



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 16 Samhain, 2023
Thursday, 16th November, 2023

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the date on which the energy security review and the McCarthy report will be published; if both have been presented to the cabinet; how the environmental impact of proposed energy security options will be assessed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50447/23]

2. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how many households to date have availed of the microgeneration support scheme to date, broken down by year; how many are feeding electricity into the grid; how many are projected for installation in 2023; how many have availed of the maximum grant; if he has increased the budget for the scheme in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50385/23]

3. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications about the small scale renewable energy support scheme, and the date on which it will be launched; how this process will differ from the RESS auction; what, if any, additional supports will be put in place as part of this process; if there are revised targets for the number of contracts to be awarded to renewable energy communities and then for the number of projects that complete all milestones; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50448/23]

4. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for an update on the National Adaptation Plan, including when it will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [50260/23]

5. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 72 of 28 September 2023, and subsequent follow-up, the details of the analysis carried out by his Department regarding the operation of the community-led category in RESS 1 and RESS 2, and in particular the challenges faced by community-led energy projects; the details of the analysis behind the decision to discontinue the community-led category in RESS 3 and to provide support instead under the Small-Scale Renewable Energy Support Scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50115/23]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

6. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the way the Government is preparing for COP28; the extent of the State's commitment to loss and damage funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50246/23]

7. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for an update on the Energy Security Review; how it will inform Government policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [50262/23]

8. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the roll-out of smart metres in Ireland; if it is a requirement now to have one in order to install solar panels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50004/23]

9. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline as part of proposals for a floating offshore wind and green H2 policy for Ireland; his Department's plans, if any, to announce suitable Designated Maritime Area Plans for the South and West coasts to plan and attract necessary industry investment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [50230/23]

10. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 108 of 15 June 2023, the details of any engagement his Department, or bodies under the aegis of his Department, has had with Galway City and County Councils in 2023 with regard to the development of their Local Authority Climate Action Plans, and in particular the preparation of their decarbonising zones; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50116/23]

11. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what measures are being taken to reduce the current wait times (currently over 24 months) on works completing from applications made on Free Energy Upgrades under SEAI; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [50244/23]

12. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures being taken to combat illegal dumping; if extra resources are being given to counties Cavan and Monaghan local authorities to cope with this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50027/23]

13. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications whether he supports taking waste collection back into public ownership to ensure better environmental management of waste; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50236/23]

14. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if it is his intention to enter into negotiations with National Broadband Ireland to ensure that all offshore islands are provided with a fibre connection to the mainland as part of the roll-out of the national broadband programme, to ensure equality of service for islanders in this vital service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [49996/23]

15. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is aware of concerns raised by the Climate Change Advisory Council on islanded data centre policy, specifically the connection of 11 new islanded data centres to the network; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50249/23]

16. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will report on the delivery of renewable energy in Ireland; if he is aware of publicly expressed concerns about the renewable energy support scheme following the result of the latest auction; what efforts

he is taking to address this; and if the Government has plans to update auction design in order to achieve 2030 targets and energy independence. — Mary Lou McDonald. [48407/23]

17. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is concerned about the high failure rate of retrofits following inspection; the steps he is taking to address this high rate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [50261/23]

18. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the way he intends to address the increasing concerns that Ireland will not reach the 2030 target for renewables and the key barriers to delivery such as grid capacity and delays in planning; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50250/23]

19. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the up-to-date position regarding the roll-out of the National Broadband Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50281/23]

20. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide details of the development of one-stop-shops with regard to retrofitting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [49606/23]

21. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the actions his Department are taking to protect fuel merchants from those who are trading in smoky fuel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [50275/23]

22. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will report on his recent attendance at pre-COP28; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [49688/23]

23. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress of the local authorities' climate action plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [50251/23]

24. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has had discussions with an energy company (details supplied) and Carlow County Council in relation to the development of a solar farm near Friarstown; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [50159/23]

25. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide details on the roll-out of the home energy upgrade loan scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [49607/23]

26. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has engaged with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Taoiseach in relation to their promotion of beef exports to South Korea and to state whether he thinks prompting beef exports to South Korea is compatible with reducing emissions from agriculture under the Climate Action Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50235/23]

27. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the current status of the North South Interconnector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [50170/23]

28. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline what grant schemes to support the replacement of the communal heating systems running on fossil fuels with the new systems which use renewable energy sources will be available to landlords, residents and stakeholders in order for the programme to be sustainable and cost effective; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [49961/23]

29. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how Carlow will benefit from the €3.09 million in funding announced recently for the Climate Action Regional Office in the Eastern and Midlands region. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [50160/23]

30. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications whether consensus is emerging in the EU on future reforms in the electricity market; their likely impact on Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [50279/23]

31. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how he plans to increase uptake on SEAI residential schemes by 2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [50225/23]

32. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason he has not published the review of security of energy supply; how long since he received the first draft of the report; when he will publish the review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50280/23]

33. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for an update on the low interest loans for retrofitting; when an interest rate will be determined; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [50263/23]

34. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for an update on one-stop-shops on Residential/Community retrofit programmes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [50224/23]

35. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the estimated increase of on-shore wind generation for all years, including 2023 to 2030, in line with our climate action targets; the steps being taken to ensure these targets will be met; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [49995/23]

36. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department has undertaken any study to determine the merit of a refundable tax on plastic bottles; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [49281/23]

37. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which Ireland continues to make progress towards meeting climate change issues with particular reference to flooding prevention land drainage/management and any other issues of potential positive impact in meeting the various climate challenges in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50210/23]

38. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures that are in place to support the reduction in residential emissions for households currently using kerosene but who cannot afford a heat pump or whose properties are not suitable for heat pump installation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [50247/23]

39. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications whether Ireland plans to enter new undertakings in the context of the upcoming COP 28; if he will outline his priorities for the event; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [50278/23]

40. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if consideration will be given to allowing instream works in the Glashaboy river to facilitate emergency flood works and flood relief; if he and his Department have been contacted by Cork City Council to seek consent regarding same; if he will consider granting an exemption if necessary to facilitate the works; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [49757/23]

41. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide an update on the works undertaken within his Department to fulfil the obligation on member states to carry out an assessment of the existing barriers and potential of development of renewable energy communities in Ireland, as directed in the Renewable Energy Directive II, Article 22, paragraph 3; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [50252/23]

42. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when the green loan system will be available to homeowners to assist in energy upgrades to their homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [50245/23]

43. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of applications for the SEAI warmer homes grant to date in 2023; the average length of time people are waiting for the works to commence; what measures he is taking to reduce waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [49758/23]

44. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide an update regarding the Carlinn Hall Dundalk SEAI report that was set to be published in early October; when the recommendations outlined in the report will be enacted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [49960/23]

45. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to report on his plans for the further development of postal policy in the state; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [50212/23]

46. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress of the local authorities' climate action plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [50192/23]

47. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the meetings he has had and the briefings he has received in respect of the North South Interconnector; and whether he has had any meetings in this regard with local communities or landowners that are directly affected by this project. — Matt Carthy. [50171/23]

48. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress he and his Department continue to make towards the provision of high-speed, high-quality broadband throughout the country, with particular reference to ensuring an early link up between those areas currently having a reasonable service with the need to ensure maximum spread of service in the shortest possible term in order to facilitate the domestic and commercial markets, urban and rural; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50211/23]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*49. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if Ireland is compliant with the European Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 in relation to checks on US military at Shannon Airport on goods destined for Israel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50301/23]

*50. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs 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]

*51. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his Department's current preparatory plan for the UN Summit of the Future in 2024, in anticipation of the outcome document Pact for the Future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [49689/23]

*52. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his response to the termination of the Black Sea Grain Initiative by Russia; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [50118/23]

*53. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he continues to liaise with all concerned, in the aftermath of the Good Friday Agreement, in the context of ensuring that interaction with communities is maintained and recognised as an important part of the peace process. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42533/23]

*54. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps he continues to take to increase contact with all the communities in Northern Ireland, in the context of moves towards the restoration of the Northern Assembly. — Bernard J. Durkan. [42534/23]

*55. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which his Department continues to encourage and influence discussions with all sides in Northern Ireland in order to establish a level of mutual confidence that would facilitate the restoration of the Assembly. — Bernard J. Durkan. [45327/23]

*56. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if his Department is carrying out checks at Shannon Airport on US military vehicles which are stopping off enroute to Israel and other jurisdictions; if so, the number that have taken place in the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50300/23]

*57. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will consider instructing Ireland's Permanent Representative to the UN to call for an Emergency UN General Assembly under the Uniting for Peace Resolution, as the UN Security Council has failed to adequately act as required to maintain international security and peace in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50316/23]

*58. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs according to his Department "Respect for human rights and the promotion of human rights is a cornerstone of Irish foreign policy" (details supplied), considering that the transfer of military weapons or equipment to participants is regulated by international humanitarian law, if he is concerned that events in Gaza are breach of this law; if he has any concerns that weapons or equipment in transit through Ireland may be used for human rights violations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [50330/23]

*59. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 144 of 23 May 2023, and in light of the British government's Legacy Bill receiving royal assent and entering into law on 18 September, if the Government will now proceed with lodging an interstate case against the British government with the European Court of Human Rights within the four-month time period this case must be lodged. — Pauline Tully. [41888/23]

*60. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he has had opportunities to try and persuade the warring factions in the Middle East to desist in their current activities. — Bernard J. Durkan. [49982/23]

*61. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he intends to bring forward the Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill 2018 to Third Stage in Dáil Éireann, given the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and his party's previous support for the Bill (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50367/23]

*62. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when the competition for the new DFA election monitoring roster will be advertised; the number of places available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [50378/23]

*63. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the total cost of the passport service, including staff costs, as well as the revenue generated in fees paid by applicants for passports and passport cards, in each year from 2016 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50438/23]

*64. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the bilateral aid programme continues to identify with and assist countries and communities that continue to be affected by various shortages in vital supplies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50493/23]

*65. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the multi-lateral overseas aid programme continues to interact directly with communities most seriously affected by conditions such as war, hunger and drought; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50494/23]

*66. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which Irish embassies abroad, diplomatic missions or other representatives continue to promote Irish trade throughout the world; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50495/23]

*67. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the international community has made commitments and kept them in respect of various disaster areas throughout the globe; the action(s) in place to ensure an active and positive response; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50496/23]

*68. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he has directly, or through the aegis of the EU/UN, influenced the international community towards engaging in a permanent peace process to which both sides in the Middle East conflict could refer to in order to prevent further wars, retaliations/ill-treatment of civilians, women and children and setting out to address the specific grievances of both sides in the conflict; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50497/23]

*69. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he directly, and through the EU/UN, continues to focus on conflict in a number of areas in Africa resulting in ethnic cleansing and violence against women and children, with a view to bringing the perpetrators to justice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50498/23]

