of a permit application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46211/23]

*223. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how many cases have been taken to the Workplace Relations Commission by employees against employers regarding tips, service charges and other gratuities in 2022 and 2023. — Brian Stanley. [46218/23]

*224. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to outline his Department's plans for the introduction of a living wage. — Brian Stanley. [46219/23]

*225. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the case of a company (details supplied) will be examined to ensure the correct course of action is being followed in this regard. — Denise Mitchell. [46250/23]

*226. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the date for the implementation of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive; how he intends to assist companies to meet this obligation; and the supports that are available to companies as they drive towards zero-carbon. — Robert Troy. [46263/23]

*227. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the Code of Practice for Indoor Air Quality, in accordance with section 60 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 (No. 10 of 2005) introduced in May 2023, applies to the offices/workplaces of the civil and public services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46265/23]

*228. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how many civil and public sector employers for which the Code of Practice for Indoor Air Quality is relevant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46273/23]

*229. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will consider it appropriate that employees of public and civil service organisations are working in locations where the Code of Practice on Indoor Air Quality has not been implemented due to lack of awareness or direction by management; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [46276/23]

*230. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the conditions of the employment of a group (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [46359/23]

*231. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the up-to-date position regarding the free trade agreement between the EU and Australia. — Catherine Murphy. [46481/23]

*232. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the IDA has a presence in South Korea. — Catherine Murphy. [46482/23]

*233. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the up-to-date position regarding the free trade agreement between the EU and India. — Catherine Murphy. [46483/23]

*234. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46541/23]

*235. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46579/23]

*236. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he could provide an overview of the new Increased Cost of Business Scheme; to confirm whether the scheme will be based on individual rate numbers rather than being per business; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [46654/23]

*237. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will examine a bespoke scheme for the challenged horticulture sector as we move to the increased €12.70 minimum wage (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [46668/23]

*238. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update and timeline for the seasonal work permit scheme, given its introduction is crucial to the horticulture sector as Ireland moves to the €12.70 minimum wage. — Joe Flaherty. [46669/23]

*239. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if there will be an emergency humanitarian support scheme for businesses affected by severe flooding in Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46678/23]

*240. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update in respect of enacting the Work Life and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 in full. — Catherine Murphy. [46706/23]

*241. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the projected job losses at a plant (details supplied); his plans to ensure continued employment for affected staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [46721/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*242. To ask the Minister for Education if she will clarify whether the Teaching Council and the Department of Education have decided upon an alternative degree programme to substitute the BA in Montessori Education from St. Nicholas College that currently enables teachers who do not have Irish to register under route 4 and take up permanent positions as special class and special education teachers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [46697/23]

*243. To ask the Minister for Education the provision her Department is making to increase places in ASD special education units/classes in secondary schools in County Wexford; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [46054/23]

*244. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the lack of secondary school places for pupils transitioning from primary school ASD education units/classes in the New Ross district, County Wexford; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [46055/23]

*245. To ask the Minister for Education the reason a school (details supplied) has not been designated as a DEIS school; if her Department will designate additional schools in the DEIS category this year based on most recent census data; when the next review will take place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46069/23]

*246. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004 review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46089/23]

*247. To ask the Minister for Education how many additional autistic classes were opened for the 2023-2024 school year nationwide; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46090/23]

*248. To ask the Minister for Education for a geographical breakdown of the number of new autistic classrooms that were opened for the 2023-2024 school year, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46091/23]

*249. To ask the Minister for Education how many mainstream schools nationwide now have autistic classes included on their campus; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46092/23]

*250. To ask the Minister for Education for a geographical breakdown of the number autistic classes that are included on mainstream school campuses, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46093/23]

*251. To ask the Minister for Education how many new special schools were either opened or expanded for the 2023-2024 school year nationwide; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46094/23]

*252. To ask the Minister for Education for a geographical breakdown of the number of new special schools that were opened or expanded for the 2023-2024 school year, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46095/23]

*253. To ask the Minister for Education the number of teaching posts that are vacant nationwide in primary and post-primary schools for the 2023-2024 school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46096/23]

*254. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department is undertaking a review for the criteria a child needs to meet for access to an SNA with a view to widening this criteria; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46097/23]

*255. To ask the Minister for Education the timeframe for when primary schools can expect to receive their ICT grants; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46098/23]

*256. To ask the Minister for Education the details of the capital projects that have been undertaken by her Department in Dublin Fingal since June 2020; the funding allocated each year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46099/23]

*257. To ask the Minister for Education the number of the SNA positions budgeted for in 2023 that were filled; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46100/23]

*258. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the masterplan for the new build for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46101/23]

*259. To ask the Minister for Education to detail the future provision and timescales for the delivery of additional ASD units in Clane, County Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [46122/23]

*260. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the current application related to infrastructure, SET facilities, or provisions at a school (details supplied); the future plans that have been derived from these assessments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46124/23]

*261. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date in the completion of allocated additional classrooms and subsequent appointment of additional teachers in the case of a special school (details supplied), given that the recent start date for students has now been pushed to mid-December 2023 at the earliest, meaning they have been unable to start school in the interim period; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46154/23]

*262. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on a school building project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [46171/23]

*263. To ask the Minister for Education if an escorted school transport service has been approved for a person (details supplied); when transport will commence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin O Broin. [46172/23]

*264. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of concerns that schoolbooks under the free schoolbooks scheme are not being covered (details supplied) resulting in a shorter lifespan; if she is satisfied that the guidelines for the scheme are being adhered to; what measures will be taken to ensure compliance with the scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46173/23]

*265. To ask the Minister for Education if she will review correspondence received from a school (details supplied) given the gravity of the issue raised by the management of the school; if she will make arrangements for officials in her Department to engage with the school without delay; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46178/23]

*266. To ask the Minister for Education the current ancillary grant given to national schools that have a capacity of over 500 students; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46193/23]

*267. To ask the Minister for Education if an application for school transport on behalf of a person (details supplied) has been received; when a decision will be made; and if approved, when transport will commence. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46194/23]

*268. To ask the Minister for Education the number of teachers still awaiting remuneration for invigilating and marking State examinations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [46208/23]

*269. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the building works for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [46241/23]

*270. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding the IT grant for primary schools; the timeline for when schools can draw down this funding for this school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [46248/23]

*271. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding funding to support primary schools with the cost of cleaning following the cessation of the Covid supports to assist with this expense; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [46251/23]

*272. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding the €60 million funding for cost-of-living supports for schools announced in Budget 2024; how this will be allocated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [46252/23]

*273. To ask the Minister for Education if she will identify the 12 post-primary schools mentioned by her Departmental staff at the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Further and Higher Education, Innovation and Science (details supplied); the ethos and gender intake of each school, using Tyrconnell Park as a starting point; the actual distance on foot and estimated journey time for each school; the actual route by public transport; the estimated journey time for same; and if each route requires crossing one or more arterial roads.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [46272/23]

*274. To ask the Minister for Education the status of a school build (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [46277/23]

*275. To ask the Minister for Education when a school (details supplied) can expect progress on a permanent extension to the school. — Robert Troy. [46279/23]

*276. To ask the Minister for Education when a grant schedule will be issued to school principals; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46290/23]

*277. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the progress being made on a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [46294/23]

*278. To ask the Minister for Education if she will sanction the retention of a third teacher in a school (details supplied), given the unprecedented increase in enrolment numbers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46295/23]

*279. To ask the Minister for Education how a person (details supplied) can take a matter further as advised by the Board of Education when their daughter who is legally blind was refused a place on the basis that she could not complete the visual part of the entry assessment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [46324/23]

*280. To ask the Minister for Education when a school (details supplied) in County Laois will receive promised ASD units; when the temporary buildings will be put in place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [46329/23]

*281. To ask the Minister for Education if internet speeds will be increased for a school (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [46330/23]

*282. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46345/23]

