



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Máirt, 30 Eanáir, 2024
Tuesday, 30th January, 2024

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 Health will next meet. — Mattie McGrath. [1151/24]
2. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will meet next. — Bernard J. Durkan. [1813/24]
3. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Gino Kenny. [2801/24]
4. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Mick Barry. [3710/24]
5. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [3803/24]
6. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Aindrias Moynihan. [3806/24]
7. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4029/24]
8. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [4032/24]
9. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet. — Peadar Tóibín. [3975/24]
10. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee that deals with disability will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4021/24]
11. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee that deals with disability will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [4024/24]
12. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee that deals with disability will next meet. — Bríd Smith. [4300/24]
13. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Cian O’Callaghan. [1397/24]

14. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will meet next. — Bernard J. Durkan. [1811/24]

15. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will meet next. — Alan Dillon. [2747/24]

16. To ask the Taoiseach to provide an update on Housing for All. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [2795/24]

17. To ask the Taoiseach to provide an update on Housing for All. — Paul Murphy. [2798/24]

18. To ask the Taoiseach to provide an update on Housing for All. — Bríd Smith. [2803/24]

19. To ask the Taoiseach to provide an update on Housing for All. — Mick Barry. [3711/24]

20. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [3804/24]

21. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Aindrias Moynihan. [3807/24]

22. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Peadar Tóibín. [3974/24]

23. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Mary Lou McDonald. [4016/24]

24. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a list of the Cabinet committees on which he sits. — Cian O'Callaghan. [1398/24]

25. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a list of the Cabinet Committees on which he sits. — Mick Barry. [3712/24]

26. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a list of the Cabinet committees on which he sits. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4030/24]

27. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a list of the Cabinet committees on which he sits. — Paul Murphy. [4033/24]

28. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the child poverty and well-being unit. — Cian O'Callaghan. [1399/24]

29. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the child poverty and well-being unit. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4031/24]

30. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the child poverty and well-being unit. — Paul Murphy. [4034/24]

31. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the work of the child poverty and wellbeing programme in his Department. — Peadar Tóibín. [3976/24]

32. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the child poverty and well-being unit. — Mick Barry. [4125/24]

33. To ask the Taoiseach the expected timeline for the Citizens Assemblies committed to in the Programme for Government. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [2746/24]

34. To ask the Taoiseach the expected timeline for the Citizens Assemblies committed to in the Programme for Government. — Bríd Smith. [4036/24]

35. To ask the Taoiseach the expected timeline for the Citizens Assemblies committed to in the Programme for Government. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4019/24]

36. To ask the Taoiseach the expected timeline for the Citizens Assemblies committed to in the Programme for Government. — Paul Murphy. [4022/24]

37. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [2807/24]

38. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [2810/24]

39. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [3805/24]

40. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next. — Michael Moynihan. [3808/24]

41. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet. — Peadar Kirby. [3973/24]

42. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next. — Alan Dillon. [4026/24]

43. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next. — Mick Barry. [4126/24]

44. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent visit to World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. — Bernard J. Durkan. [2758/24]

45. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his engagements at the World Economic Forum. — Alan Farrell. [2788/24]

46. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [2797/24]

47. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos. — Paul Murphy. [2800/24]

48. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos. — Bríd Smith. [2804/24]

49. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his attendance at the World Economic Forum in Davos. — Mick Barry. [2898/24]

50. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his attendance at the World Economic Forum in Davos. — Seán Haughey. [3809/24]

51. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the investigation into a matter (details supplied). — Peadar Tóibín. [2774/24]

52. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent engagement with Chinese Premier Li Qiang. — Alan Farrell. [2789/24]

53. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his meeting with the President of China. — Paul Murphy. [2809/24]

54. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent engagement with Chinese Premier Li Qiang. — Seán Haughey. [3810/24]

55. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent engagement with Chinese Premier Li Qiang. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [3957/24]

56. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his meeting with the President of China. — Peadar Tóibín. [3972/24]

57. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent engagement with Chinese Premier Li Qiang. — Mick Barry. [4127/24]

58. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his visit to the Western Balkans. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [2796/24]

59. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his visit to the Western Balkans. — Paul Murphy. [2799/24]

60. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his visit to the Western Balkans. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [3958/24]

61. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his visit to the Western Balkans. — Seán Haughey. [4171/24]

62. To ask the Taoiseach if he will develop a national security strategy and functioning security agency to deal with future security event. — Alan Dillon. [2791/24]

63. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet. — Alan Farrell. [4000/24]

64. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [3055/24]

65. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4020/24]

66. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Paul Murphy. [4023/24]

67. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Bríd Smith. [4299/24]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

68. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her views on the need to provide capital funding for new library buildings; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [4303/24]

69. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the number of derelict or vacant properties that have been brought back into use and notified to her Department, by county, since 2022, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [4028/24]

70. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to discuss the provision of subsidies for the transportation of freight to the offshore islands, the maximum cost of same and the oversight mechanisms that exist. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [4304/24]

71. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the plans that are being put in place to increase funding to CSPs when the new minimum wage legislation is put in place as a lot of projects are struggling to meet the current minimum wage. — Paul Donnelly. [4302/24]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

72. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [3504/24]

73. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development how much financial support has been provided by her Department to community and voluntary groups and sporting organisations in Cork in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4013/24]

74. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development for an update on the community centres investment fund; and if there is any scope to extend the scheme in the future. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [4041/24]

75. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide an update on all current National Development Plan 2021-2030 projects under her Department being progressed in County Louth, including the current status of each project and the planned completion date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [3827/24]

76. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if consideration is being given to providing an enhanced or additional LIS package for areas, particularly in north Louth, that have been badly affected by recent flooding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [4007/24]

77. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development what steps her Department is taking to tackle dereliction and vacancy in rural towns and villages. — Peadar Tóibín. [3978/24]

78. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development for an update on the 2023 community centre investment fund, particularly in relation to the application from the Ballymote community centre and regional hub. — Marian Harkin. [1666/24]

79. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development her policy initiatives, if any, that strive to identify communities with no local community representative structure; the way she is supporting such communities to have a voice; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [3989/24]

80. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the details on the total amounts of monies awarded to Louth County Council by her Department in 2023; the total monies drawn down and spent by Louth County Council over the same year; if not spent, the total monies that were returned to her Department respectively over the same year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [3826/24]

81. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when she will announce successful projects under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Fund; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [2749/24]

82. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to outline what funding options/calls for funding her Department will run this year. — Robert Troy. [3923/24]

83. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide an update on funding for Carlow library. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [3921/24]

84. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the full extent of supportive measures she has taken in 2023 and proposes to take in 2024 to support urban and rural community issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [3982/24]

85. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide an update on the applications received from County Carlow to the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [3922/24]

86. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when the CLÁR scheme will open for applications; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [4011/24]

87. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the extent to which she continues to remain in contact with various urban and rural community organisations, with a view to identifying to the maximum extent to which she can see potential for supportive measures in the coming year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [3983/24]

88. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will outline the total funding for local community development committees for each of the past five years; if she will commit to significantly increasing it this year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brid Smith. [4009/24]

89. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the number of hubs that have joined the connected hubs network and have been onboarded onto the connectedhubs.ie platform; her future plans for the development of additional hubs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [3830/24]

90. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development what collaboration is taking place between her Department and the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to ensure adequate supports are put in place to support communities who are accommodating asylum seekers and international protection applicants; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [3954/24]

91. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the amount of the €50 million community recognition fund, announced in May 2023, that has been spent to date; the projects on which it was spent; the counties in which the money was spent; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [3979/24]

92. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when she will announce successful projects under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [2750/24]

93. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide an update on her Department's efforts to tackle vacancy and dereliction in towns and villages; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [4002/24]

94. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the way she is assisting communities across the country to organise; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [3990/24]

95. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to outline what calls for funding her Department will launch in 2024. — Michael Moynihan. [3994/24]

96. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if additional funding under any scheme under the remit of her Department is being considered for areas, particularly in north Louth, that have been badly affected by recent flooding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [4008/24]

97. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development further to Parliamentary Question No. 30 of 14 November 2023, the status of the monitoring committee for the implementation of the new policy for the islands; the terms of reference of the committee; the membership of the committee; the number of meetings held to-date and the dates of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [3980/24]

98. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if the community centres investment fund will reopen for applications in 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4017/24]

99. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development further to Parliamentary Question No. 23 of 14 November 2023, for an update on the work of the steering committee tasked with monitoring progress on the development of the piers on Inis Oírr and Inis Meáin; the date of the next meeting; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [3981/24]

100. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she would consider embodying initiatives to promote positive ageing within all the programmes of her Department, wherever practically possible; and if she will outline the specific areas of greatest potential. — Richard Bruton. [4015/24]

101. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development for an update on the community centres investment fund and if there is any scope to extend the scheme in the future. — Paul Donnelly. [3991/24]

102. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the additional funding and resources paid out in County Cavan and County Monaghan in 2023, specifically to support the integration of asylum seekers and international protection applicants into the communities they are being accommodated in, in tabular form; if she has plans to increase this funding and resources in 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [3953/24]

103. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she is satisfied with the level of resources available to local community development committees; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4010/24]

104. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide an update on the roll-out of the Towns First policy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [4037/24]

105. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if there will be another round of the Community Recognition Fund in 2024. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [4039/24]

106. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the progress made to date with the development of the pier in Inis Meáin, which is urgently needed, following the study carried out by the Marine College in Cork; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [3955/24]

107. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when a new round of Leader funding will be announced; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [3993/24]

108. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development whether the Town Centre First initiative has succeeded in the pilot stage of one per county; if she will indicate the main areas of transformation; and if she will outline her plans over the next five years to extend the initiative. — Richard Bruton. [4014/24]

109. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the role her Department is taking in the National Drugs Strategy. — Thomas Gould. [3987/24]

110. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development what measures are being taken to encourage young people to participate in community development initiatives; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [3985/24]

111. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the measures being taken to tackle vacancy and dereliction in our towns and villages; the number of local authority requests to date under her Department's building acquisition measure to tackle vacancy and dereliction in County Louth; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [3829/24]

112. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if a Tranche 2 of the community recognition fund will open in 2024; if a similar scheme will be rolled out for communities hosting large numbers of international protection applicants; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4018/24]

113. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if there will be a Community Recognition Fund 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [3924/24]

114. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development how her Department will work with local authorities to encourage them to apply for new funding for the town and village renewal scheme; if there will be a minimum submission requirement for each local authority; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [4040/24]

115. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the piers on islands and serving islands that are being progressed by her Department in tandem with local county councils towards design and construction; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [3956/24]

116. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development what new measures are being considered under CLÁR funding for 2024. — Aindrias Moynihan. [3986/24]

117. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development what support is available to volunteers looking to access the community centres investment fund – new builds measure. — Thomas Gould. [3988/24]

118. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide an update on the Connected Hubs Network and the continued development of remote working facilities by her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4012/24]

119. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if extra funding can be provided by Pobal through the community service programme to an organisation (details supplied). — Paul Donnelly. [3992/24]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

*120. To ask the Taoiseach if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3789/24]

*121. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide a schedule of costs incurred by his Department in respect of his travel episode to Miami in September 2023 in an itemised manner; if he will also provide a schedule of same in respect of his accompanying officials and advisors in an itemised manner (details supplied). — Catherine Murphy. [4059/24]

*122. To ask the Taoiseach when the Government will bring a resolution to Dáil Éireann on the terms of reference for the Citizens' Assembly on the Future of Education. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [4139/24]

*123. To ask the Taoiseach to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4228/24]

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

*124. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs Ireland's position in relation to military operations conducted by the Pakistani state in Balochistan and the alleged human rights abuses being carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3642/24]

*125. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what initiatives his Department's embassies are taking to gain international recognition of St. Brigid's Day, with a particular reference to the 1,500th anniversary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [3744/24]

*126. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3781/24]

*127. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he considers the recent parliamentary elections in Bangladesh to have been free and fair; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [3858/24]

*128. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the recent elections in Serbia with particular reference to allegations of fraud and mismanagement and if he considers democratic values and rule of law in Serbia to be strained. — Charles Flanagan. [3867/24]

*129. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will take a stance against Pakistan's actions and explore avenues such as sanctions to halt the ongoing war crimes in occupied Balochistan (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [3935/24]

*130. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide a schedule of costs incurred by his Department in respect of a visit by An Taoiseach to the formal opening of the consulate general in Miami in 2023, in an itemised manner; if he will also provide a schedule of same in respect of his officials and advisors, in an itemised manner that travelled to the event (details supplied). — Catherine Murphy. [4060/24]

*131. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to outline the specific areas in which Ireland could enact sanctions unilaterally on other countries or individuals, without breaching European Union agreements or legal frameworks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [4068/24]

*132. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update in relation to Ireland pushing for the EU to impose a travel ban and asset freeze on violent settlers; the reason for the difference between settlers, violent or non-violent, given that Dáil Éireann recognises Israeli settlements as the “de facto annexation” of Palestinian land; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [4069/24]

*133. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on Irish-Norway relations. — Catherine Murphy. [4077/24]

*134. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4220/24]

*135. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if his officials in the foreign births registration section will liaise with the parents of a child (details supplied); if he will confirm receipt of the application which was sent in December 2023 through the Irish embassy in Beijing China; the status of the application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [4242/24]

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

*136. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will intervene in the case of a person (details supplied) and award them the Government electricity credit. — Chris Andrews. [3641/24]

*137. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications whether the legislation providing for the Government electricity credit can be amended so that persons who have been refused the benefit of the scheme because a property into which they recently moved was unoccupied between July 2022 and June 2023 can be covered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [3646/24]

*138. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 124 of 17 January 2024, to clarify whether persons excluded from the credit due to low energy usage where they have been occupying the property and are not a vulnerable customer/entitled to be a vulnerable customer or have a financial meter, will be awarded the credit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [3701/24]

*139. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of households availing of smart tariffs in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [3705/24]

*140. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of households availing of smart tariffs in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024, broken down by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [3706/24]

*141. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide an update on the provision of consent for an increase to the pensions of retired ESB workers; if a timeframe is available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3714/24]

*142. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the Government's plan to develop Ireland's nationally determined contributions (details supplied); if a consultative and participatory process is to take place, and which stakeholders are proposed to be included. — Gary Gannon. [3725/24]

*143. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number and location of islanded data centres currently operating. — Darren O'Rourke. [3740/24]

*144. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number and location of islanded data centres proposed but not yet operating. — Darren O'Rourke. [3741/24]

*145. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the current status of the public consultation on disposable e-cigarettes; if a timeline has been developed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [3743/24]

*146. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if it is the responsibility of his Department to deal with issues of noise pollution arising from a school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [3751/24]

*147. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will make an urgent alteration to the legislation of the Electricity Costs (Emergency Measures) Domestic Accounts Bill 2023 to ensure customers who purchased properties that were vacant during the monitoring period, are now eligible to avail of this support (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [3765/24]

*148. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when he will remove fisheries bye-laws 806 and 809 that protect invasive species on SAC designated inland lakes, which is repugnant to the Habitats Directive and the Water Framework Directive and should be in compliance with the primary legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [3766/24]

*149. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3779/24]

*150. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if any consideration has been given to the introduction of a DNA strategy to address the issue of dog fouling across the country; if he will fund such a strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [3802/24]

*151. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will advise on his Department's approach to carbon sequestration including guidance to support carbon capture and sequestration by small businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [3815/24]

*152. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 55, 59, 60, 72, 92 and 93 of 17 January 2024, the process that is followed if the post BER rating of a retrofit completed remains the same or is downgraded; if there is an established procedure to follow up with the contractor and or homeowner; if there are any penalties for the contractor; if these procedures are the same across all SEAI schemes; what oversight is performed when contractors carry out a retrofit where post BER rating remains the same or is downgraded; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [3850/24]

*153. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the amount of illegal dumping, broken down by local authority, in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [3903/24]

*154. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 58, 59, 60, 82 and 92 of 17 January 2024, the reasons that pre-and post BER ratings of properties retrofitted as part of the SEAI's warmer homes scheme are not available for thousands of properties; the steps he is taking to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [3904/24]

*155. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what assessments are carried out to assess BER rating pre and post-retrofit across SEAI schemes; if these are standardised across all schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [3905/24]

*156. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what proportion of households have their waste collected, broken down by local authority, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [3911/24]

*157. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the level of illegal dumping 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. [3912/24]

*158. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will advise when the retro fit loan guarantee details will be finalised and available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [3931/24]

*159. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide a copy of the shareholder letters of expectation sent to Bord na Móna in each of the years 2020 to date. — Neasa Hourigan. [4046/24]

*160. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how Ireland's public and private hospitals deal with radioactive waste; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [4051/24]

*161. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if waste management companies are obligated to provide a brown bin free of charge to households that

are paying bin charges at present; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [4115/24]

*162. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for an update on the Government backed finance for retrofitting houses which was to be rolled in 2024. — Robert Troy. [4119/24]

*163. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is aware of a report in which the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change said the EU's policies will need revising to deliver net zero emissions by 2050 (details supplied); his views on whether the EU should stop subsidising fossil fuels and to redirect such spending towards targeted actions that help vulnerable households; what actions will he take; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4140/24]

*164. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what action his Department is taking to accelerate the roll-out of the National Broadband Plan Programme in Cork, given 17 of the 31 deployment areas in Cork are still in pre-build stage and have an anticipated date for connection between January 2026 and December 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4152/24]

*165. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a progress report on the roll-out of the National Broadband Plan in County Cork from 1 January 2023 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4153/24]

*166. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the total number of premises connected to fibre broadband under the remit of the National Broadband Plan Programme in Cork in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 1 January 2024 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4154/24]

*167. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his engagement to date with the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform to progress requested pension increases by the ESB (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4170/24]

*168. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for an update on the payment of the pension increase for ESB pensioners, and the rationale for the decision that all pension increases to members of semi-State pension schemes will need consent from both relevant Government Departments, in the case of the ESB, his Department and the Department of Public Expenditure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [4191/24]