*70. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which countries in the Western Balkans are being assisted towards membership of the European Union; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50499/23]

*71. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the degree to which he continues to use Ireland's position at EU/UN level to highlight outrages against women and children in the various conflict zones across the world; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50500/23]

*72. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the degree to which Irish aid goes directly to those whom it was intended in a smooth and seamless transition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50501/23]

*73. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he can directly, or through the EU and/or UN, influence colleagues throughout Europe and the developed world and raise awareness of the vulnerability of refugees, particularly women and children, who are very often at the mercy of traffickers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50502/23]

*74. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the processing of passports has been upgraded to meet the requirements of applicants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50503/23]

*75. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the European Union is alert to the threats to the security of the Union and possible future members; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50504/23]

*76. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which enlargement of the European Union continues, the action taken to encourage applicant countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50505/23]

*77. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has issued a condemnation of Israel in respect of its recent military assault in Gaza broadly and, specifically, in respect of: the targeting and killing of thousands of civilians, including children; the targeting and bombing of civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, schools and mosques; the mass forced displacement of civilians; and the denial of water, food, fuel and other essential supplies to the civilian population. — Matt Carthy. [50508/23]

*78. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his efforts to build a consensus at EU level to call for ceasefires in the Middle East, and if these efforts included: challenging the presidents of the European Commission and the European Parliament for their provocative visit to Israel, in which they appeared to give unequivocal support to Israeli actions; meeting his counterparts from states that have yet to call for a ceasefire in order to encourage them to do so and striving to include the demand for a ceasefire in any joint communique issued by EU states and/or the European Council. — Matt Carthy. [50509/23]

*79. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his actions in response to the positing on X, formerly known as Twitter, by the Deputy Head of Mission at the Israeli embassy in Dublin, which alleged that Ireland funded Hamas tunnels in Gaza. — Matt Carthy. [50510/23]

*80. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the timeframe in which the Government intends to decide whether to take legal action to the European Court of Human Rights in response to the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill adopted by the British Parliament. — Matt Carthy. [50511/23]

*81. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps he has taken to ensure that military aircraft of foreign states landing in Ireland or overflights in sovereign Irish airspace are unarmed, carry no arms, ammunition or explosives and do not engage in intelligence gathering or form part of military exercises or operations; and whether there has been any review of the oversight of these matters in the context of the Israeli military assaults on Gaza. — Matt Carthy. [50512/23]

*82. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the actions he has taken to secure the release of Irish hostages in Gaza and to facilitate the exit of Irish citizens from Gaza. — Matt Carthy. [50513/23]

*83. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his position on maintaining the requirement for unanimity on European Council Foreign Policy decisions; and if he intends to oppose efforts to undermine that requirement. — Matt Carthy. [50514/23]

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

*84. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline what increases in emissions reduction targets will be included in the next Climate Action Plan, given the failure to reach previous years' targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50289/23]

*85. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline he and his Department's engagement with the Department of Finance and the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform regarding the Climate, Infrastructure and Nature Fund announced in Budget 2024; how that fund could be used to ramp up annual climate adaptation projects nationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50290/23]

*86. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will outline his Government's aims, goals and targets for the upcoming COP28 negotiations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50291/23]

*87. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on Ireland's position on the Loss and Damage Fund, which will be discussed at COP28; if Ireland will commit at least €500 million in new money, in the form of grants, to a Loss and Damage Fund at COP28; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50292/23]

*88. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on his engagement with his counterparts in the EU and other international governments ahead of the COP28 negotiations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50294/23]

*89. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what measures he proposes to reduce the impact of air pollution on the high levels of asthma and COPD in this country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50295/23]

*90. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline the way that the various State agencies under the aegis of his Department are facilitating the rollout of generation of renewal energy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [50372/23]

*91. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the amount of electricity generated from solar power in 2022; the projected amount to be generated in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50380/23]

*92. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how many megawatts of solar power were installed in 2022; what the target is for 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50381/23]

*93. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if any analysis has been carried out on how much solar generated electricity may go to waste in Ireland on an annual basis due to a failure to make it available to the national grid; how much solar generated electricity was fed into the grid in 2022 and 2023 respectively without payment to the producer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50382/23]

*94. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how much additional solar electricity generation he expects to be added in 2024; to confirm what the target is to have installed and generated by 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50383/23]

*95. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how much solar electricity generation comes from solar panels on public buildings; if he has targets for increasing

this; if so, what those targets are; what actions he is taking to increase it; how much generating capacity he expects to be installed in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50384/23]

*96. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he intends to introduce a grant for home battery storage systems linked to the installation of solar panels; if he has asked the SEAI to carry out a further assessment of advances in the technology; if he intends to do so; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50386/23]

*97. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how much has been paid out under the Clean Export Guarantee in 2022 and to date in 2023; how many microgenerators are benefiting from it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50387/23]

*98. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when the low-cost retrofit loan scheme will be available to the public; the reason for the delay beyond the 2023 quarter three target; what the interest rate on the loan is going to be; what the minimum and maximum loan amounts available will be; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50388/23]

*99. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the current wait time for the SEAI better energy warmer homes scheme; the current average cost per home; how many homes were covered in 2022, and projected for 2023; the budget for 2023 and in 2024; what measures are being taken to reduce the waiting time; how many homes he projects to be retrofitted next year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50389/23]