*283. To ask the Minister for Education the status of an appeal under the Primary Staffing Appeals Board for the 2023-2024 school year; if she will consider this appeal given the exceptional accommodation difficulties being faced by the school and the disruption that will be caused if the school loses a teacher (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [46346/23]

*284. To ask the Minister for Education to review the case of a school (details supplied) and to put in place the required resources for an ASD class to proceed, in order that parents can avoid having to move their children to other schools. — Pa Daly. [46401/23]

*285. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the progress of the planned additional classrooms for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46431/23]

*286. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 226 of 17 October 2023, if she can make enquiries with Bus Éireann and ask them to confirm whether their online system ever experienced any issues related to the capturing of eircodes during the 2023-2024 ticket application process; if such an issue with eircodes was indeed present; if Bus Éireann will provide the Minister with the date(s) when this issue was identified and when it was subsequently resolved; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46442/23]

*287. To ask the Minister for Education if consideration is being given to an Irish-medium secondary school to serve the Swords area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [46458/23]

*288. To ask the Minister for Education the reason her Department's technical design guidelines for SEN design do not provide for covering for outdoor play areas given the nature of Irish weather; if the Department will consider including covering of outdoor play areas in the guidelines so as to ensure children can use facilities at all times and in all weather; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46531/23]

*289. To ask the Minister for Education to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of her Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if she will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46540/23]

*290. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider the case of a child with special needs (details supplied) who is collected from Swords at 7 am before their bus makes a two-hour trip to Donabate, Portrane, Kinsealy, Ballymun, Baldoyle and, finally, to Blackrock, and then spends another 1.5 hours on the return journey home; if she will consider splitting the route and providing a second route as the length of the trip is impacting on the child's ability to participate in school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [46557/23]

*291. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); the solutions being considered by her Department and Bus Éireann to resolve the case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [46560/23]

*292. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); the solutions being considered by her Department and Bus Éireann to resolve the case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [46561/23]

*293. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); the solutions being considered by her Department and Bus Éireann to resolve the case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [46562/23]

*294. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); the solutions being considered by her Department and Bus Éireann to resolve the case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [46563/23]

*295. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the application by a person (details supplied) for school transport to a special school; if the family can apply for the special transport grant while the issue with the bus is being resolved; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [46568/23]

*296. To ask the Minister for Education if school transport or school transport support grants can be extended to a student (details supplied) with special education needs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46571/23]

*297. To ask the Minister for Education in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if she will provide a schedule of functions of her Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if she will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [46578/23]

*298. To ask the Minister for Education if a school bus, which drives through Clane daily, in order to get to Caragh can stop in Clane to pick up two children (details supplied) who have been allocated school transport tickets on the bus; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46616/23]

*299. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the fact that experienced second level teachers such as a teacher (details supplied) who qualified in the UK are being lost to Irish teaching by what are perceived as onerous requirements to duplicate existing qualifications; and her views on whether there is scope for adjusting requirements to make it easier for schools to hire UK-qualified teachers to help meet the shortage that is needed. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [46617/23]

*300. To ask the Minister for Education the reason for the delay in processing the application for the home schooling of a person (details supplied) given that all requested documentation has been submitted over four weeks ago. — Sorca Clarke. [46625/23]

*301. To ask the Minister for Education the reason candidates who sat the L2LP Junior Cert Programme will receive their certificates later than those who sat the Junior Certificate; when candidates and/or parents and guardians were informed that this would be the case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46640/23]

*302. To ask the Minister for Education if she will approve building works for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46651/23]

*303. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an ndéanfaidh sí cur síos ar an dul chun cinn atá déanta maidir le bunú Gaelcholáiste neamhspleách in Inis, Co. an Chláir ón 23 Márta 2023 i leith, tráth a rinne sí cur síos ar an dul chun cinn go dtí an dáta sin; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Michael McNamara. [46690/23]

*304. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 245 of 26 September 2023, if she will expedite an additional school accommodation application for a school in County Clare (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [46694/23]

*305. To ask the Minister for Education if she will clarify the reason that the Teaching Council of Ireland will no longer recognise BA Honours graduates from St. Nicholas Montessori, prohibiting them from registering under route 4 of the Teaching Council from December 2023 (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brid Smith. [46696/23]

*306. To ask the Minister for Education the reason for her Department's decision not to approve accessibility modifications, including a ramp for wheelchair access to the PE hall and a wet room/shower facility, in the recent SEN room reconfiguration project at a school (details supplied), given the importance of promoting equality of access as stated in section 6 of the Education Act 1998 (c); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [46703/23]

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

*307. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will provide a breakdown of the funding provided to the organisations (details supplied) from 2013 to 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46130/23]

*308. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the number of current Fáilte Ireland board members who are directors or shareholders in companies that have received finance, grants and other supports from the State agency. — Catherine Murphy. [46478/23]

*309. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of her Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if she will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46553/23]

*310. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if she will provide a schedule of functions of her Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if she will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46589/23]

*311. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the amount of funding allocated per year through the Sport Capital Fund, over the past ten years; the amount allocated this year; the value and number of applications, per county this year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [46622/23]

*312. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if an increase in payment to RTÉ pensioners is under consideration; if she will indicate how long has elapsed since the last increase; and whether the process for assessing this issue can be accelerated. — Richard Bruton. [46641/23]

*313. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will provide a list of all sporting groups and clubs the Junior Minister for Sport (details supplied) met during their tenure in her Department, including the date of meetings, sporting organisation met, location of meetings and Government/public representatives present, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [46689/23]

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

*314. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated cost for 2023 and 2024 of delivering pay parity between section 10 staff. — Ivana Bacik. [46720/23]

*315. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason those on a widow's pension, rather than a State pension, remain ineligible for the tenant purchase scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [46058/23]

*316. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of tenant-in-situ scheme purchases in progress, completed and refused by local authority to date in 2023. — Thomas Gould. [46145/23]

*317. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to respond to data in respect of housing adaptation grant waiting lists compiled by an organisation (details supplied); if, in his view, the €75 million allocated to housing adaption in Budget 2024 will be sufficient to clear existing waiting lists and meet projected demand for next year; the steps he is taking to reduce the waiting list of over 3,500 older people and people with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46160/23]

*318. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the overdue review of the housing adaptation grants; the date on which this review will be published; the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46161/23]

*319. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans, if any, to direct all local authorities to accept childcare expenses as a budget line when engaging third-

party contractors for works; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [46168/23]

*320. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total amount of general Government capital expenditure on social and affordable housing, by local authorities, approved housing bodies and the Land Development Agency to date in 2023, by funding via voted-Government capital expenditure, approved housing body-borrowing for capital developments and LDA capital expenditure in each of those years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46169/23]

*321. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when funding will be available for interim and emergency fire safety works for homeowners with Celtic Tiger era building defects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46197/23]

*322. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the draft legislation for the Celtic Tiger era building defects redress scheme be published. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46198/23]

*323. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total number of social housing leases currently being funded by his Department with a breakdown of the number of units in each leasing category that is, long-term leasing, enhanced leasing, mortgage to rent, lease to own, and so on; and the total cost per year of each of these categories, in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46199/23]

*324. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the legislation underpinning the first right of refusal for private renters to purchase their rental homes when the landlord is selling will be published. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46200/23]

*325. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount of the €65 million allocated for defects in Budget 2023 that has been spent to date with a breakdown on how much was spent on pyrite remediation, defective block and any other category, in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46201/23]

*326. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total number of applications for the croí cónaithe towns refurbishment grant; the total number of approvals; the total number of drawdowns; and a further breakdown by local authority area with average grant levels per local authority area, in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46204/23]

*327. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what percentage of social and affordable homes delivered in 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023 were by way of offsite construction methods; and the target for delivery in 2024 of social affordable homes by offsite construction methods. — Robert Troy. [46259/23]

*328. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a couple can be considered for the fresh start principle if they have sold properties a number of years prior to a meeting and they are now married and have a family unit with three children and they are residing with parents as they cannot afford to purchase on the open market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [46266/23]