*169. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4218/24]

*170. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if Ireland plans has any plans to exit an international treaty (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4311/24]

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

*171. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [3776/24]

*172. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence in light of commitments given on military housing by the Tánaiste last year, what the plan is for the currently unoccupied houses in an area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Berry. [3797/24]

*173. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the percentage of the 2023 budget allocation for purchasing new horses for the Defence Forces equitation school that was actually spent; and if any of underspend from the 2023 budget is automatically forwarded to the 2024 budget for same. — Catherine Murphy. [3880/24]

*174. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if he has considered amending the upper age limits for persons that have an ambition to become a member of the Defence Forces (detail supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [3908/24]

*175. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide an update on the restrictions he intends placing on Defence Forces representative associations; the reason he believes that a Defence Forces representative association or a representative of such association should be prohibited in law from making a public statement or comment concerning a political matter [or question or express an opinion on the merits of any policy] of the Government or a Minister of the Government or on the merits of the objectives of such policy (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [4043/24]

*176. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the reason he has moved to legislate with the General Scheme (Defence) Amendment Bill 2023 for the prohibition of membership of a representative association for two named appointments (Director of Military Prosecutions and Military Judge) in complete contravention of the finding of a Government appointed adjudicator within the Defence Forces conciliation and arbitration scheme, whose ruling was laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas in June 2023 and has not been overturned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [4044/24]

*177. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the strength of the Defence Forces at end December 2023; how many of these personnel are in full-time induction training, recruits, two star training, cadet training or apprenticeships and therefore non deployable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [4045/24]

*178. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of females currently in recruit training for both Army and Naval Service as of 23 January 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [4084/24]

*179. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if his Department is purchasing military equipment from Israeli companies (details supplied) whose weapons are currently being used in the genocidal assault against the Palestinian people; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [4117/24]

*180. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department;

to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4215/24]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*181. To ask the Minister for Transport the minimum carriageway width that local authorities must maintain for traffic when installing segregated cycle lanes; and whether this has been reviewed in light of the newer, wider buses being added to the Dublin Bus fleet. — Seán Crowe. [3619/24]

*182. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason new checks for check straps on door hinges have been added to the checklist for the NCT; what the rationale is for this, as it does not impinge on the mechanical ability of the car; if he is aware of the additional expense that this is placing on motorists; if there is any analysis of the effect on consumers conducted before such checks are added to an already onerous system; if consumers have any voice in this process or who represents them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [3652/24]

*183. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will direct the RSA to implement a cancellation list in all of its driving testing centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3759/24]

*184. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on a road project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [3762/24]

*185. To ask the Minister for Transport how many times persons have donated to the Red Cross through the prompt on the Irish Rail website in each of the past 30 months; and the value of total donations per month, in tabular form. — Peadar Tóibín. [3772/24]

*186. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3791/24]

*187. To ask the Minister for Transport to comment on health initiative concept for haulage drivers (details supplied) and advise on the best way to progress such a concept; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [3868/24]

*188. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure an additional bus stop is provided on the old N6 at Temple Spa to allow for additional transport links for residents (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [3874/24]

*189. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has met formally with the CEO of the Dublin Airport Authority to date in 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [3883/24]

*190. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are plans to increase the number of carriages from three to five on both the 9.33 am and 1.35 pm Dublin Connolly to Rosslare Europort train during 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [3884/24]

*191. To ask the Minister for Transport the average installation cost of a sheltered bus stop. — Catherine Murphy. [3885/24]

*192. To ask the Minister for Transport the cost of the PSO funding required to bring forward the Cork Network plan currently timetabled for 2025/2026 to 2024, by bus route on the BusConnects Cork network, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [3907/24]

*193. To ask the Minister for Transport the efforts being made by his Department or the RSA for additional driving licence exchange arrangements with other jurisdictions; the impact that this could have on driving test waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Creed. [3909/24]

*194. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will approve a funding application made to his Department in respect of essential improvement works (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [3910/24]

*195. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 301 of 17 January 2024 (details supplied), if the plan referenced includes keeping regular non-rapid charging points which many batteries on older model EVs are not equipped for. — Patrick Costello. [4048/24]

*196. To ask the Minister for Transport the active travel funding drawn down, by hospitals and universities in 2023. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4053/24]

*197. To ask the Minister for Transport to outline when and if the Government will sign off on the business plan for the TEN-T project in Donegal as submitted by the Donegal National Roads Office. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [4066/24]

*198. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will advise on the process to follow when a person has made a complaint to the National Transport Authority and there has been no resolution offered or action taken to resolve this complaint; if there is an authority the person can report the NTA to for their poor handling of the complaint process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4094/24]

*199. To ask the Minister for Transport with regard to a bus stop (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4102/24]

*200. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on actions nos. 67 and 122 from Phase 1 of the Government Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [4103/24]

*201. To ask the Minister for Transport when Irish Rail will submit a planning application for the works at Farranfore train station (details supplied); to confirm that the station will also operate as a bus stop which would ensure the bus is no longer stopping in the middle of the N22 causing backlogs of traffic which has become unsafe for users of the bus also; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4106/24]

*202. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide further details as regards collisions on our roads (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4132/24]

*203. To ask the Minister for Transport if there any plans to put a public electric vehicle charger in Ballybunion, County Kerry as it is a very busy holiday town; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4160/24]

*204. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4230/24]

*205. To ask the Minister for Transport if he could outline the punctuality of Iarnród Éireann services between Cork-Dublin, Midleton-Cork, Cobh-Cork, Cork-Mallow, Tralee-Dublin, Dublin-Belfast and Galway-Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4274/24]

*206. To ask the Minister for Transport to comment on the current iteration of the Regional Airports Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4313/24]

*207. To ask the Minister for Transport when a review into the Regional Airports Programme will conclude; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4314/24]

*208. To ask the Minister for Transport the total to the nearest euro in State aid received by each airport in Ireland over the past ten years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4315/24]

*209. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will comment on the steps that need to be taken in order to bring Irish aviation policy into line with the objectives of Project Ireland 2040; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4316/24]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*210. To ask the Minister for Finance how the 10% stamp duty applicable with respect to the purchase of ten or more relevant residential units applies to forward funding agreements and forward purchase agreements, respectively. — Pearse Doherty. [3757/24]

*211. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 359 of 17 January 2024, his Department's understanding of the discrepancy between the 395 properties with respect to which the ten percent stamp duty was payable in 2022 and figures from the Central Statistics Office which indicate that 2,053 houses were purchased by Finance and Insurance Real Estate sectors in 2022 (table HPA12); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [3760/24]

*212. To ask the Minister for Finance the name, year and the initial value of investments made in student accommodation related projects/funds/joint ventures since the Irish Strategic Investment Fund's inception, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [3768/24]

*213. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3780/24]

*214. To ask the Minister for Finance if he can confirm when applications for the mortgage interest relief will be opened for new applicants to apply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [3800/24]

*215. To ask the Minister for Finance when the income tax office in Limerick city will be open to the public again; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [3816/24]

*216. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will outline the Government's position during recent negotiations at EU level relating to fiscal rules around national debt and public spending; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [3817/24]

*217. To ask the Minister for Finance to comment on the measures in place to stop domestic waste removal companies from applying surcharges to customers that make payments by debit or credit card; if he is aware if this practice is currently in place by some domestic waste removal companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [3839/24]

*218. To ask the Minister for Finance the procedure through which the temporary mortgage relief on the increase in interest payments in 2023 can be applied for, and if Revenue have issued guidelines on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [3866/24]

*219. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of taxpayer units who earn under €40,000 in the most recent year for which statistics are available; and if he will distinguish the number of them who have children; the number who claim as caring for a child alone; and the number who are assessed as married and jointly assessed. — Richard Bruton. [4064/24]

*220. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will clarify the application process for mortgage interest relief for people whose sole income is their State pension; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [4141/24]

*221. To ask the Minister for Finance when the qualifying criteria for the primary medical certificate will be reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [4207/24]

*222. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4219/24]

*223. To ask the Minister for Finance in view of the country's high inflation and high interest rates, if he will consider postponing or ditching the proposed increase in excise in both petrol of 8cpl and diesel of 6cpl due to commence on 31 March 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [4257/24]

*224. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 221 of 23 January 2024, if he will provide further clarification on when the Revenue Commissioners interpretation of section 86 of the VAT Consolidation Act 2010 changed (details supplied); when Revenue Commissioners notified farmers, accountants and tax consultants that their interpretation of section 86 of the VAT Consolidation Act 2010 was going to change and differ considerably from the previous 12 years of interpretation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [4270/24]

*225. To ask the Minister for Finance if he plans to amend the disabled drivers and disabled passengers scheme to allow non-blood recipients of carer's allowance to be eligible to apply for the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4323/24]

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.