*100. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reasons solar panels are not installed under the SEAI better energy warmer homes scheme; if he intends to review this policy decision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [50390/23]

*101. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of electric vehicles that received support through the SEAI accelerated capital allowance. — Eoin Ó Broin. [50397/23]

*102. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to outline the plans of his Department to ensure the protection of freshwater supplies given the appearance of algal blooms on Blessington Lake (Poulaphouca Reservoir) and the recent environmental disaster in Lough Neagh; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50412/23]

*103. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications whether he will contact a body (details supplied) to whom he referred a Parliamentary Question for reply, if he will issue a reply, given the matter has been ongoing for some considerable time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50422/23]

*104. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which the national waste management plan continues to address the relevant issues, with particular reference to reduction, reuse and recycle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50481/23]

*105. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which mobile telephone services remain good here when compared with other European Union Member States or adjoining countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50482/23]

*106. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the ongoing steps to support remote working through the roll-out of high-speed fibre broadband connections to the internet, with particular reference to blackspot-prone rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50483/23]

*107. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which Ireland's emissions have been reduced in the past six years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50484/23]

*108. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which it can be found possible to ensure that electricity providers pass on any further reduction in price inflation to the consumer as quickly as possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50485/23]

*109. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent, if any, to which deficiencies in the availability of adequate broadband facilities continues to be identified in all areas throughout County Kildare; the remedial action in hand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50486/23]

*110. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which carbon reduction measures to date are positively impacting on Ireland's targets in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50487/23]

*111. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which Ireland's carbon reduction targets are currently in line with other European countries given commitments entered into; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50489/23]

*112. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the degree to which wind and solar electricity generating targets are being realised at present; the extent to which such generation can be accelerated in the short to medium term, with particular reference to the expected contribution to the national grid over the next five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50490/23]

*113. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which the alternative the energy electricity generating programme continues at pace, with particular reference to availing of wind generation, onshore and offshore; the precise extent to which this capacity has increased or is increasing, with a view to maximisation at the earliest possible date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50491/23]

*114. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which wind or solar electricity generation farms continue to be encouraged in the short, medium and long term, with a view to contributing to and stabilising the national grid given requirements likely in the next ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50492/23]

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

*115. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence further to Parliamentary Question No. 195 of 7 November 2023, to provide the tendering notice publication number for the relevant tender competitions; the steps that were taken to ensure for Israeli companies that at all steps in the supply chain were not outside of the green line; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50426/23]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*116. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are any plans to review clamping laws for vehicles in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50353/23]

*117. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50355/23]

*118. To ask the Minister for Transport to clarify the parameters in which an inspection of an aircraft with an exemption under the Air Navigation (Carriage of Munitions of War, Weapons, and Dangerous Goods) Orders can be carried out; how many inspections have been carried out each year within the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50375/23]

*119. To ask the Minister for Transport to clarify the parameters officials assess whether an aircraft with an exemption under the Air Navigation (Carriage of Munitions of War, Weapons, and Dangerous Goods) Orders has contravened these orders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50376/23]

*120. To ask the Minister for Transport if a safety audit will be carried out on a bridge in Kerry (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50396/23]

*121. To ask the Minister for Transport the initial cost of building the M8; and the average annual revenue from tolls on the road. — Thomas Gould. [50424/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*122. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 172 of 26 September 2023, if he will provide further details to queries (details supplied) with absolute clarification; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [50298/23]

*123. To ask the Minister for Finance when an appeal for a person in County Kerry will be processed (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50320/23]

*124. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will address concerns that the residential zoned land tax is being applied in a manner not intended by the legislation underpinning it, specifically that it is giving rise to punitive financial challenges for religious orders, including enclosed religious orders that are in possession of land that enables them to live in an enclosed way; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50339/23]

*125. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will guarantee that the future Ireland fund and the infrastructure, climate and nature fund will not invest in the fossil fuels or the arms industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50362/23]

*126. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review an issue in the Finance Bill that will detrimentally affect medical card holders and GPs regarding GMS contracts and agree to include text to rectify the situation (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [50373/23]

*127. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of cars for which capital allowances were claimed under the 2008 emissions-based scheme for each of the VRT categories for the year 2022, in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [50398/23]

*128. To ask the Minister for Finance whether there are limits on the price of cars for which tax allowances are available. — Eoin Ó Broin. [50399/23]

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.

*129. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will outline his Department's road map for assisting the recovery in communities such as Middleton, County Cork, regarding flood relief and climate adaptation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50293/23]

*130. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to review correspondence (details supplied); if he will ensure parking is provided for staff at his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50310/23]

*131. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide an update in relation to a pension transfer for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [50377/23]

*132. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 345 of 7 November 2023 if, given the time that had elapsed to date and given the duress being suffered by the community of Crossmolina as a result, he will place a deadline for the return of the information referred to from the OPW. — Dara Calleary. [50420/23]

*133. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if he will ensure that existing car parking facilities will continue to be made available to staff working in a government department in Cavan town (details supplied), as the cessation of such facilities would cause difficulties and substantial additional costs for such staff as, due to lack of public transport, they must travel to work by car and need appropriate parking facilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [50462/23]

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

*134. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment whether any action is proposed in respect of commercial rate payers, who have only recently have had their rateable

valuations increased and who now find themselves marginally short of relief announced in Budget 2024, to the effect that the proposed relief stops suddenly, as opposed to a graduated period within which they may qualify for part rateable relief; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50469/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*135. To ask the Minister for Education if provision will be made to enable persons aged 70 years and over, subject to appropriate medical checks, to drive public service vehicles and vehicles employed on State contracts as difficulties have arisen in many areas with shortage of qualified drivers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [50453/23]