*329. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 388 of 27 June 2023, his views on the decision by some mortgage

lenders (details supplied) to still not to grant mortgages on properties that would qualify for the vacant homes grant; the action that he is taking to rectify this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [46271/23]

*330. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the results of the focused review of the 2006 Wind Energy Development Guidelines relating to minimum setback distance for wind turbines from homes and residential areas will be released; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46395/23]

*331. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide a scenario analysis post-Budget 2024 for a person who is a first-time buyer, single and earning €35,000 per year and how Budget 2024 affects them in housing terms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [46400/23]

*332. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 477 of 17 October 2023, from the Department of Children, if his Department has enough sites to help complete the Government’s modular homes programme; which sites were offered by each local authority and public body; the local authority and public body that did not engage; if he will identify sites; the local authority and public body that offered sites that were already designated under the Housing For All Programme; if so, which sites; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46460/23]

*333. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what rationale was used to exclude ‘housing for all’ lands when the 700 rapid build homes for Ukrainian refugees project was first decided by the Government; if the Department of Housing recognise these homes as houses by definition, and if so, the reason why lands designated for ‘housing for all’ were excluded from the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46486/23]

*334. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of sites advanced by them and/or the local authorities for the 700 rapid build homes project that were deemed unsuitable for the purposes of accommodating these homes; if he will identify the sites deemed unsuitable; if any local authority offered no site; if so, which local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46488/23]

*335. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to clarify if, on the basis that the Valuation Act 2015 sets out two conditions for the exemption to apply to charities, namely that the organisation must be a charitable organisation and the property on which exemption is being claimed must be occupied for charitable purposes and not for private profit; and if an organisation (details supplied) is exempt from commercial rates, if it is affiliated with an association that is a registered charity. — Ciarán Cannon. [46490/23]

*336. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46547/23]

*337. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the income thresholds for those applying for the Rebuild Ireland Local Authority Home Loan under the fresh start principle; if there was a change in this rate in Budget 2024; if he will consider an increase in the threshold; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [46555/23]

*338. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46585/23]

*339. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 312 and 332 of 17 October 2023, how the figures contained in the response regarding LDA capitalisation relate to the figures of €663,850 million for 2023 and €990,137 million for 2024 as set out in the votes and non-voted capital expenditure table in page 224 of the Budget 2024 expenditure report; and if these figures relate to ISIF capitalisation or LDA borrowing. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46609/23]

*340. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the up-to-date position on the review of the housing adaption, housing aid and mobility grants as administered by each local authority; when the review will be announced; if additional funding will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [46623/23]

*341. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether sufficient funding has been provided in Budget 2024 for the redress schemes for apartment and duplex defects and for Mica and Pyrite. — Paul Murphy. [46629/23]

*342. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether in situations where apartment or duplex complexes affected by defects receive offers from developers to address redress, he will outline how they will be affected in terms of eligibility for the future redress scheme, in circumstances where the developers' payments do not cover all of the necessary work and other work needs to be paid for by the OMC; and if this extra money will be recoverable under the coming redress scheme. — Paul Murphy. [46630/23]

*343. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the marine protected areas Bill will be published; how the legislation will apply to projects that applied for planning permission prior to the Bill's publication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46633/23]

*344. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when Mayo County Council will receive the Framework Document to enable it to submit the bids request for the rural water programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46637/23]

*345. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 283 and 286 of 10 October 2023, when it is anticipated that engagement with the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform in respect of recommendations on the Housing Adaptation Grants Review report will be completed. — Ivana Bacik. [46658/23]

*346. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider a policy change to Government's various assistance schemes for first-time buyers based on a policy matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [46681/23]

*347. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the subvention to local authorities for void housing units will be reduced from 25% to 20%; if so, the rationale for

reducing the subvention; his views on the overall reduction from 65% subvention in 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [46693/23]

*348. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he will publish the review of the housing adaptation grants scheme administered by the local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [46702/23]

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

*349. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated annual, total first and full-year cost to increase equally the guardian payment by 100% over three years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [46063/23]

*350. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to examine the current difficulties being experienced by a person (details supplied) trying to renew their public services card; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [46079/23]

*351. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the decision on a treatment benefit medical appliances application will be reviewed in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46083/23]

*352. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in determination of an appeal for carers allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46086/23]

*353. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an application for widow's pension will be reviewed (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [46170/23]

*354. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the fuel allowance payment is available to those on long-term illness benefit; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46234/23]

*355. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are plans to increase the income limits for people on disability allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [46235/23]

*356. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person who was forced to stop working 20 years ago, now aged 61 years and in receipt of a local authority pension of €294 per week is eligible for the household benefits package. — Joe Flaherty. [46240/23]

*357. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the position regarding the expansion of the hot school meals programme to non-DEIS primary schools; how schools can register their interest for this programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [46247/23]

*358. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if only DEIS schools are included in the 600 new meals programme outlined in Budget 2024. — Paul Murphy. [46254/23]

*359. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to the publication of the litigation management report on 7 February 2023, what further actions are required; if these actions have

been approved by the Cabinet; and is there a timeframe for implementation. — Robert Troy. [46256/23]

*360. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the school meals expansion programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [46270/23]

*361. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will bring forward changes to the means test for carer’s allowance to January 2024 rather than June 2024, given the hardship family carers are facing; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46304/23]

*362. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person (details supplied) in County Kildare is having a weekly deduction from their social welfare payment; the amount that may still be owed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [46328/23]

*363. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are supports available for businesses who employ people with a disability as part of their staff; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46354/23]

*364. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a matter in relation to illness benefit will be examined (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46409/23]

*365. To ask the Minister for Social Protection will the extension of the child benefit to children aged 18 but in full time education include the children in that age bracket currently attending school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46432/23]

*366. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person’s disability allowance was cut off (details supplied); the reason there is no record of their subsequent appeal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [46443/23]

*367. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision can be made on the contributory pension for a person (details supplied) based on the information already provided, as no further information is available; if a statement of contributions can be provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [46461/23]

*368. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of tribunals, public investigations and commissions of investigations in process; the length of time each has been underway; when each will conclude; the cost to date of each; and the estimated cost of each at completion. — Peadar Tóibín. [44814/23]

*369. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person aged over 66 years can continue to work and pay PRSI contributions and have them counted for the purposes of contributory pension entitlement; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [44467/23]

*370. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of people in receipt of fuel allowance for 2023; and if she intends to expand the qualifying criteria. — Sean Sherlock. [32064/23]

*371. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when an appeal for carer's allowance will be processed and a decision made (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46532/23]

*372. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider providing additional funding next year to the treatment benefit scheme, to increase optical benefit payments claims by dispensing opticians and optometrists under the scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46536/23]

*373. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of her Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if she will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46551/23]

*374. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on a domiciliary care allowance appeal (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [46558/23]

*375. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a query in relation to entitlement to the State pension will be expedited (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [46574/23]

*376. To ask the Minister for Social Protection in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if she will provide a schedule of functions of her Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if she will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46588/23]

*377. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will take steps to ensure that the household package, including the free fuel scheme, is paid to a person (details supplied) who now lives alone due to the death of their spouse. — Duncan Smith. [46632/23]

*378. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will give a commitment to processing humanitarian assistance scheme applications as expeditiously as possible following the recent and devastating floods in Cork city and county; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46679/23]

*379. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will give a commitment to enhancing the scope of the humanitarian assistance scheme following the recent and devastating floods in Cork city and county; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46699/23]

*380. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason the local employability service in south Dublin which has been supporting community since 2004 has been advised that services are to go to public tendering (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [46707/23]

*381. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which means and other tests for carer's allowance continue to be cognisant of the person's physical/mental needs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46736/23]

*382. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of recipients of carer's allowance whose payment has been reviewed in recent times; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46737/23]