*226. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform for urgent assistance with a matter in County Kerry (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [3700/24]

*227. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide an update on the provision of consent for an increase to the pensions of retired ESB workers; if a timeframe is available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3715/24]

*228. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to detail the timescale for the increases in the pensions for retired former semi-State employees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [3718/24]

*229. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3786/24]

*230. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the status of a ESB pension increase (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [3890/24]

*231. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the current status of the Crossmolina flood relief scheme; what actions have been taken since the submission of the consultant's report to him recently; and to outline a timeline for progressing the scheme to construction. — Dara Calleary. [3913/24]

*232. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform why the Office of Government Procurement has not granted a contract (details supplied) to the most economically competitive price submitted; if he will identify the sourcing team involved in the adjudication in this case; if he will explain why having decided to divide the country into 16 distinct lots for the purpose of this contract it subsequently decided to allocate the contract to a UK company for the entire country; if he will review this specific decision in light of the above and review the oversight of sourcing teams and their considerable powers; and if he will further clarify who is obliged to purchase from the preferred tenderer in circumstances where the public purse would be better served financially by allowing the entities obliged to purchase from cheaper providers who are Irish SME businesses. — Michael Creed. [3936/24]

*233. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to report on when semi-State PAYE pensioners who were not permitted to contribute to the Government pension scheme can expect their pension increase to be paid out to them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [3997/24]

*234. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the refurbishment works that were carried out by the OPW at Kilkenny Castle in 2023; the refurbishment works that are scheduled to be carried out at Kilkenny Castle during 2024, in tabular form. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4057/24]

*235. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the refurbishment works that were carried out by the OPW on Carlow Courthouse railings in 2023; the refurbishment works that are scheduled to be carried out on Carlow Courthouse railings during 2024, in tabular form. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4058/24]

*236. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the amount of revenue generated through parking charges at National Botanic Gardens in 2023. — Catherine Murphy. [4076/24]

*237. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform his engagement to date with the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communication to progress requested pension increases by the ESB (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4131/24]

*238. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4225/24]

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

*239. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on an appeal (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [3745/24]

*240. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3778/24]

*241. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the 'right to repair' measures as set out in the European Commission Circular Economy Action Plan; if his Department will implement any of the proposals contained within; what is the progress to establish right to repair measures in Ireland; what preparations his Department is making; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [3843/24]

*242. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will identify the locations and completion date for each Advanced Building Solutions delivered under the IDA regional building programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [3919/24]

*243. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will identify each location for outstanding Advanced Building Solutions and current project lifecycle phase (i.e., site selection, design, planning process, etc.) in tabular form, for each of the outstanding

Advanced Building Solutions under the IDA regional building programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [3920/24]

*244. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to clarify when he expects to sign the next Joint Labour Committee Employment Regulation Order (JLC ERO) into law; if he will report on his meeting with the JLC ERO body on 26 January 2024 to go through submission in the WRC; and if he accepts that six months have now elapsed since the signing of the last JLC ERO on 4 September 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4148/24]

*245. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how much money Enterprise Ireland has written off in investments it has made in companies for the years, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, by year, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [4149/24]

*246. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on the discussions that have taken place with member states in respect of the EU steel safeguarding tariff; whether the measures are set to continue in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [4165/24]

*247. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of work permits issued in Ireland from 1 January to 31 December 2023; the breakdown by nationality that each of the work permits was issued to, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4193/24]

*248. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of work permits issued in Ireland from 1 January to 31 December 2022; the breakdown by nationality that each of the work permits was issued to, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4194/24]

*249. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4217/24]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*250. To ask the Minister for Education given the shortage of teaching staff, if her department is willing to allow those who have a level 8 qualification in early years education to teach in primary schools up to level of 2nd class; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Stanley. [3622/24]

*251. To ask the Minister for Education if she has considered the submission seeking the restoration of the premium for teachers teaching through the medium of Irish; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [3643/24]

*252. To ask the Minister for Education if there are any plans to reintroduce the teaching through Irish allowance for teachers in Irish-medium and Gaeltacht schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Riordáin. [3647/24]

*253. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the capital project for a school (details supplied); if a timeframe is available for the commencement of the project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3648/24]

*254. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the capital project for a school (details supplied); if a timeframe is available for the commencement of the project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3649/24]

*255. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on the provision of increased capacity at second-level schools in the Newcastle, County Dublin area. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3650/24]

*256. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on progress on the provision of a much-needed new primary school on a single campus (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [3703/24]

*257. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on the provision of a special school place for a person (details supplied). — Eoin Ó Broin. [3727/24]

*258. To ask the Minister for Education if she will advise if a project for a second ASD nit in a school (details supplied) will continue to progress; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [3733/24]

*259. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated cost of phasing out public subsidies to private schools. — Sorca Clarke. [3738/24]

*260. To ask the Minister for Education the estimated cost of reducing class sizes in primary schools that will bring Ireland into line with our EU counterparts. — Sorca Clarke. [3739/24]

*261. To ask the Minister for Education if she has any plans for a review of DEIS in secondary schools and whether the status of a school (details supplied) can be reassessed considering its recent amalgamation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [3746/24]

*262. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide additional funding for the science, technology, engineering and mathematics learning grant for schools, in which there has been a high level of interest and applications made prior to the 30 November 2023 deadline; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [3747/24]

*263. To ask the Minister for Education her plans for a new post-primary school to serve the Knocklyon and Rathfarnham areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [3753/24]

*264. To ask the Minister for Education her views on the awarding of incremental credits for teachers for prior work in a related field; if she believes that the current system is overly restrictive; if she believes that the Appeals Committee established under section 6C of the scheme for the Award of Incremental Credits should have to issue comprehensive judgements following an appeal; if she would consider establishing an independent appeals process for this matter; if such appeals can be appealed to the Ombudsman; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [3763/24]

*265. To ask the Minister for Education if she intends to review her Departments position on allowances for teaching through the medium of Irish; if she intends to reinstate the allowance;

if such allowances form a part of her Department's strategy for increasing the use of the Irish language; and if a response will issue to the concerns of teachers (details supplied). — Ged Nash. [3769/24]

*266. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if she will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if she continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3777/24]

*267. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 651 of 17 January 2024, to outline the process for an application for exemption for an early intervention class for a person with special educational needs (details supplied). — Eoin Ó Broin. [3811/24]

*268. To ask the Minister for Education have grants available for wall insulation for primary schools; if same would cover 100% of the costs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [3822/24]

*269. To ask the Minister for Education if primary school students (details supplied) can be considered for the remote area transport grant; and if so, the application process for this grant. — Robert Troy. [3855/24]

*270. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on a school building project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [3875/24]

*271. To ask the Minister for Education the reason it has taken more than 22 weeks to approve an application for an incremental increase for an SNA who applied for an increase based on past experience in August 2023 (details supplied); when this person will receive their incremental increase; the reason delays are experienced; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [3917/24]

*272. To ask the Minister for Education the options available to a person (details supplied) who is unable to secure a school placement in their locality and is unable to obtain a home tutor; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3925/24]

*273. To ask the Minister for Education rt will be provided to pupils (details supplied) in view of the fact that they are entitled to school transport; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [3932/24]

*274. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the progress made in relation to guidance counsellors for post primary schools in the context of the public consultation on the national policy group on lifelong guidance. — Sorca Clarke. [3933/24]

*275. To ask the Minister for Education if there are supports available through her Department to assist second-level schools who are not designated in DEIS categories to develop services and facilities to provide hot meals in their schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [3938/24]

*276. To ask the Minister for Education to outline the cost to the State of prefab or modular school buildings over the past five years, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [3961/24]

*277. To ask the Minister for Education if an application for registration for the Teaching Council will be considered (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [3964/24]

*278. To ask the Minister for Education the grounds there are for the compulsory nature of educational devices in schools; if she is aware of the costs incurred by parents of students for the mandatory devices as well as the mandatory textbooks and other materials; if she will report on the process of contracting suppliers of the educational devices; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [3998/24]

*279. To ask the Minister for Education the reason SNAs with ten years of experience (details supplied) in private pre-schools are unable to apply for incremental credits, particularly when those who have worked in community pre-schools are eligible; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [4050/24]

*280. To ask the Minister for Education the number of applications approved by State Examination Commission for access to deferred sittings of the Leaving Certificate examinations in cases in which the students were deemed to have experienced a medical incident or emergency during their original examination paper. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4055/24]

*281. To ask the Minister for Education the number of places in each teacher training college for initial training for primary school teachers for the past two years, including 2023, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [4088/24]

*282. To ask the Minister for Education if original deadlines will be met for the moving into permanent accommodation by a school (details supplied); the proposed plan for ensuring that 72 additional first year students are accommodated in September 2025; and if she will make a statement on plans for handover in September 2025. — Ivana Bacik. [4120/24]

*283. To ask the Minister for Education her Departments policy in relation to the provision of all-weather or astroturf pitches for schools; and if she will make a statement on the adequacy of provision of space for Gaelic football, hurling, soccer and rugby in educational facilities in Dublin 6W. — Ivana Bacik. [4121/24]

*284. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on where a school (details supplied) will be located for September 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [4150/24]

*285. To ask the Minister for Education if his Department will extend the in-school counselling pilot programme to all schools, in light of the increasing need for counselling for young people. — Mick Barry. [4159/24]