*136. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department is aware of any relaxation of the rule that a school bus driver must retire by the age of 70, given the current shortage of drivers; if her Department is planning a review of these rules; when a decision is likely to take place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50303/23]

*137. To ask the Minister for Education her views on submissions that her Department has received to date from the teacher representative unions in the State about the challenge of accommodating children and students from Ukrainian refugee families; her plans to provide the necessary resources to schools and teachers for this purpose; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [50311/23]

*138. To ask the Minister for Education to outline how she plans to reduce class sizes in DEIS schools across Donegal in response to the challenge for teachers in trying to accommodate a diverse range of needs in the large class groups, in particular practical subjects, due to the lack of physical space in rooms; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [50312/23]

*139. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to address the challenge of teacher retention and supply at schools across Donegal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [50313/23]

*140. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide the necessary resources to ensure the availability of a comprehensive National Education Psychological Service at schools across Donegal. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [50314/23]

*141. To ask the Minister for Education for an update regarding the provision of a bus from Swords to a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [50318/23]

*142. To ask the Minister for Education to outline the criteria that must be met for schools to be approved a change in status to coeducation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [50319/23]

*143. To ask the Minister for Education further to Topical Issue Debate No. 2 of 5 July 2023, and with reference to her Department's projected growth in enrolments in the east Cork area in the short to medium term, if she will outline the projected demand figures for second level school places in the Middleton and Carrigtwohill school planning area for each respective year for the next five years, beginning September 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [50328/23]

*144. To ask the Minister for Education if she will grant full DEIS status to a newly amalgamated community school (details supplied) in County Clare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [50344/23]

*145. To ask the Minister for Education if she will review an application for school transport for a student (details supplied); when a decision will be issued on this application; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [50379/23]

*146. To ask the Minister for Education how many applications have been facilitated under the pilot voluntary re-deployment scheme for post primary school teachers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [50394/23]

*147. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an mbeidh íocaíocht á déanamh le bunscoileanna as pá a d'íoc siad le rúnaithe ar threoir na Roinne do Shamhradh 2023 sular ghlac an Roinn freagracht as pá na rúnaithe bunscoile ar fad i Meán Fómhair 2023; agus más rud é go mbeidh, cén uair a dhéanfar an íocaíocht; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50429/23]

*148. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an mbeidh deontas á íoc le bunscoileanna sa scoilbhliain 2023/2024 le haghaidh mionoibreacha; agus más rud é go mbeidh, cé mhéad a bheidh i gceist do gach scoil agus cén uair a íocfar é; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50430/23]

*149. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an mbeidh deontas coimhdeach á íoc le bunscoileanna don scoilbhliain 2023/2024 chun íoc as rúnaithe suas go Meán Fómhair agus as glantóirí; cé mhéad a bheidh á íoc le gach scoil don scoilbhliain 2023/2024; cén uair a íocfar é; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50431/23]

*150. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an bhfuil deontas eile le cur in áit an deontais glantacháin Covid-19 de bharr na gcostas méadaithe atá ar scoileanna de bharr an ardaithe sa chostas maireachtála; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50432/23]

*151. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an bhfuil sé i gceist sceideal na ndeontas reatha ar fad atá le híoc le bunscoileanna don scoilbhliain 2023/2024 a chur ar fáil ina dtaispeánfar méid gach deontais; cén uair a íocfar iad ionas gur féidir le bunscoileanna pleanáil cheart airgeadais a dhéanamh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50433/23]

*152. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais cén ráta deontais caipitíochta a íocfar le bunscoileanna don scoilbhliain 2023/2024; cén uair a íocfar é; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50434/23]

*153. To ask the Minister for Education to clarify the designation in a situation (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [50464/23]

*154. To ask the Minister for Education the exact criteria or threshold to be met for a secondary school (details supplied) to be designated as a DEIS school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [50465/23]

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

*155. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total amount spent by her Department on advertisement of and promotion of the TV licence for each of the past five years, including to date in 2023; if additional funding has been spent since the fall off in licence fee renewals in July 2023, if the messaging in formal advertising has changed to try to address the fall off; if beneficiaries of licence fee revenue other than RTÉ have been highlighted; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50421/23]

*156. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén fáth nár íocadh go fóill na táillí atá ag dul do mhná tí i dtaca le mic léinn a d'fhan leo i mí Lúnasa, céard is cúis leis an moill, agus cathain a íocfar iad; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Pearse Doherty. [50435/23]

*157. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the up-to-date figures relating to TV licence fee renewals and new licences; if she will provide a month-by-month comparison, in tabular format, between 2022 and 2023 showing the number of licences renewed and each new license in each respective month by all transactional methods, and the associated revenue generated by these renewal; if the available figures for November so far would be provided; if the cumulative loss in revenue so far in 2023 (versus the same period in 2022) would be provided; if county by county data exists and, if so, if it will be provided in respect of each category above; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50458/23]

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

*158. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on whether there should be full transparency in relation to the data on water abstraction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [50296/23]

*159. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a person can be put on a local authority housing list in Ireland if they have a house in another EU Member State; and if local authorities check this fact. — Peadar Tóibín. [50325/23]

*160. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 226 of 19 October 2023, if he will clarify an issue (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [50327/23]