*383. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of persons in receipt of means-tested, non-contributory State pension in each of the past five years to date, the number, if any, reviewed or disallowed in the same period; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46738/23]

*384. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which a longer-term payment might be made available to applicants who ordinarily would qualify for benefit payments, but due to inadequate contributions can only qualify for a basic social welfare payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46739/23]

*385. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the full extent of payments, entitlements and benefits available on a means-tested basis; the extent to which these have been enhanced in Budget 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46740/23]

*386. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the benefits accruing to families as a result of Budget 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46741/23]

*387. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which it is possible to seamlessly transfer suitable applicants from domiciliary care allowance to disability allowance payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46742/23]

*388. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to indicate the degree to which dental benefit is available through the GMS system; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46743/23]

*389. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which applicants for working family payment have received an increase in Budget 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46744/23]

*390. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which social welfare payment of an urgent nature can be made available to a wider variety of people now living in this country on a permanent basis but who are disallowed from such payments due to an inadequacy of contributions; whether the habitual residency clause/requirement can be waived in cases where the applicant is dependent on a family member who has been permanently living here; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46745/23]

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

*391. To ask the Minister for Justice if an individual availing of criminal legal aid must make a contribution or any repayment of the costs of the provision of same; if so, the total amount that has been repaid to the criminal legal aid service over the past five years, broken down by year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [46227/23]

*392. To ask the Minister for Justice the number and location of Garda stations closed over the period 2013 to 2023 to date, annually, in tabular form. — Johnny Guirke. [46337/23]

*393. To ask the Minister for Justice the number and location of new Garda stations opened over the period 2013 to 2023 to date, annually, in tabular form. — Johnny Guirke. [46338/23]

*394. To ask the Minister for Justice the estimated cost of providing seven new crime prevention officers per annum, including all associated costs such as administrative and technological support. — Catherine Murphy. [46467/23]

*395. To ask the Minister for Justice the number and percentage of Garda members that currently have the APNR app activated on their mobility devices. — Catherine Murphy. [46468/23]

*396. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of unmarked Garda vans attached to each division within DMR as of 17 October 2023, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [46469/23]

*397. To ask the Minister for Justice the date on which the next recruitment campaign will commence. — Catherine Murphy. [46484/23]

*398. To ask the Minister for Justice if she plans to make provision for those serving as PSNI officers, constables and those at detective level to transfer directly into the Garda trainee programme in view of the fact they have completed a recruitment competition and basic police training in Northern Ireland. — Catherine Murphy. [46485/23]

*399. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of her Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if she will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46548/23]

*400. To ask the Minister for Justice the procedure for a Ukrainian person who has been in Ireland for a year and would like to apply for Irish citizenship; whether the usual procedure and charges apply, or if there a different system for Ukrainians; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [46559/23]

*401. To ask the Minister for Justice in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if she will provide a schedule of functions of her Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if she will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46580/23]

*402. To ask the Minister for Justice how will the McPherson perception test will be used, specifically with regard to the crime of incitement to hatred; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46603/23]

*403. To ask the Minister for Justice to indicate the progress to date in determination of application for citizenship in the case of a person (details supplied) who has now completed an e-vetting link; when decision is likely to issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46607/23]

*404. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in determination of application for family reunification in the case of a person (details supplied); if every effort can be made to process this application as quick as possible; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46610/23]

*405. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to establish a penal policy consultative council to advise on penal policy. — Patrick Costello. [46621/23]

*406. To ask the Minister for Justice the options available to a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46628/23]

*407. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will give consideration to the establishment of the position of a Victims Commissioner to represent victims of crime; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46643/23]

*408. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will support the funding of a public information campaign to promote knowledge of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46644/23]

*409. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will give consideration to increasing the number of refuge places to 470 from the current target of 280, to ensure that Ireland meets its obligations under the Istanbul Convention; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46645/23]

*410. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will ringfence dedicated funding to fully implement her Department's Zero Tolerance Action Plan; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46646/23]

*411. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will give consideration to the expansion of her Department's Community-based CCTV grant aid scheme in order that small- and medium-sized businesses can avail of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46647/23]

*412. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will ringfence dedicated funding to support an alarm grant scheme to be made available for small- and medium-sized businesses; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46648/23]

*413. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will set aside dedicated funding for the purposes of community rejuvenation and diversion programmes to support young people who are at risk of going into crime; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46649/23]

*414. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will support mandatory trauma-informed training for all of those who engage with victims/survivors of crime; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46650/23]

*415. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of people who have had charges entered against them for simple possession of a controlled drug for their own personal use in each of the years 2017 to 2022 and to date in 2023. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [46656/23]

*416. To ask the Minister for Justice the overall allocation to drugs units in each county in each of the years 2019 to 2022 and to date in 2023. — Ivana Bacik. [46663/23]

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

*417. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if donkeys are worth anything when it comes to stocking densities and fulfilling requirements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46053/23]

*418. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when funding will be made available to assist landowners in dealing with ash dieback disease; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [46057/23]

*419. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department provides annual funding to Irish farming organisations; the breakdown of funding allocations for 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46132/23]

*420. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the measures that have been considered by his Department with regard to supporting access to land for young farmers and new entrants to agriculture; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46134/23]

*421. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how many PhD researchers are funded by his Department, including those funded by agencies and bodies under the auspices of his Department, and who will not be receiving the increase in stipend to €22,000. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [46158/23]

*422. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he proposes to make up the shortfall in the PhD stipend, to ensure that PhD researchers such as a researcher (details supplied) who have been excluded from the planned increase in stipends for PhD students, are treated in an equitable manner with other Government-funded PhD students by being given an increase in the stipend to €22,000; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [46159/23]

*423. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the findings of a ground inspection will issue to a farmer (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46167/23]

*424. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a product (details supplied) will be released to the business that bought the product. — Joe Flaherty. [46177/23]

*425. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the financial amount spent on climate, environment and associated programmes from the EU Just Transition Fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [46209/23]

*426. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he plans to increase the stipends to PhDs working on research for agricultural agencies, in line with the recent increases made within the higher education system. — Richard Bruton. [46224/23]

*427. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide flexibility for buying and submitting receipts for the national liming programme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46236/23]

*428. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the cost to Greyhound Racing Ireland to sponsor the Greyhound Derby quarter-finals, semi-finals and final on a television channel (details supplied) on 19 and 26 August and 2 September 2023, respectively; the viewership figures for each respective broadcast; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [46325/23]

*429. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine whether his Department intends to introduce a ban on a substance (details supplied) being used due to concerns that it may be carcinogenic and do other environmental damage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [46357/23]

*430. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of a TAMS 3 application (details supplied); when is it likely a decision will be made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick O'Donovan. [46402/23]

*431. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of WTE accountants directly employed by Rasaíocht Con Éireann in 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [46476/23]

*432. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide an update on the Highlighting pathways to Empower Rural women to have Sustainable & Equitable Livelihoods in Farming (HER-SELF) research project; when it is envisaged that same will be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46501/23]

*433. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 475 of 20 June 2023, and in view of the criteria stated in the native woodland conservation scheme (details supplied), if it is fair that this envisages the preparation and submission of the site specific native woodland plan by a NPWS ecologist and NPWS forester to his Department prior to the clear felling of the conifer forest taking place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46534/23]

*434. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46537/23]

*435. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 475 of 20 June 2023, if the Forestry Service has granted an approval for native woodland conservation under the private high forest category to anyone where the criteria under NPWS private high forest category listed on page 3 and 4 of the scheme documents have not been met; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46566/23]

*436. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the average waiting times for receipt of bovine TB compensation in 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46569/23]

*437. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if it is possible for compensation for bovine TB to be expedited in some cases; what technology or mechanisms are used in the calculation of compensation for bovine TB; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46570/23]

*438. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46576/23]

*439. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason the white mushroom production sector and the vast majority of Irish strawberry growers are excluded from the new horticulture support scheme. — Joe Flaherty. [46674/23]