*286. To ask the Minister for Education in relation to the recent decision not to release funds that would allow teachers in Ireland who have taught in secondary schools outside the EU to move up the incremental pay scale, if she will reconsider this decision and take immediate action to rectify this situation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4172/24]

*287. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 75 of 27 September 2023, if she will establish if Bus Éireann has completed a review of the route in

question, as the family has not received any contact from Bus Éireann or the school transport section in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [4173/24]

*288. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update in relation to the issue of no HEPA filters in Irish classrooms despite the €62 million announcement by her in December 2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4197/24]

*289. To ask the Minister for Education to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to her and to Ministers of State of her Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4216/24]

*290. To ask the Minister for Education what the appeals process is for an administrative error resulting in the incorrect categorisation of a teacher's fee fund application resulting in a significant financial loss as happened in a case of a teacher (details supplied); and if her Department could make inquiries to help rectify the issue. — Aodhán Ó Riordáin. [4231/24]

*291. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on the progression of a new school build (details supplied); if the said build can be expedited; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [4238/24]

*292. To ask the Minister for Education when a decision will be made on an application submitted by a school (details supplied) for approval for four modular classrooms; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [4239/24]

*293. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the approved plan for a new site and build for a school (details supplied). — Joe Flaherty. [4258/24]

*294. To ask the Minister for Education if she can assure parents in north Kildare, that their children currently forced to receive home tuition for first year, due to the lack of a school place, will have their second year school place guaranteed in September 2024 and for all subsequent years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [4275/24]

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

*295. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the up-to-date position on a sports capital grant application (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [3713/24]

*296. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if her Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if she will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if she continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3790/24]

*297. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when the legislative process for new rental properties (details supplied) rule will commence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [3793/24]

*298. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when the next round of allocations under the Sports Capital Programme will be announced; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [3851/24]

*299. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to outline her plans to address the bed shortage in the tourism sector as a result of many beds being used in the response to the migration crisis. — Robert Troy. [3872/24]

*300. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the dates in 2023 and to date in 2024 where she or her officials met directly with persons (details supplied) , in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [3876/24]

*301. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted those contracts and nature of the work involved; and the qualifying criteria that was awarded to any company awarded such a contract in 2023. — Catherine Murphy. [4089/24]

*302. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the status of progress on the short-term tourist letting register; when the register will be launched; if she will detail the research which was undertaken in making her Department's estimate that the measure would bring 12,000 properties back onto the long-term rental market and the justification for that figure; if she will report on her engagement with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the initiative; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [4122/24]

*303. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media what steps her Department is taking to ensure similar access to sporting facilities for men and women. — Jim O'Callaghan. [4198/24]

*304. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide an update in relation to the large-scale sports infrastructure fund. — Jim O'Callaghan. [4199/24]

*305. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide an update in relation to the joint Ireland and UK bid to host UEFA EURO 2028. — Jim O'Callaghan. [4200/24]

*306. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media what steps her Department is taking to develop a strategy to identify the type of major sporting events Ireland can and should bid for. — Jim O'Callaghan. [4201/24]

*307. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide an outline of measures taken by her Department and its relevant agencies to tackle violence, racism, discrimination and other forms of abuse in sport. — Jim O'Callaghan. [4202/24]

*308. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide an update in relation to the Sports Action Plan and its requirement to have 40% gender representation on the boards of the National Governing Bodies of Sport. — Jim O'Callaghan. [4203/24]

*309. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media what steps her Department is taking to support Women in Sport programmes. — Jim O'Callaghan. [4204/24]

*310. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide an outline of measures taken by her Department and its relevant agencies to encourage volunteering in sport. — Jim O’Callaghan. [4205/24]

*311. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to her and to Ministers of State of her Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4229/24]

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

*312. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many properties have been put forward by his Department by local authorities under the Ukrainian Refurbishment Programme; how many have been approved and at what cost and to provide details of those rejected and a breakdown by local authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4091/24]

*313. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if changes to the tenant incremental purchase scheme, which come into force on 29 January 2024, mean that tenants of Part V houses can purchase their homes under the tenant incremental purchase scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [3615/24]

*314. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many houses have been purchased, broken down by each local authority, under the tenant-in-situ scheme; how much money has been allocated to each local authority for purchasing houses under this scheme for the years 2022, 2023 and 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [3617/24]

*315. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider, as part of the review of the croí cónaithe scheme, adding farm buildings to the eligible list of buildings, as many old farm buildings are no longer suitable for modern-day agricultural practices and are being left abandoned as they serve little or no purpose (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O’Dowd. [3654/24]

*316. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department monitors operational standards in Uisce Éireann. — Ivana Bacik. [3717/24]

*317. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how much funding is provided to local authorities in 2024 to carry out property inspections (whether by third party private contractors working on their behalf or by local authority staff directly in order to comply with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019. — Louise O’Reilly. [3755/24]

*318. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many of the 31 local authorities have a dedicated property inspection staff member/team to conduct inspections in line with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019, in tabular form. — Louise O’Reilly. [3756/24]

*319. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to seek engagement with the Housing Agency in respect of a person's pyrite concerns (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [3761/24]

*320. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3784/24]

*321. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a breakdown of the new build social housing delivered in the first three quarters of 2023, by scheme type (details supplied) in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3794/24]

*322. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average cost of a new build social home delivered via turnkey in 2023, broken down by local authority, in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3795/24]

*323. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average cost of a new build social home delivered via SHIP construction in 2023, broken down by local authority, in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3796/24]

*324. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide in tabular form the average cost of a new build social home delivered via CALF construction in 2023 broken down by local authority. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3798/24]

*325. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide in tabular form the average cost of a new build social home delivered via Part V in 2023 broken down by local authority. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3799/24]

*326. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if an individual can apply for the vacant home refurbishment grant if they have already started renovation works prior to applying; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [3820/24]

*327. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department maintain figures of the amount of short-term rental properties and private rooms that have come onto the long-term rental market since the introduction of the Residential Tenancies (Amendment) Act 2019 and supplementary regulation Planning and Development Act 2000 (Exempted Development) (No. 2) Regulations 2019 (S.I. No. 235 of 2019); if so, the amount of properties and private rooms; the amount of properties that were sold following the introduction of the regulations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [3835/24]

*328. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to the rules for strategic housing developments as they apply to purpose built student accommodation, the minimum room size, in square meters for a single occupancy room; the minimum and maximum period of duration of stay; what restrictions apply to these rooms being rented to non-students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [3857/24]

*329. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will expedite the regulations and instructions to local authorities to give effect to the announcement last October of extending the local authority home loan scheme to renovations; if he will ensure that maximum

discretion is allowed to local authorities to deal with the many and varied circumstances that they encounter in this regard; and if he will give a timeline for the introduction of these regulations. — Michael Creed. [3926/24]

*330. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether he intends to appoint any new members to the LDA board including representatives from his Department or Finance or Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3934/24]

*331. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of full-time qualified quantity surveyors employed by his Department as of 17 January 2024; if he will provide the same figures as of 31 January 2022, in tabular form. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4052/24]

*332. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the proposed changes to the septic tank grant will be available (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [4065/24]

*333. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of WTE staff with biodiversity expertise employed by his Department as of 23 January 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [4083/24]

*334. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the timeframe for the publication of the draft revised wind energy development guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [4097/24]

*335. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the draft revised wind energy guidelines on the significant work that has been undertaken on the noise elements; if he will provide details on the discussions his Department has had with the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications on new developments in this regard, including consideration of the impact of the revised 2030 target to generate up to 80% of Ireland electricity from renewable sources and the need to ensure that proposals regarding the measurement and assessment of noise from wind turbines are fit for purpose; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [4098/24]

*336. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the discussions his Department has had with the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications on new developments on the noise elements, have included any multidisciplinary consultations with health professionals or noise experts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [4099/24]

*337. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to confirm that the Local and European Elections will indeed take place on the 7 June 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4107/24]

*338. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage with regard to voter registration being facilitated through schools (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4110/24]

*339. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the third cycle River Basin Management Plan will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4147/24]

*340. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of vacant and derelict property grant applications that have been submitted to Carlow and Kilkenny County Councils; the number that each council approved; the actual amount of funding granted in each case; and the response nationally to both grant schemes in the context of the number of approved applications for each county. — John McGuinness. [4178/24]

*341. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will acknowledge that the 10% stamp duty on investment funds purchasing homes in bulk has not deterred investment funds; if he will take immediate action to implement a ban on property purchases by investment funds, which is exacerbating the housing crisis; if not, why not; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4179/24]

*342. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will instruct his Department to intervene in the case of the 28 houses completed in an estate (details supplied) to ensure the properties are not sold to investment funds. — Paul Murphy. [4180/24]

*343. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details from the local authorities in relation to what the average processing time is for a tenant under the tenant-in-situ scheme. — Paul Murphy. [4181/24]

*344. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details from the local authorities in relation to how many landlords in Dublin have applied for the tenant-in-situ scheme, only to subsequently withdraw, since the scheme commenced. — Paul Murphy. [4182/24]

*345. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details from the local authority in relation to how many landlords in Fingal have applied for the tenant-in-situ scheme, and how many have withdrawn their applications since the scheme began. — Paul Murphy. [4183/24]