*161. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if, in relation to grants for septic tank improvements, he plans to increase the numbers of inspections available nationwide, in order that those who need an inspection can get one to avail of the grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [50357/23]

*162. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the areas in Tipperary that are covered for grants for septic tanks; if he intends to increase the areas mapped to allow a larger geographical area to avail of the grants in order to ensure the grants have a full impact in terms of environmental protection; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [50358/23]

*163. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding a review (details supplied); if the qualifying criteria for the grant will be expanded; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [50374/23]

*164. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the plans of his Department to protect rivers and fresh water lakes from agricultural runoff and to prevent algae blooms and other environmental damage from arising; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [50415/23]

*165. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total number of exits from homelessness accommodation funded by his Department in each quarter from 2019 to Q3 2023 including a breakdown by local authority area and by single persons and families with children, in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [50423/23]

*166. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether he agrees that it would be unconscionable for there to be any form of taxpayer assistance or bailout of an organisation (details supplied), in view of the fact that it has over €180 million in property assets, as against tax liabilities of €14 million; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50439/23]

*167. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will lay out the exact social housing competencies for which local authorities are responsible, as opposed to his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [50466/23]

*168. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he might review the situation whereby housing applicants on being approved for HAP are being informed that they are being removed from the housing list in which case they have no security in the event that the HAP facility falls through and they have difficulty retaining their original position on the housing list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50480/23]

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

*169. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to respond to concerns raised in respect of the carers allowance (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [50405/23]

*170. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to review correspondence (details supplied); if she will ensure that parking is provided for staff of her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50306/23]

*171. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a child benefit payment in respect of a person in Co. Kerry (details supplied) will be reinstated and backdated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50409/23]

*172. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether there is any restriction on CE workers using ride-on lawnmowers. — Thomas Gould. [50425/23]

*173. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if anything can be done in a case (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [50463/23]

*174. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when carer's allowance might be restored in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50468/23]

*175. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if and when disability allowance or basic allowance can be paid in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50470/23]

*176. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether illness benefit or disability allowance can or will be paid in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50471/23]

*177. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether an urgent review/appeal is possible in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50472/23]

*178. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an exceptional needs payment can be made in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50473/23]

*179. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an exceptional needs payment can be made in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50478/23]

*180. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review the refusal of application for a top up pension in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50479/23]

*181. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will ensure that the existing carparking arrangements for staff in her Department (details supplied) continue to be made available for staff members; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [50517/23]

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

*182. To ask the Minister for Justice how the State and the International Protection Accommodation Services verify that deportations are carried out by persons subject to such orders; if there is a verification process in place; if so, whether she will confirm the number of persons who voluntarily self-deported for each year from 2011 to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50326/23]

*183. To ask the Minister for Justice if there is any expedition for families applying for reunification of their family members in Gaza who cannot access original documents as necessary in usual circumstances given this is an abnormal situation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [50364/23]

*184. To ask the Minister for Justice for a breakdown of Garda staff in each divisional protective services unit, broken down by rank. — Patrick Costello. [50391/23]

*185. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide details on the engagement her Department has had with the Department of Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth to address concerns raised by the Scoping Study on the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Young People

in Ireland conducted by UCD; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50410/23]

*186. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide a breakdown of the total current number of prisoners who have been convicted of a sexual offence, by prison and gender and age, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50416/23]

*187. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide the number of prisoners committed under sentence for sexual offences each year from 2018 to present, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50417/23]

*188. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide the number of prisoners committed for sexual offences who have completed the Building Better Lives programme over the past five years, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [50418/23]

*189. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide an update on the work of her Department to advance the recommendations of the O'Malley review of protections for vulnerable witnesses in the investigation and prosecution of sexual offences; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50419/23]

*190. To ask the Minister for Justice the breakdown of the costs to date of the “Victims Charter” advertising campaign which is currently ongoing; the total budget which has been allocated to date; the amount which has been paid to RTÉ to date; and the overall amount which is likely to be paid to RTÉ over the course of the campaign; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50441/23]

*191. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 401 of 26 September 2023, how much of this overall spend has been paid to RTÉ to date; how much has been budgeted to be paid to RTÉ over the full course of the “Serious Consequences” campaign; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50442/23]

*192. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of homicides in each year from 2000 to date; the breakdown of the number of victims by gender; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50443/23]

*193. To ask the Minister for Justice to report on the current number of Garda officers, in tabular form and by rank, attached to Finglas Garda station, Ballymun Garda station and Santry Garda station. — Róisín Shortall. [50457/23]

*194. To ask the Minister for Justice the current and/or expected residency status in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50467/23]

*195. To ask the Minister for Justice the current or proposed residency status in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50476/23]

*196. To ask the Minister for Justice if family reunification will be approved in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50477/23]

*197. To ask the Minister for Justice the actions currently being taking by her Department to tackle gender-based violence; whether initial targets in this regard are ambitious enough, with particular reference to the silent and ongoing nature of this issue and the serious shortcomings identified by Grevio, the monitoring body of the Istanbul Convention; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50506/23]

*198. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will have regard to the serious shortcoming in how men, women and children in the State are protected from violence, as identified by Grevio in a recent Council of Europe report; if further consideration will be given to concerns expressed in this report, given the urgent need to protect men, women and children against gender-based violence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50507/23]

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

*199. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which he remains committed to ensuring and safeguarding agri-food production in this country while at the same time meeting carbon reduction targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50488/23]