*440. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will examine a bespoke scheme for the challenged horticulture sector as we move to the increased €12.70 minimum wage (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [46675/23]

*441. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine whether an external review into the discrepancies identified in accounts of the IHRB (details supplied) will be commenced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46677/23]

*442. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on the forestry licensing plan for the remainder of 2023 and 2024, given the new forestry programme received approval several weeks ago and his Department has had more than nine months to have a plan ready; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46705/23]

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

*443. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is satisfied with services being provided in St. Michael's House across its various locations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [46456/23]

*444. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will review the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46529/23]

*445. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated cost for 2023 and 2024 of delivering pay parity between section 56, section 38 and section 39 staff. — Ivana Bacik. [46720/23]

*446. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to outline the criteria involved for the allocation of therapist allocation for special schools; the reason a school (details supplied) has not received any allocation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [46733/23]

*447. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to confirm that due to staffing issues within the children's disability network team in the CHO7 area, that no Hanen Programme courses will run for families in the area until January 2024 at the earliest; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46060/23]

*448. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated annual, total first and full-year cost to increase the number of State residential care

units for children in care by 10%, 25% and 50%, in tabular form; what this equates to in bed numbers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [46061/23]

*449. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated annual, total first and full-year funding allocated to private, for-profit foster care organisations for 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023. — Kathleen Funchion. [46062/23]

*450. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated first year, full-year and annual cost to reduce childcare fees by 50% from September 2024. — Kathleen Funchion. [46064/23]

*451. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of an application for a child (details supplied) who is currently attending Crumlin Children's Hospital's, for a communication device to the children's disability network team assist with their communication, given their previous device broke; when a decision is likely to be reached in this case as it is urgently required by them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46065/23]

*452. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a child (details supplied) who is currently attending Crumlin Children's Hospital will be seen by a speech and language therapist in Cork from the children's disability network team to assist with their communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46066/23]

*453. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a child (details supplied) who is currently attending Crumlin Children's Hospital will be provided with a wheelchair, as it is urgently required by them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46067/23]

*454. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a child (details supplied) who is currently attending Crumlin Children's Hospital will receive respite care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46068/23]

*455. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many children are on the waiting list for the CDNT in CHO9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46102/23]

*456. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many children are waiting for primary care speech and language therapy in CHO9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46104/23]

*457. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many children are waiting on primary care occupational therapy in CHO9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46105/23]

*458. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many children are waiting for their assessment of need in CHO9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46106/23]

*459. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many childcare providers in the Fingal constituency have signed up for the CORE funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46107/23]

*460. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the percentage of providers in the Fingal constituency that have signed up for the CORE funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46108/23]

*461. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many children in CHO9 are currently enrolled in the AIMS programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46109/23]

*462. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many therapist vacancies in the assessment of need teams in CHO9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46111/23]

*463. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many therapist vacancies the CDNT teams in CHO9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46112/23]

*464. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how the smaller early education providers will benefit from the CORE funding announced in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46113/23]

*465. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when he envisions the Work Life Balance and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 will be enacted, given it was signed into law on 4 April 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46114/23]

*466. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children awaiting initial appointment with a CDNT in Cork by waiting time, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [46140/23]

*467. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children given an assessment of needs in 2023 in Cork to date and the number currently awaiting same. — Thomas Gould. [46142/23]

*468. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of an appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46164/23]

*469. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for an update on the resumption of the motorised transport grant and mobility allowance schemes, which were suspended in 2013. — Cathal Crowe. [46175/23]

*470. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his plans to professionalise the early childhood home visiting sector; his plans to ensure ringfenced budgetary supports for the same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [46176/23]

*471. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware of a person (details supplied) with a disability who had been placed in a nursing home for a convalescent short-term stay, but who remains there 14-weeks later due to the lack of funding at their original residence to provide for a necessary member of night staff; if he will acknowledge that placing people in inappropriate settings at which their needs are not and cannot be met is

in contravention of Article 19 of the UNCRPD; if he will commit to authorising the necessary funding in order that the person can return to their original community setting appropriate to their needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [46202/23]

*472. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a bus service for a facility (details supplied) will be reinstated; and the number of persons who used this service, per week when it was available. — Peadar Tóibín. [46226/23]

*473. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if Pillar 1 of the building blocks grant scheme, namely improvement grants, will open for submissions in 2024; and if so, when it is expected that the acceptance of applications in this regard will commence. — Denise Mitchell. [46249/23]

*474. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if children who require speech and language therapy in County Mayo are being referred to private practices; if not, the reason; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46305/23]

*475. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the wait time for speech and language therapy in County Mayo, for those waiting longer than, 3-6-9-12-24 and 36 months, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46306/23]

*476. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware of the current waiting time for a facility (details supplied) for basic support services is in excess of 18 months; his plans to cut these waiting times; if his Department is providing additional resources from Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [46307/23]

*477. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on removing the State's reservations to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [46310/23]

*478. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide an update on the ratification of the UN Optional Protocol of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [46311/23]

*479. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children and young persons on waiting lists for an assessment of need in each LHO, in tabular form, with a monthly breakdown of waiting times. — Holly Cairns. [46314/23]

*480. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the case of a child (details supplied) will be investigated; if respite care will be provided for them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46332/23]

*481. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth is there is an obligation on local authorities to ensure that they meet a minimum statutory obligation for the number of people with disabilities employed within a local authority as public sector staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46352/23]

*482. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if there is an obligation on public bodies to ensure they meet a minimum statutory requirement for the number of employees in a particular public body that have a disability; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46353/23]

*483. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the test that must be satisfied in order for a person to avail of a fund (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [46420/23]

*484. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46538/23]

*485. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will ask his Department to contact the parents of a child (details supplied) who has been on a list for early intervention attention for over six years, has had an assessment of needs completed but has received no indication of when they will receive support; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [46556/23]

*486. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 586 of 27 June 2023, if the scoping exercise is complete; when proposals will be brought forward; the timeline for when he aims to have a policy commenced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [46567/23]

*487. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46577/23]

*488. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what measure he will take to close the gender pay gap, reported recently by the Central Statistics Office (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [46627/23]

*489. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children on day service waiting lists, that is, waitlists for children with disabilities who are waiting on speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and psychology services, by CHO and by wait length, in tabular form. — Louise O'Reilly. [46634/23]

*490. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide clarity with regard to the Government commitment in Budget 2024 to deliver 22 million hours of home support; to confirm the exact funding being provided for the sector in 2024 and the total increase from the 2023 allocation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [46652/23]

*491. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of applicants for home care support who are awaiting the allocation of home care; his views on the recruitment of home care support workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [46664/23]

*492. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of properties in Donegal that are currently being used to accommodate refugees and those availing of international protection, broken down by area, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [46700/23]

*493. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated cost for 2023 and 2024 of delivering pay parity between section 56 and section 38 staff, contracted by his Department through section 56 organisations. — Ivana Bacik. [46719/23]

*494. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a child (details supplied) with developmental delays and speech and language difficulties will be seen at a particular clinic, given the urgency of their needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [46722/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*495. To ask the Minister for Health to consider increasing the funding allocation to an important service (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46665/23]

*496. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 621 of 28 February 2023, whether there are plans for compensation to be offered to those who had no other option but to avail of private nursing home care with no assistance from the State; whether any further information is available for medical card holders or their next of kin who are paying fully for nursing home care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [46056/23]

*497. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide clarity on the decision in Budget 2024 regarding funding for new treatments; how this aligns with Governments commitment to healthcare advancements and the wellbeing of its citizens; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46071/23]

*498. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide clarification in relation to the ground-breaking treatments, such as sottercept, which show potential in revolutionising the care for conditions like pulmonary hypertension; if this drug will be funded through Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46072/23]

*499. To ask the Minister for Health the reason times are constantly changing for home help (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46076/23]