*346. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details from the local authorities which outlines the stages of the tenant-in-situ scheme, step by step. — Paul Murphy. [4184/24]

*347. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details from the local authorities on whether applicants are subject to Garda vetting in the tenant-in-situ scheme; and if so, why. — Paul Murphy. [4185/24]

*348. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details from the local authorities on whether the tenant-in-situ scheme progresses during Garda vetting; or if it is delayed until completion. — Paul Murphy. [4186/24]

*349. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details from the local authorities on when a tenant-in-situ scheme is transferred from one council to another in Dublin; and if the application start date is based on when the documentation was first submitted or when it is transferred to the other council. — Paul Murphy. [4187/24]

*350. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details from the local authority in relation to how many staff are currently working on the tenant-in-situ scheme at Fingal County Council. — Paul Murphy. [4188/24]

*351. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details from the local authority in relation to how many tenant-in-situ applications have been received in Fingal County Council since the scheme commenced; and how many properties the council bought. — Paul Murphy. [4189/24]

*352. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what steps he will take to intervene in the tenant-in-situ scheme to prevent further delays in his own constituency and others; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4190/24]

*353. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4223/24]

*354. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the details of the publicity campaign (if any) to advertise the interim remediation scheme for fire safety defects in apartments and duplexes to all those affected. — Paul Murphy. [4235/24]

*355. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline whether the drafting of legislation for the scheme for remediation of defects in apartments and duplexes is dependent upon the levels of uptake of the Interim Remediation Scheme. — Paul Murphy. [4236/24]

*356. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps he will take to ensure the State fulfils its obligations under Article 4 of the safe Drinking Water Directive; and the total amount of fines incurred for failing to comply with the directive. — Catherine Murphy. [4241/24]

*357. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if local authorities have been issued with guidelines to enable them to assess croí cónaithe applications under the local authority mortgage scheme. — Joe Flaherty. [4259/24]

*358. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if local authorities have been issued with guidelines to enable them to implement the new and increased grant for replacement or update of septic tanks to the value of €15k. — Joe Flaherty. [4260/24]

*359. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of strategic housing developments that relate to purpose built student accommodation that have yet to be determined by An Bord Pleanála; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [4262/24]

*360. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to section 13(d)(b) of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016, as per the definition of student accommodation (details supplied); what oversight is conducted to ensure compliance with this; who is the relevant authority with responsibility for this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [4263/24]

*361. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware that homeowners affected by fire defects (details supplied) must go outside of Ireland to insure

their home and contents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4318/24]

*362. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of a situation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4319/24]

*363. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the full rollout of the interim fire safety funding for apartment owners affected by fire defects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4320/24]

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

*364. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her officials have been in discussions with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage regarding a policy to have local authorities authorise works/ purchases under the exceptional needs/additional needs payments applications for individuals who have recently been allocated local authority properties, if this is a requirement to qualify for an exceptional needs/additional needs payment in these circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [3616/24]

*365. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 978 of 17 January 2024, the definition of qualified children; the definition of dependant children eligible for the fuel allowance; if there is an age limit; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [3731/24]

*366. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she can introduce a mechanism whereby teachers who are on career breaks are able to pay PRSI contributions and to have these contributions recognised; if she is aware that teachers who are on career breaks are unable to make contributions which risks affecting their State pension entitlements and eligibility for maternity leave and so on; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [3754/24]

*367. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of fraudulent claims of payments through her Department, by payment type of those residing in the State and those residing outside the State, by county in each of the past ten years; the number of fraudulent claims, by payment type currently under investigation of those residing in the State, and those residing outside the State, by country; the cost to the State of all fraudulent claims and legal investigation costs for the same time period, per year of those residing in the State and those residing outside the State, by country, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [3771/24]

*368. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if she will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if she continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3788/24]

*369. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when an appeal for a State pension contribution for a person (details supplied) will be processed and a decision made; the reason for the delay in processing this; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [3823/24]

*370. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the full amount of disability benefit will be paid in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [3831/24]

*371. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on a non-contributory pension application (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [3906/24]

*372. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the current timeframe for social welfare appeals; what resources are in place to address appeals; if she will allocate extra resources to address backlogs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [3915/24]

*373. To ask the Minister for Social Protection in relation to comments made by the Secretary General of her Department at the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) (details supplied), to correct the record with the PAC that sample/test cases were and are used to ensure that the same conclusion is reached in cases, contrary to the erroneous information given to the PAC. — Paul Murphy. [3952/24]

*374. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when an appeal for invalidity pension lodged on 8 May 2023 will be decided (details supplied); the reason for delay; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [3959/24]

*375. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of invalidity pension appeals awaiting a decision for eight months or more; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [3960/24]

*376. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to clarify the recent Supreme Court decision with regard to unmarried widowers without children; his Department's timescale in relation to implementing this Supreme Court decision; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [4049/24]

*377. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the last time the back to school clothing and footwear allowance was increased; and the estimated full year cost if this allowance increased by 15%. — Catherine Murphy. [4080/24]

*378. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of appeals officers assigned to assessing both applications and appeals, respectively, for disability allowance. — Catherine Murphy. [4081/24]

*379. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will examine the review process by which carers are having their carers allowance reviewed and the invasive nature of the information being requested; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [4092/24]

*380. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what the current processing times are for all social protection payments in her remit; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4093/24]

*381. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the options open to parents of primary school children who are coeliacs to avail of the school meals programme and whose school supplier are

not providing gluten free options; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [4114/24]

*382. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a person (details supplied) in County Cork will receive child benefit. — Michael Creed. [4151/24]

*383. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to indicate if an entitlement to the widow's pension can be backdated in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4175/24]

*384. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a file will be sent from the disability allowance section of her Department to the social welfare appeals office to determine an appeal for a person (details supplied) in County Mayo; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [4176/24]

*385. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider an increase in the qualified adult allowance payment in line with any increase in social welfare payments, particularly in the instance of those qualified adults over 80 years of age; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [4177/24]

*386. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of PPS numbers issued in Ireland from 1 January to 31 December 2023; the breakdown by nationality that each of the PPS number was issued to, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4192/24]

*387. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4227/24]

*388. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason for the delayed decision on a disability allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4237/24]

*389. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of an application for a domiciliary care allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4272/24]

*390. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a decision will be made in a case (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4330/24]

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

*391. To ask the Minister for Justice when Tusla will confirm funding allocation for 2024 for an organisation (details supplied) in Donegal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [4112/24]

*392. To ask the Minister for Justice to list the current top ten earners who are contracted as a case processing panellist in the International Protection Office. — Gary Gannon. [3721/24]

*393. To ask the Minister for Justice how many case processing panellists are currently contracted to the International Protection Office. — Gary Gannon. [3722/24]

*394. To ask the Minister for Justice how much money a case processing panellist is paid per case in the International Protection Office. — Gary Gannon. [3723/24]

*395. To ask the Minister for Justice if her attention has been drawn to issues experienced by foreign nationals while travelling (details supplied); and her plans to alleviate the problem, including by issuing visas to minors. — Ivana Bacik. [3732/24]

*396. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason Ireland has not opted out of EU immigration policies, considering that under Article 29.4.7 of the Irish Constitution, Ireland can legally opt out of such policies under Protocol 19 of the Lisbon Treaty; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [3748/24]

*397. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide details on each EU immigration policy that Ireland has opted into, including the dates when the Government decided to opt in or out and when the measure was passed by both Houses of the Oireachtas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [3749/24]

*398. To ask the Minister for Justice where a person (details supplied) should apply to for the renewal of their IRP card considering that it expired some time ago and in light of the conflicting information they have been provided with; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [3764/24]

*399. To ask the Minister for Justice if her Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if she will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if she continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3785/24]

*400. To ask the Minister for Justice when the review of Part 4 of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017 will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [3840/24]

*401. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in the determination of an application for citizenship in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [3842/24]

*402. To ask the Minister for Justice for an update on a change of immigration application for a person (details supplied); and if there is a timeframe for which it might be processed and concluded. — Joe Flaherty. [3847/24]

*403. To ask the Minister for Justice how many applicants for international protection in respect of whom was it determined in 2020, 2021, 2022, or 2023, respectively, was a determination made that the fact that, a first instance decision in respect of the applicant's protection application has not been made can be attributed, or attributed in part, to the applicant or that he or she, without reasonable excuse, is failing, or has failed to comply with an obligation under an enactment relating to the application, respectively. — Michael McNamara. [3865/24]

*404. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of outstanding GNIB renewal appointments; and the length of time it is expected each appointment will have before one is granted for stamp renewal, by each GNIB station, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [3869/24]

*405. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí specifically allocated to working on stamp renewals, by station, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [3870/24]

*406. To ask the Minister for Justice if she is aware of the significant delays impacting the working lives for applicants seeking stamp renewal; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [3871/24]

*407. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí by rank attached to each divisional public service vehicle inspectors as of 22 January 2024, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [3877/24]

*408. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of new Garda vehicles added to the Kildare and Wicklow Garda divisions in 2023 and to date in 2024; the number of Garda vehicles withdrawn from those divisions in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [3878/24]