*200. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he and his Department are aware of the current livelihood-threatening market disturbance to the brown crab (cancer pagurus) fishery, whereby processors are now not taking any landed produce due to there being no buyers for export live or otherwise; what measures can be taken to identify new markets; what immediate supporting interventions can be made to support the industry during this current market volatility; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [50299/23]

*201. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what action his Department is taking to support and expand the scope of the social farming Ireland initiative, in view of its continued success and benefits to participants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50321/23]

*202. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department is engaging with key stakeholders regarding the social farming Ireland initiative to ensure continued success of the model and the potential for expansion in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50322/23]

*203. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what action his Department is taking to promote the social farming in Ireland initiative; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50323/23]

*204. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 92 of 26 October 2023, for an update on plans for the introduction of measures to protect the sprat fishery, which is concentrated within the six-nautical-mile zone; when he expects to receive the updated scientific and economic advice from the Marine Institute and Bord Iascaigh Mhara on trawling within the six-nautical-mile zone; the details of any interim measures planned to protect the sprat fishery until a new policy is put in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [50329/23]

*205. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of non-coursing greyhounds entered on the race management system to date whose year of birth was 2021, with a breakdown of those registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland and those registered to owners normally resident in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [50332/23]

*206. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of non-coursing greyhounds that completed one or more races whose year of birth was 2021 as recorded on RCETS, with a breakdown of those registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland and those registered to owners normally resident in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [50333/23]

*207. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of non-coursing greyhounds that participated in at least one official trial whose year of birth was 2021 as recorded on RCETS, with a breakdown of those registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland and those registered to owners normally resident in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [50334/23]

*208. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of non-coursing greyhounds exported before completing at least one official trial whose year of birth was 2021 as recorded on RCETS, with a breakdown of those registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland and those registered to owners normally resident in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [50335/23]

*209. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of non-coursing greyhounds exported after completing at least one official trial whose year of birth was 2021 as recorded on RCETS, with a breakdown of those registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland and those registered to owners normally resident in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [50336/23]

*210. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of non-coursing greyhounds rehomed before completing at least one official trial whose year of birth was 2021 as recorded on RCETS, with a breakdown of those registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland and those registered to owners normally resident in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [50337/23]

*211. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of non-coursing greyhounds rehomed after completing at least one official trial whose year of birth was 2021 as recorded on RCETS, with a breakdown of those registered to owners normally resident in the Republic of Ireland and those registered to owners normally resident in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [50338/23]

*212. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to clarify if there are compensation options available for farmers where their goat herd contracts tuberculosis in the same manner as financial supports are available to beef and cattle farmers in a similar situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50342/23]

*213. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the current status of negotiations with the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (details supplied); when an agreement can be expected on the co-funding of an urgently needed new vet school located in the mid-west at the University of Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [50348/23]

*214. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will arrange to expedite ANC/BPS payments to a person (details supplied). — Michael Creed. [50370/23]

*215. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he envisages any supports being put in place to assist the potato sector following concerns raised by farmer representative bodies that harvesting of this year's crop is now essentially a salvage operation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50408/23]

*216. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in light of the passing of the EU Nature Restoration Law, his future plans in relation to the issues of the no quota on sprat and the Inishore bottom trawling within 6 km limit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [50427/23]

*217. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the funding that his Department can provide for the development and up-keep of public allotment spaces, and the way in which that funding can be accessed; if he plays any role in assisting groups in obtaining suitable plots for allotments and, if not, if he can indicate persons or public bodies that can provide assistance; and if his Department has a grow-your-own-food strategy to assist people in the context of food security and sustainability. — Catherine Murphy. [50460/23]

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

*218. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of outstanding birth information access requests from adopted people to their medical records and other personal files; and the wait time to date for each request, in tabular form. — Holly Cairns. [50347/23]

*219. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the options that are available for Ukrainian families when host family can no longer accommodate them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [50365/23]

*220. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the position regarding the implementation of the 109 recommendations of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Autism's final report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [50393/23]

*221. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 988 of 7 November 2023, how much of the total outlay outlined in his reply was paid to RTÉ; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [50440/23]

*222. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if extra time might be given at his current accommodation in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50474/23]

*223. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if extra time can be granted to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [50475/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*224. To ask the Minister for Health if he will investigate the significant delay at CHI Crumlin's nephrology/urology department in responding to a GP's repeated request for an appointment for a child (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brid Smith. [50304/23]

*225. To ask the Minister for Health if the recent announcement to allow pharmacists to extend the validity of prescriptions from six months to twelve months, effective from 1 March 2024, includes medical card prescriptions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [50305/23]

*226. To ask the Minister for Health if exceptions can be made for the inclusion of the drug ozempic to be included in the medical card drugs list for patients needing the drug for weight loss on the advice of their GP; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard O'Donoghue. [50317/23]

*227. To ask the Minister for Health to expedite surgery for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [50324/23]

*228. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting times from date of referral to actual first-time appointments in CAMHS for routine, urgent and emergency appointments, in tabular form; for a breakdown of these waiting times per CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [50340/23]

*229. To ask the Minister for Health the average time it takes from the day of referral and to the day of refusal of acceptance to CAMHS; for a breakdown of this by CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [50341/23]

*230. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on his Department's request to HIQA to carry out a health technology assessment examining the cost benefits of an enhanced vaccine for the over 65s; when the health technology assessment will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [50343/23]