*500. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that a home care company (details supplied) is changing its cancellations policy whereby if a client cancels care at short notice then home care assistants will only be remunerated at 50% of their hourly rate instead of the full rate; if this is HSE policy or a private service provider policy; if it is the decision of the private provider operating on behalf of the State, how is this allowed; if he will object to this change; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O’Reilly. [46080/23]

*501. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the regulation of the athletics therapeutical profession; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [46082/23]

*502. To ask the Minister for Health if he will reverse the decision to remove funding for new treatments and medicines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [46087/23]

*503. To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date in determination of application for additional home help support in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46088/23]

*504. To ask the Minister for Health how many children are on the waiting list for the CAMHS team in CHO9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46103/23]

*505. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the planned hospital for north County Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46115/23]

*506. To ask the Minister for Health how many nurses were recruited in 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46116/23]

*507. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nursing vacancies in Beaumont Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46117/23]

*508. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nursing vacancies in Blanchardstown Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46118/23]

*509. To ask the Minister for Health the number of consultant vacancies in Beaumont Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46119/23]

*510. To ask the Minister for Health the number of consultant vacancies in Blanchardstown Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46120/23]

*511. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the chicken pox vaccine being included in the HSE child vaccine programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [46121/23]

*512. To ask the Minister for Health the current number of patients awaiting cataract surgery in UHL that are currently listed as urgent; how long these urgent patients have been awaiting surgery that is, less than 3, 0-6, 6-12, 12-18, 18-24 and 24+ months in UHL by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46125/23]

*513. To ask the Minister for Health the current number of patients awaiting cataract surgery in UHL that are currently listed as semi-urgent; how long these semi-urgent patients have been awaiting surgery that is, less than 3, 0-6, 6-12, 12-18, 18-24 and 24+ months in UHL by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46126/23]

*514. To ask the Minister for Health the current number of patients awaiting cataract surgery in UHL that are currently listed as routine; how long these routine patients have been awaiting surgery that is, less than 3, 0-6, 6-12, 12-18, 18-24 and 24+ months in UHL by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46127/23]

*515. To ask the Minister for Health the current average waiting times, from referral to procedure, for patients awaiting cataract surgery in UHL; if there is a delivery timeline guideline

in place by which the service aims to treat these patients; if so, the timeline; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46128/23]

*516. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients awaiting cataract surgery in UHL that have had their urgency category upgraded within the past 12 months due to prolonged waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46129/23]

*517. To ask the Minister for Health whether the spring being removed from the patients at Temple Street (details supplied) will be retained, in order that it can be analysed as part of the external review. — Paul Murphy. [46135/23]

*518. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children awaiting an initial appointment with CAMHS in Cork, by waiting time, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [46141/23]

*519. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the elective hospital in Cork. — Thomas Gould. [46143/23]

*520. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the reopening of Keltoi. — Thomas Gould. [46144/23]

*521. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the review into the Drug and Alcohol Taskforce Handbook. — Thomas Gould. [46150/23]

*522. To ask the Minister for Health whether correct procedure has been followed in standing down the existing board of the North-Inner City Taskforce, the timeline for this procedure; the reason this decision was taken; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [46151/23]

*523. To ask the Minister for Health the funding allocated to Drug and Alcohol Taskforces in 2024 by Taskforce, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [46152/23]

*524. To ask the Minister for Health to provide further details in relation to the HSE recruitment freeze, announced following the Budget 2024 allocation for his Department; the expected end date of the recruitment freeze; the roles and disciplines impacted; if the recruitment freeze applies to all services funded under Section 38 and Section 39, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46162/23]

*525. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46165/23]

*526. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 569 of 3 October 2023, if he will advise on communications from the national medical card unit that State under the revised GP Contracts 2023, the HSE is no longer in a position to assign GPs to clients and that the onus will now be on individuals to find their own GP, ending the practice of three refusals and then a GP being assigned (details supplied); the provisions his Department has in place for medical card applicants in County Wexford who cannot provide a GP acceptance form due to the chronic shortage of GPs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [46191/23]

*527. To ask the Minister for Health if a service (details supplied) will be streamlined and made more efficient; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46203/23]

*528. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to recognise underactive hyperthyroidism as a long-term illness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [46206/23]

*529. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to recognise foetal alcohol spectrum disorder as a long-term illness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [46207/23]

*530. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46212/23]

*531. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) in County Kerry will receive an appointment with an ophthalmologist; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46217/23]

*532. To ask the Minister for Health what efforts are being made to ensure that people working as healthcare assistants who have overseas nursing qualifications can register as nurses in Ireland in a streamlined process to address the current shortage of nurses in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [46221/23]

*533. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to ensure an appropriate inspection regime commences from the start of 2024, with regard to the contracts between the Food Safety Authority of Ireland and local authority veterinary inspectors, which are to terminate on 31 December 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46225/23]

*534. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an appointment under the NTPF; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46232/23]

*535. To ask the Minister for Health what measures his Department and the HSE are putting in place due to the increase in outbreaks of head lice, scabies and bed bugs in people across the country; if he has investigated the reason for the increase in outbreaks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46238/23]

*536. To ask the Minister for Health what measures and guidance his Department and the HSE will put in place for people returning home from Paris and France to ensure Ireland does not face an outbreak or pandemic of bed bugs due to the outbreak seen in France in the past few months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46239/23]

*537. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an appointment with St. Vincent's Hospital Dublin, hepatology department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [46244/23]

*538. To ask the Minister for Health what benefit accrued to a person (details supplied) having paid into two pensions since 2017, as they retired on a full pension in 2017, and has since returned to work on a part-time basis; if no benefit is accruing to them or can accrue to them, if the pension contributions can be returned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [46246/23]

*539. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an appointment for a person (details supplied); the current waiting times to have cataracts removed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46253/23]

*540. To ask the Minister for Health further to the publication of the litigation management report on 7 February 2023, what further actions are required; if these actions have been approved by the Cabinet; and is there a timeframe for implementation. — Robert Troy. [46255/23]

*541. To ask the Minister for Health how many additional homes came into the system for rent, since the assessment of rent of private dwelling houses for the fair deal consideration, reduced from 80% to 40%; if the review of the scheme has concluded; and is there any further change planned. — Robert Troy. [46257/23]

*542. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive a referred appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [46288/23]

*543. To ask the Minister for Health in relation to dental treatment available for children in Tallaght, Dublin 24, if the HSE Old County Road clinic only deals with dental emergencies now; if so, where children living in Tallaght can get their dental check-ups (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46289/23]

*544. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that Crumlin Children's Hospital currently only has two modern ultrasound machines, when it needs four in the radiography, radiology and ultrasound department; if he is aware that there is a lack of trochan machines in the hospital; when the necessary funding will be provided for this equipment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [46293/23]

*545. To ask the Minister for Health the number of eating disorder teams currently in place in each CHO; the number of staff currently assigned to each team; the number of vacancies; the plans to recruit the required staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [46312/23]

*546. To ask the Minister for Health the average response time of ambulances in west County Cork; the number of ambulances ordinarily based at each location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [46313/23]

*547. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) cannot avail of light therapy treatment for a skin condition at Letterkenny University Hospital. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [46315/23]

*548. To ask the Minister for Health if the premises for the promised new CHO5 North Wexford CAMHS centre has been secured; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [46316/23]

*549. To ask the Minister for Health for a progress report regarding the recruitment of positions for consultant psychiatrist, clinical nurse specialists, senior psychologist and administration staff for the new CAMHS team promised for CHO5 in north Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [46317/23]

*550. To ask the Minister for Health when the new promised CAMHS team for CHO5 in north Wexford will be operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [46318/23]

*551. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of a call by an organisation (details supplied) for the development and implementation of a national strategy to reduce epilepsy-related deaths; if he will action this strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [46326/23]