*409. To ask the Minister for Justice the timeline and costs involved for the introduction of the online portal uploading and reporting footage of road traffic offences, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [3900/24]

*410. To ask the Minister for Justice the correct procedure to be followed to permit a person (details supplied) to regain entry to Ireland for employment purposes, who returned to the Philippines in 2021 due to a health issue, who previously lived and worked in Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [3916/24]

*411. To ask the Minister for Justice for a timeline on the completion of the review of Part 4 of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [3939/24]

*412. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will conduct a health impact assessment of the proposed sale of alcohol bill; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3940/24]

*413. To ask the Minister for Justice to detail if the gardaí have carried out any investigation into the number of people who have received deportation orders but have not self-deported; and if the gardaí have carried out this research, will she provide me with a copy of the report or detail the findings of this research. — Peadar Tóibín. [3947/24]

*414. To ask the Minister for Justice if an issue can be expedited (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [3963/24]

*415. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will outline the number of gardaí and their rank, in all stations in County Louth as of December 2023, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [3970/24]

*416. To ask the Minister for Justice when the manual for gardaí to pursue scrambler bikes and motorcycles travelling at high speed was last updated. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4054/24]

*417. To ask the Minister for Justice the last time the number of horses in the Garda mounted unit was increased. — Catherine Murphy. [4085/24]

*418. To ask the Minister for Justice the estimated full year cost of recruiting an additional detective superintendent post. — Catherine Murphy. [4086/24]

*419. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of new mountain bikes, e-bikes and mopeds that came into the Garda fleet in 2023 and to-date in 2024; and the number of Garda mountain bikes withdrawn from the fleet during 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [4087/24]

*420. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to introduce a dedicated spiking offence; her plans to make spiking an indictable offence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [4101/24]

*421. To ask the Minister for Justice if a funding allocation for the role of client support for an organisation (details supplied) in Donegal will be made again in 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [4113/24]

*422. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí, by division in each of the years 2018 to 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [4135/24]

*423. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of new recruits to An Garda Síochána in each of the years 2018 to 2023 and to date in 2024; the number of retirements from An Garda Síochána in the corresponding timeframe; and the number of resignations from An Garda Síochána. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [4136/24]

*424. To ask the Minister for Justice the overall allocation to drugs units in each county in each of the years 2019 to 2023 and to date in 2024. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [4137/24]

*425. To ask the Minister for Justice if her Department can arrange a test (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [4210/24]

*426. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to her and to Ministers of State of her Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4224/24]

*427. To ask the Minister for Justice how many times Gardaí have made an official request to management of IPAS accommodation centres seeking to find out information about people who had received a deportation order (details supplied). — Peadar Tóibín. [4233/24]

*428. To ask the Minister for Justice if there are any plans to set up dedicated scrambler apprehension units in urban areas, properly resourced units with the vehicles and equipment needed for their role. — Paul Donnelly. [4307/24]

*429. To ask the Minister for Justice if there any plans for the use of drones in the following and apprehension of illegally driven scramblers in parks and estates. — Paul Donnelly. [4308/24]

*430. To ask the Minister for Justice if there are any plans to equip the cycle mounted gardai with electric bikes. — Paul Donnelly. [4309/24]

*431. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide an update on the overcrowded conditions in the Irish Prison Service; if any changes have been made to the conditions of temporary release; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4321/24]

*432. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will report on the removal of the Ombudsman for Children's Office in the Domestic, Sexual & Gender Based Violence Services action due to the failure of delivery of required resources from her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4322/24]

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

*433. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number, total value, and duration of each contract for services purchased from an organisation (details supplied) by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [3702/24]

*434. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how many tenders from alternative service providers were received for the services now being provided to his Department by an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [3773/24]

*435. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3774/24]

*436. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will advise on the provision of grant support for machinery for a type of farming (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [3813/24]

*437. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will advise on the development of a framework for carbon farming including focus on carbon sequestration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [3814/24]

*438. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a person (details supplied) will receive their young farmer top-up payment. — Michael Creed. [3818/24]

*439. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when an organic payment will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [3844/24]

*440. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 1252 of 17 January 2024, if he could consider the request therein and restated in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [3888/24]

*441. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of a farm payment appeal by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [3891/24]

*442. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a person (details supplied) will receive their ACRES payment. — Michael Creed. [3902/24]

*443. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he has engaged with the Minister for Finance regarding concerns from farmers about taxation following receipt of two ACRES payments in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [3967/24]

*444. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of persons that attended each race night event throughout December 2023 at Shelbourne Park Greyhound Stadium; and If he will provide same figures for December 2022, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [4082/24]

*445. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on measures being taken to tackle puppy farming across the country; what is being done to enforce these measures; what measures are being taken to enforce dog microchipping regulations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [4144/24]

*446. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the Department will provide additional funding for organisations that provide out-of-hours services for animal welfare; if there are any plans to train Gardaí, customs officers, etc. on animal welfare practices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [4145/24]

*447. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide inspection reports from 2019 to the present day for a company (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [4161/24]

*448. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4213/24]

*449. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for his views on correspondence from an association (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [4247/24]

*450. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the steps he will take to increase biosecurity measures in light of the outbreak of bark beetle in Cratloe, County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4332/24]

*451. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what ongoing supports his Department is offering to a cohort of farmers (details supplied); what engagements he has had with those farmers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4333/24]

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

*452. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of blind persons in receipt of the blind welfare allowance which is a means tested payment; the number of persons in a range of payments of those in receipt of less than €50, between €50 to €100, between €100 to €150; between €150 to €200 and over; if the means test for this payment will be re-examined for persons who are in this difficult situation in order that more persons can qualify for a larger payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [4134/24]

*453. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many reports or notices IPAS has received for each of the past five years from management at contracted asylum seeker accommodation centres requesting help for residents in terms of mental health issues, violent behaviour or addiction; and what steps or actions have IPAS undertaken to help residents in those circumstances. — Peadar Tóibín. [4232/24]

*454. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will house refugees in a property (details supplied) whilst an enforcement action detailing significant issues with the development has been issued against the property by the local authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [4271/24]

*455. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will report on the recent findings from the HIQA report into a centre (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4328/24]

*456. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason a child (details supplied) is waiting on an assessment of needs; if he can speed up their appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [3621/24]

*457. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total number of early years and SAC closures, by county in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024, in tabular form; the number of baby room closures, by county, for 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024, in tabular form; if he has considered the policy paper drafted by an organisation (details supplied) to assess and react to early years, childcare and SAC closures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [3653/24]

*458. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many speech and language therapists are currently working in each health district in Ireland and how many positions are currently vacant; and how current numbers compare to each of the past five years. — Sorca Clarke. [3716/24]

*459. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason an offer of accommodation for Ukrainian families has been declined by his Department (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [3728/24]

*460. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of persons in direct provision centres in County Laois as of 22 January 2022; the number of such centres; the location of such centres within the county; the number of persons in each centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [3767/24]

*461. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of Local Authority Integration Teams (LAITS) currently in place; what local authorities have full LAITs in place; the amount of money given to each local authority in 2023 for LAITs; and the amount of money given in 2024 for LAITs. — Peadar Tóibín. [3770/24]

*462. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3775/24]

*463. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to outline any regulations in regard to ECCE supports that would prevent providers from refusing to offer half day sessions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [3832/24]

*464. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to outline any regulations in regard to ECCE supports that would ensure that parents who received an ECCE place for half day sessions, cannot at a later date be told that the provider will no longer be offering half day sessions in favour of full-time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [3833/24]

*465. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if and when required supports including assessment of need can be provided in the case of the son of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [3841/24]

*466. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for a breakdown by county and, in Dublin, by post code of the total number of people in International Protection Accommodation Services or direct provision. — Neasa Hourigan. [3845/24]

*467. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he has been furnished with the protected disclosure to Tusla, referenced in a media article (details supplied); and if he will instruct Tusla to release the protected disclosure, with appropriate redactions, to this Deputy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [3846/24]

*468. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many inspections of accommodation centres provided pursuant to the European Communities (Reception Conditions) Regulations 2018 and centres accommodating beneficiaries of temporary protection, respectively, were carried out in each month of 2023, excluding inspections of prospective centres prior to occupation; and how many instances of a discrepancy between occupancy found and registers provided to the Department were found in each month. — Michael McNamara. [3861/24]

*469. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to outline the purpose of inspections of accommodation centres provided pursuant to the European Communities (Reception Conditions) Regulations 2018 and centres accommodating beneficiaries of temporary protection, respectively. — Michael McNamara. [3862/24]

*470. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to outline how the inspectors of accommodation centres provided pursuant to the European Communities (Reception Conditions) Regulations 2018 and centres accommodating beneficiaries of temporary

protection, respectively, verify the occupancy levels provided to his Department in respect of the said centre. — Michael McNamara. [3863/24]

*471. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many withdrawals or reductions of material reception conditions, respectively, were made in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, respectively where the fact that a first instance decision in respect of the applicant's protection application has not been made can be attributed, or attributed in part, to the applicant or he or she, without reasonable excuse, is failing, or has failed to comply with an obligation under an enactment relating to the application, respectively. — Michael McNamara. [3864/24]