*231. To ask the Minister for Health whether the signing of the annual pension allowance declaration form under the Appropriation Act 1962 and relevant pension scheme rules is necessary for those over 65 years until a claimant's death; whether a notice could instead be sent to the applicants advising them of the need to contact the HSE if circumstances change; if he accepts that seeking clarification from people in their 70s and 80s as to whether they are working is unfair; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50345/23]

*232. To ask the Minister for Health what measures/supports are in place for women in Cavan and Monaghan who suffer from post-natal depression; if there are any plans to enhance these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50356/23]

*233. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department plans to open a primary care centre in Santry/Whitehall for the Dublin 9 area. — Richard Bruton. [50359/23]

*234. To ask the Minister for Health his Department's plans to improve the health outcomes in Dublin 9 by providing more medical professionals. — Richard Bruton. [50360/23]

*235. To ask the Minister for Health his Department's strategic plan for health care delivery for Dublin 9. — Richard Bruton. [50361/23]

*236. To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify if HIQA has ordered an urgent evacuation of 68 elderly patients from Cherry Orchard hospital; if he is aware that there was no consultation with families in advance of a decision that will impact on 68 people and their families; if alternative accommodation can be arranged on campus to minimise disruption; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [50368/23]

*237. To ask the Minister for Health if it would be considered a conflict of interest if an ex-HIQA inspector became a director of a private nursing home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [50369/23]

*238. To ask the Minister for Health if he will work with the Minister for Finance to rectify an issue in the Finance Bill which will detrimentally affect medical card holders and GPs regarding GMS contracts (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [50371/23]

*239. To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown of CAMHS-ID teams, per CHO area, in tabular form; the staffing level per team; what options are open to young people who require the services of CAMHS-ID if there are no teams in their CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [50392/23]

*240. To ask the Minister for Health the reason CareDoc CIT nurses, who provide a vital service in the region, have been excluded and treated less favourably than HSE CIT nurses across the country with regard to the non-payment of the pandemic payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [50395/23]

*241. To ask the Minister for Health to set out in tabular form a detailed breakdown on how the allocated budget for new medicines was spent in the years 2021, 2022 and from 1 January 2023 to 31 October 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50400/23]

*242. To ask the Minister for Health to set out in tabular form a detailed breakdown of the direct savings arising from discounts, rebates or substitution of generic and biosimilar medicines in the years 2021, 2022 and from 1 January 2023 to 31 October 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50401/23]

*243. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm whether direct savings arising from discounts, rebates or substitution of generic and biosimilar medicines were routed back into the medicines budget to fund other treatments, or into general HSE funding, during each of the years 2021, 2022 and from 1 January 2023 to 31 October 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50402/23]

*244. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 796 of 14 February 2023, if he can confirm whether the HSE will fund the inclusion of chronic kidney disease in the chronic disease management programme in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50403/23]

*245. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 794 of 14 February 2023, to provide a summary of the analysis of the opportunistic case finding assessment under the chronic disease management programme in 2022, the number of patients diagnosed with asthma,

type 2 diabetes, COPD or cardiovascular disease as a result of this assessment, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [50404/23]

*246. To ask the Minister for Health to comment on correspondence received (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [50406/23]

*247. To ask the Minister for Health when the HSE and his Department will fulfil their commitment to facilitating homebirth services in north Tipperary and CHO3; if all midwife-led services are fully operational in the rural areas of north Tipperary and CHO3; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [50428/23]

*248. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an urgent hospital appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [50449/23]

*249. To ask the Minister for Health how Traveller Primary Health Care Workers employed by Section 39 agencies through the HSE can be awarded the special pandemic recognition payment given their frontline status during the pandemic and their work carried out in clinical settings for the HSE such as mobile vaccination and testing clinics; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [50451/23]

*250. To ask the Minister for Health to provide, in tabular form, details of the funding allocation made to the LDATFs and, separately, to the RDATFs, in each of the past five years, and the respective funding that will be provided in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [50456/23]

*251. To ask the Minister for Health in the context of Healthy Ireland, if he and or the HSE provide funding and/or assistance for the provision of grow your own/allotment spaces, and the way in which those funds are accessed by public allotment groups. — Catherine Murphy. [50461/23]

*252. To ask the Minister for Health to respond to the concerns of an organisation (details supplied) in relation to the standards and criteria for the education and training of psychotherapists proposed by CORU; if he has engaged with the organisation on this matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [50515/23]

*253. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1924 of 11 September 2023, the date at which an implementation plan for the 16 recommendations from the report of the strategic workforce advisory group on home carers and nursing home healthcare assistants will be published; the reason for the delay; the status of all 16 recommendations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [50516/23]

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

*254. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide further information on the number of science courses within technological universities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50307/23]

*255. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what his Department is doing to attract and promote women to the area of science and science

courses in technological universities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50308/23]

*256. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the cost per year on the expansion of science courses within technological universities; how much funding was allocated in total for this year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [50309/23]

*257. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide a further response on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [50315/23]

*258. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the current status of negotiations with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform with regard to progressing a new veterinary school, located at UL, to service the needs of the mid-west, both urban and rural; if there will be an indication in the imminent review of the National Development Plan and statement of strategy of his Department as to a timetable and road map for a new vet school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [50346/23]

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

*259. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development what funding has been applied for specifically for a derelict building (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [50366/23]

*260. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the funding that her Department can provide for the development and up-keep of public allotment spaces, and the way in which that funding can be accessed; if she plays any role in assisting groups in obtaining suitable plots for allotments and, if not, if she can indicate persons or public bodies that can provide assistance. — Catherine Murphy. [50459/23]