*552. To ask the Minister for Health if he intends to make provision for a range of different models of general practice; if his attention has been drawn to the concerns of GPs in relation to the determination by the Tax Appeals Commission regarding GMS income (details supplied); if he intends to examine the GMS contract in view of this clarification of the legal and administrative position; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46327/23]

*553. To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a series of matters (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46351/23]

*554. To ask the Minister for Health to look into a matter on behalf of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46358/23]

*555. To ask the Minister for Health whether she will consider reconvening the HSE Working Group on Residential Treatment and Rehabilitation (Substance Users) to identify bed capacity issues currently; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [46379/23]

*556. To ask the Minister for Health if a service will be retained (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46405/23]

*557. To ask the Minister for Health if he will intervene in a case (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [46418/23]

*558. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the success or otherwise of an agreement (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [46419/23]

*559. To ask the Minister for Health if he will confirm whether or not hospital consultants or treating physicians received a payment in any of the past ten years for switching patients from brand name medicines to generic medicines; if he will list the amounts paid to individual consultants if any such payments were made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [46448/23]

*560. To ask the Minister for Health if the option is available for suitable patients in County Donegal in need of intravenous therapy to be facilitated in their own community setting (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [46450/23]

*561. To ask the Minister for Health if a medical card application by a person (details supplied) can be reopened to allow for up-to-date supporting documents to be submitted in support of this application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46454/23]

*562. To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether additional incentives or pay increases are necessary for staff nurses working in bodies, such as St. Michael's House, that receive direct funding from the Health Service Executive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [46455/23]

*563. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to introduce regional rehabilitation services for amputees. — Catherine Murphy. [46473/23]

*564. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE vacancies, by job title in the HSE National Antimicrobial Resistant Team; the estimated full-year cost of filling each of the vacancies; when will these vacancies be filled, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [46474/23]

*565. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE gastroenterologists registrars based in Naas General Hospital in 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [46475/23]

*566. To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown on waiting lists (details supplied) for County Mayo, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [46487/23]

*567. To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown of mental health spending by the HSE in tabular form, per capita, per CHO in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [46498/23]

*568. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of carers employed by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46502/23]

*569. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of carers employed by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 in Ashbourne, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46503/23]

*570. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of carers employed by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 broken down, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46504/23]

*571. To ask the Minister for Health the number of carers hired by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46505/23]

*572. To ask the Minister for Health the number of carers hired by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 broken down, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46506/23]

*573. To ask the Minister for Health the number of carers hired by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 broken down, by local authority, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46507/23]

*574. To ask the Minister for Health the number of carers hired by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 in Ashbourne, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46508/23]

*575. To ask the Minister for Health the number of carers outsourced by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46509/23]

*576. To ask the Minister for Health the number of carers outsourced by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 broken down, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46510/23]

*577. To ask the Minister for Health the number of carers outsourced by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 broken down by local authority, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46511/23]

*578. To ask the Minister for Health the number of carers outsourced by the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 in Ashbourne, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46512/23]

*579. To ask the Minister for Health the total cost of staffing for homecare services employed in the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46513/23]

*580. To ask the Minister for Health the total cost of staffing for homecare services employed in the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2023 broken down, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46514/23]

*581. To ask the Minister for Health the total cost of staffing for homecare services employed in the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2023 in Ashbourne in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46515/23]

*582. To ask the Minister for Health the total cost of staffing for homecare services employed in the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2023 broken down, by local authority, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46516/23]

*583. To ask the Minister for Health the total cost of outsourcing for homecare services in the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2023 broken down, by local authority, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46517/23]

*584. To ask the Minister for Health the total cost of outsourcing for homecare services in the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2023 broken down, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46518/23]

*585. To ask the Minister for Health the total cost of outsourcing for homecare services in the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2023 in Ashbourne, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46519/23]

*586. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who were on a waiting list for a carer from the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date in Ashbourne, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46520/23]

*587. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who were on a waiting list for a carer from the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46521/23]

*588. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who were on a waiting list for a carer from the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date broken down, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46522/23]

*589. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who were on a waiting list for a carer from the HSE in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date broken down, by local authority, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46523/23]

*590. To ask the Minister for Health in relation to homecare services from the HSE, how many home care service hours were outsourced in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date; how many home care service hours were provided by core providers in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46524/23]

*591. To ask the Minister for Health in relation to homecare services from the HSE, how many home care service hours were outsourced in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date; how many home care service hours were provided by core providers in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date, broken down, by local authority, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46525/23]

*592. To ask the Minister for Health in relation to homecare services from the HSE, how many home care service hours were outsourced in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date; how many home care service hours were provided by core providers in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date, broken down, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46526/23]

*593. To ask the Minister for Health in relation to homecare services from the HSE, how many home care service hours were outsourced in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date; how many home care service hours were provided by core providers in 2020, 2021, 2023 and in 2023 to date, in Ashbourne, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46527/23]

*594. To ask the Minister for Health when an increase to the fees payable to contractors for a standard eye examination under the community ophthalmic services scheme will be implemented, in view of the fact that he gave a commitment to implement this change in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [46535/23]

*595. To ask the Minister for Health to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46546/23]

*596. To ask the Minister for Health how many patients in receipt of high-tech medications are eligible for bio-similar medicines but have not opted to be switched to them; the estimated savings that could be achieved if all patients who were eligible were switched to bio-similar medicines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [46564/23]

*597. To ask the Minister for Health following a recommendation made by the WHO in 2021, to provide an update on his Department's progress in developing a National Hearing Care Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46565/23]

*598. To ask the Minister for Health how the recruitment embargo will be managed to protect front line delivery, while other cost control measures are evolved; whether measures such as exempting the appointment of dentists, while continuing the embargo on dental nurses are self-defeating as one requires the other to deliver service. — Richard Bruton. [46572/23]

*599. To ask the Minister for Health in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46584/23]

*600. To ask the Minister for Health if the fitting of a permanent AV fistula is covered under GMS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [46596/23]

*601. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients in each CHO area for the years 2019 to 2022 and to date in 2023 that are waiting to have a permanent AV fistula fitted; how long each patient has been waiting in each CHO area, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [46598/23]

*602. To ask the Minister for Health the measures that his Department and the HSE are taking due to the increase in the outbreaks in head lice, scabies and bed bugs across the country; if there is a reason for the increase in such outbreaks; if any specific measures will be put in place to avoid any further outbreaks due to people returning to this jurisdiction from abroad; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46620/23]

*603. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline, in view of testimony to the Oireachtas Health Committee on 18 October 2023 (details supplied) that according to research women were actively obstructed by GPs in accessing abortion health care, the measures he will take to ensure that this practice is stopped as a matter of urgency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [46626/23]

*604. To ask the Minister for Health when the announcement was originally made for a facility (details supplied); who made the announcement; what funding has been put in place; whether a contractor has been appointed; the up-to-date position of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [46631/23]

*605. To ask the Minister for Health how many staff are currently employed in a range of posts (details supplied); and how many vacancies currently exist for the same posts; in tabular form. — Louise O'Reilly. [46635/23]

*606. To ask the Minister for Health if a person who is registered as blind meets the qualifying criteria for a primary medical certificate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [46639/23]

*607. To ask the Minister for Health if he will expedite an appointment for a person (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [46653/23]

*608. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update regarding the establishment of the Counsellors and Psychotherapists Registration Board and progress in relation to opening the register; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [46655/23]

*609. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding persons who have paid for IVF in respect of the publicly funded scheme; his plans to ensure that such persons are compensated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [46659/23]

*610. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to commence a screening programme for SKID and SMA; his views on the recommendations of the National Screening Advisory Committee in respect of same; the proposed location for a screening laboratory; and his plans to achieve a standard of screening in excess of forty conditions. — Ivana Bacik. [46660/23]

*611. To ask the Minister for Health his views on maternal deaths during the period 2019-2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [46661/23]

*612. To ask the Minister for Health the number of drug overdoses in each county in the years 2019 to 2022 and to date in 2023, and the types of drug consumed, in tabular form; and the number of drug overdose deaths in each county in the corresponding timeframe, and the types of drug consumed, in tabular form. — Ivana Bacik. [46662/23]

*613. To ask the Minister for Health in relation to homecare services as provided by the HSE, his Department's policy with reference to outsourcing homecare services; if there are plans to reduce the outsourcing of homecare services; if there are plans to increase the staffing for homecare services in the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46367/23]

*614. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the establishment of the HSE's Implementation Group to deliver on the operational recommendations in the Independent Review of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 (details supplied); the members of this group; if terms of reference are in place; whether a copy can be made available to the public; the mechanism there will be for reporting on the progress of this group; the timeline this group will be working towards; the avenues that will be available to civil society to engage with this group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46670/23]

*615. To ask the Minister for Health the engagements he has had with a person (details supplied) in relation to the recommendations in their extensive Independent Review of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018; if any future engagements are planned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [46671/23]

*616. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 288 of 28 September 2023, when a response will issue from the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [46673/23]

*617. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 573 of 10 October 2023, if the external review will include operations carried out on adults at Cappagh Hospital. — Paul Murphy. [46676/23]

*618. To ask the Minister for Health to detail the full service acute hospitals budget allocated at the beginning of 2023 to each of the nine ‘model 4’ hospitals nationally; the indicative and individual forecast overspend being guided by his Department for each of these hospitals up to 31 December 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [46683/23]

*619. To ask the Minister for Health the financial rewards his Department is planning to give to the budget of University Hospital Waterford in recognition for the five months’ additional capacity management this hospital delivered while the emergency department of Wexford Hospital was closed due to fire damage (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [46684/23]

*620. To ask the Minister for Health if any of the hospital group CEOs hold other remunerated positions (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [46685/23]

*621. To ask the Minister for Health the oversight mechanism for approving hospital group CEO expenses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [46686/23]

*622. To ask the Minister for Health the mechanisms that are in place to administer conflicts of interest for hospital group CEOs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [46687/23]

*623. To ask the Minister for Health the reason patients waiting for gynaecology outpatients are being advised that “due to the increased demand for gynaecology services at the Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital, waiting time routine appointments may exceed 52 weeks”; and what plans the HSE and the hospital have to resolve these waiting lists (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [46704/23]

*624. To ask the Minister for Health if he is concerned that children’s health may be compromised due to the lack of staff in Limekiln Lane Health Centre, the Old County Road health centre and Curlew Road health centre, Dublin 12 (details supplied); the staff level rates and vacancy rates in these three centres; how many staff have been recruited since May 2023; and how many staff have left, in tabular form. — Joan Collins. [46716/23]

*625. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost for 2023 and 2024 of delivering pay parity between section 38 and section 39 staff, contracted by his Department through section 39 organisations. — Ivana Bacik. [46718/23]

*626. To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown of spending allocated for mental health in the CHO1 region on a per-capita basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [46725/23]

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

*627. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason the increase of €4,000 in the PhD stipend is only available to SFI and IRC candidates; if there is any intention to extend this to all PhD candidates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [46070/23]

*628. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will re-examine the rules pertaining to traineeships at ETB centres, specifically to allow school-leavers enrolling on such courses to access the training allowance without being bound by the rule that states they must have been in receipt of a social welfare payment; if he agrees that his rule is very prohibitive and sends out the wrong message about work and training; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [46073/23]

*629. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of PhD researchers funded through Government departments or public bodies or agencies under the auspices of those departments but are outside the SFI/IRC funding schemes; and the number of such students funded by each department. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [46166/23]

*630. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 797 of 30 May 2023, the status of the proposed new veterinary school at the University of Limerick; if he will provide an update on the negotiations between the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine and his Department concerning funding and the quantity of additional veterinary education places that will be available in UL; if these additional veterinary education places will be listed and available for students to apply for on the CAO system for the 2024-2025 academic year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [46184/23]

*631. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is satisfied that the exclusion of Government-funded non SFI/IRC PhD researchers from the increase in stipend funding to €22,000 complies with all relevant employment and equality legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [46214/23]

*632. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will ask individual Government Department agencies and bodies who fund PhD research outside the SFI/IRC programme to finance increases in PhD stipends to provide equality with their SFI/IRC counterparts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [46215/23]

*633. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what plans there are for developing on-campus student accommodations units; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Stanley. [46220/23]

*634. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a certificate will be provided to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [46243/23]

*635. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider extending the grants which are available on a means-tested basis towards the student contribution charged by Irish colleges, to cover Irish students studying in the EU or the UK who face similar charges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [46245/23]

*636. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to unlock the €1.5 billion international training fund; how this fund can be used to support the apprenticeship system. — Robert Troy. [46260/23]

*637. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will carry out an audit on the quality of research equipment and infrastructure across all third-level institutions and commit to any potential upgrades that may be needed as identified by this audit. — Robert Troy. [46261/23]

*638. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science how he plans to close the funding gap in higher education; and how he envisions that investment in higher education will keep pace with the OECD average investment. — Robert Troy. [46262/23]

*639. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide more information on the reason the increase for PhD research funding only applies to those being funded by the Science Foundation of Ireland and the Irish Research Council; if, in the interest of equality, he will expand these increases to apply to all PhD researchers with recognised funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [46291/23]

*640. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when the decision was made to stop Leaving Certificate programmes in VTOS centres throughout Ireland; the reason for the decision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [46296/23]

*641. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will identify the plans for centres of excellence; the locations of each centre, and the update of the rollout of each centre at the timeframe for delivery. — Robert Troy. [46319/23]

*642. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if students returning to third level education to complete a degree at the same level as one previously attained, but four years ago, are eligible for the reduction in student contribution as announced in Budget 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [46336/23]

*643. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department can provide a breakdown or request a breakdown of the number of DARE places available in each of the third-level participating universities; if there are plans to expand the number of places available through the DARE programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46347/23]

*644. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will outline the qualifying criteria for the Disability Access Route to Education (DARE); if there is a list of disabilities considered under the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [46348/23]

*645. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of approved PLC places in Co Kildare in the years of 2022 and to-date in 2023 in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [46477/23]

*646. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason for the delay in offering a college place for an apprentice electrician (details supplied);

if any assistance can be offered in this situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46497/23]

*647. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of his Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if he will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46545/23]

*648. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if he will provide a schedule of functions of his Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if he will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46583/23]

*649. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when the new National Student Accommodation Strategy will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [46636/23]

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

*650. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide an update on works at a building (details supplied); when it will reopen; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46223/23]

*651. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when the latest round of Clár announcements will have funding paid out to respective successful groups; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46278/23]

*652. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if the Wifi4EU project will be relaunched for 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [46397/23]

*653. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding under Budget 2024 that is being made by her Department for an organisation (details supplied) in rural areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [46462/23]

*654. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the possible funding streams that are available for a community group to apply to for a plaque (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [46489/23]

*655. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide details of all agencies and bodies under the aegis of her Department; if a dedicated Oireachtas email address is available for each; if not, if she will direct that such a dedicated email address be established to facilitate more efficient communication; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [46550/23]

*656. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development in the context of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, if she will provide a schedule of functions of her Department that have been devolved in full or in part, or are in the process of being devolved in full or in part; the date on which the devolutions commenced; and if she will indicate whether any function was returned to the Department subsequently. — Catherine Murphy. [46587/23]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉ CÉADAON, 25 DEIREADH FÓMHAIR, 2023
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON WEDNESDAY, 25 OCTOBER, 2023**

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

1. To ask the Taoiseach the extent to which he continues to have discussions with leaders throughout Europe and elsewhere in regard to the ongoing crisis and potential crises in the Middle East. — Bernard J. Durkan. [46709/23]

2. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his participation in the extraordinary European Council meeting on 17 October 2023. — Seán Haughey. [46717/23]