*472. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the review of transport services for residents of a centre (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [3873/24]

*473. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the amount of equipment issued under AIMS in 2023; and the type of equipment issued and the time it took for the equipment to be issued to educational providers, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [3881/24]

*474. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the amount TUSLA spent on youth counselling services in 2023. — Catherine Murphy. [3882/24]

*475. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will outline the funding for the national childcare scheme in each county; the number of providers participating in this scheme, by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [3898/24]

*476. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many vacancies in each of the CDNT teams across the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3914/24]

*477. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if consideration can be given to having a broad 'personalised budget' scheme for individuals with disability, on the basis that many service providers are over-stretched and cannot give many individuals with disabilities the type of support in the community that they so badly need and want; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [3918/24]

*478. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth has St. Johns House, Tallaght undergone a change of use from a passport processing office to accommodation for asylum seekers; and if his Department discussed this change with any of the workers. — Peadar Tóibín. [3944/24]

*479. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to detail all of the buildings that were bought by his Department to house people from Ukraine, International Protection applicants and people within the Direct Provision sector; if he will detail how many of these buildings are in use for those purposes and how many are in other uses and how many are idle. — Peadar Tóibín. [3945/24]

*480. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to detail how many rapid build accommodation units have been built to house people from Ukraine to date. — Peadar Tóibín. [3946/24]

*481. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when his Department started to write to people with status/leave to remain in direct provision centres giving them dates by which they would have to leave the direct provision centre or be moved to another centre; the number of such letters issued to date; the criteria for issuing such letters; the rationale for this policy; the number of people who have been moved on foot of these letters; and a breakdown of these moves, including information on from where; and the location to which they have been moved. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3948/24]

*482. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when an answer to a Parliamentary Question (details supplied) will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [4070/24]

*483. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide a full breakdown on the number of asylum seekers/refugees accommodated across various sites in County Westmeath in tabular form and the number of each nationality accommodated in the various sites, including the direct provision centre at Lissywoolen, Athlone. — Robert Troy. [4095/24]

*484. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of asylum seekers/refugees in County Westmeath as of December 2022. — Robert Troy. [4096/24]

*485. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide the number of both IPAS applicants and Ukrainian refugees in Tipperary broken down per electoral district. — Martin Browne. [4104/24]

*486. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his attention has been drawn to price increases being introduced by (details supplied); if this is permitted under the National Childcare Scheme; if he is concerned of the knock on financial implications for parents impacted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [4109/24]

*487. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of private residential houses and apartments he is using by way of contract under Class 20F of S.I. No. 605 of 2022 to accommodate prescribed persons. — Catherine Murphy. [4212/24]

*488. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4214/24]

*489. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth whether a decision (details supplied) by Tusla relating to a crèche can be appealed. — Paul Murphy. [4234/24]

*490. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the location of the proposed six new accommodation centres; the details of any contracts issued to develop these centres; the properties being examined or considered for redevelopment as these new centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [4273/24]

*491. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when an assessment of need will take place for a child (details supplied) in order to facilitate early intervention if needed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [4310/24]

*492. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he plans to amend the Health (Corporate Bodies) Act 1961 to expand the role of the NTPF so that they may facilitate a subvention of public funding to provide private assessments of need for the 20 children waiting the longest in each county each year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4324/24]

*493. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 173 of 12 October 2023, if the promised additional 70,370 PA hours were delivered in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4325/24]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*494. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the application for speech and language services (details supplied); to provide an update on the recruitment due to the number of vacancies for speech and language therapists in Kilcock; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [4133/24]

*495. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the Implementation Group examining the operation of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018; to provide an outline of the number of occasions it has met to date; a timeline for when it is to report to Government; if an outline of its remit can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [3618/24]

*496. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the number of neurological nurses that have been recruited into the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [3620/24]

*497. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm that funding will be provided to allow for the continuation of the two-year programme now in place which facilitates the training of qualified doctors from non-EU countries to qualify as general practitioners and work in this country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [3644/24]

*498. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm that additional funding will be provided in 2024 to enable the two-year programme which is currently in place for the training of non-EU doctors as general medical practitioners so to enable the number of trainees to increase from 100 per annum to 150 per annum; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [3645/24]

*499. To ask the Minister for Health the number of open beds in each HSE and voluntary hospital on 15 January in each of the years 2023 to 2024, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [3655/24]

*500. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on an application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [3704/24]

*501. To ask the Minister for Health if it can be arranged for a person (details supplied) to attend day care centre in Maynooth, who has been told it would be instrumental in this objective to keep them at home for as long as possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [3719/24]

*502. To ask the Minister for Health if a person (details supplied) is referred to either St. James's or St. Vincent's Hospital. — Kathleen Funchion. [3726/24]

*503. To ask the Minister for Health what if any transport support schemes are available to disabled patients such as a person (details supplied) who attend the National Rehabilitation centre in Dun Laoghaire for rehabilitation. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [3729/24]

*504. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an appointment for orthodontic treatment; the reason an available appointment has been so delayed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3730/24]

*505. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm the closure of the endoscopy unit in a hospital (details supplied) for the month of January under the Winter Initiative; the reason for the decision to close the department; what impact assessments were carried out in advance of the closure; if the closure will be reconsidered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3736/24]

*506. To ask the Minister for Health if the bowel screen programme in a hospital (details supplied) is impacted as a consequence of the closure of the endoscopy unit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3737/24]

*507. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of recent reports of the increased use of snus or nicotine pouches among young people in Ireland; if his Department will investigate the matter; if his Department intends to regulate or prohibit these products, as the Netherlands and Belgium have done; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [3742/24]

*508. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration is being given to including the condition CANVAS to the list of conditions recognised for medical card purposes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [3758/24]

*509. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3783/24]

*510. To ask the Minister for Health if any assistance can be given to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [3792/24]

*511. To ask the Minister for Health if a person (details supplied) qualifies for the PSRP. — Robert Troy. [3812/24]

*512. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the withdrawal of funding for vital diabetic services by the HSE; and the reason such services have been withdrawn (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [3834/24]

*513. To ask the Minister for Health if there are any proposals to provide one day of annual leave to workers for health screenings such as mammograms, cholesterol screening and colonoscopies; if his Department would consider such a proposal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [3848/24]

*514. To ask the Minister for Health when a child (details supplied) in County Donegal will receive a date for surgery at Our Lady's Children's Hospital CHI Crumlin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [3852/24]

*515. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive their next appointment to see a consultant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [3853/24]

*516. To ask the Minister for Health if he will urgently review a case (details supplied) where a person has been denied HSE assistance despite their significant requirements and diagnosis of FND; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [3854/24]

*517. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children assessed at category 5 and awaiting orthodontic treatment in CHO7, by those waiting over 1, over 2, over 3 and over 4 years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [3856/24]

*518. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to reduce waiting lists for dental services, both public and private; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [3859/24]

*519. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to prevent dentists from withdrawing from the dental treatment services scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [3860/24]

*520. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant paediatric neurologists with a special interest in neuromuscular medicine at CHI Temple Street in 2023. — Catherine Murphy. [3886/24]

*521. To ask the Minister for Health when the 2024 HSE service plan will be published. — Catherine Murphy. [3887/24]

*522. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that disabled parking at St. Vincent's Hospital has a four hour time limit for the length of time a person can occupy a disabled parking space; if he will liaise with St. Vincent's to remove this time limit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [3889/24]

*523. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the clinical purpose of the National Gender Service having nine adults on GnRHa alone as referenced in a 2022 report (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3892/24]

*524. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the National Gender Service's views on progesterone therapy and the medical literature which underpins this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3893/24]

*525. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the gender services whose assessment is considered sufficient to avoid having to repeat an initial assessment by the National Gender Service; the number of referrals to the National Gender Service which did not have to repeat an initial assessment in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3894/24]

*526. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the evidence to support a claim by the National Gender Service on a recent television programme (details supplied) that prior to the use of blockers, most gender non-conforming children through puberty became comfortable with their bodies and assigned gender; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3895/24]

*527. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the National Gender Service's views on the exploratory or questioning model of care, as referenced on a recent television programme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3896/24]

*528. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the National Gender Service's views on the harms and benefits of monitoring the hormone concentrations of people accessing transgender services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [3897/24]

*529. To ask the Minister for Health whether the pandemic bonus scheme has been completed; and whether a payment is due in the circumstances of a person (details supplied). — Richard Bruton. [3930/24]

*530. To ask the Minister for Health the items and the quantity of items and their value that were bought for in 2020, 2021 and 2022 to deal with the Covid crisis that are being stored by his Department all of the country; and if he will detail where these items are being stored. — Peadar Tóibín. [3941/24]

*531. To ask the Minister for Health if a centre (details supplied) is being used to store items bought to deal with the Covid crisis; if it is his intention to continue use of the centre for the purpose of storage; and when he will finally allow the centre to be used for a community purpose. — Peadar Tóibín. [3942/24]

*532. To ask the Minister for Health the budget for medical compensation for each year since 2010. — Peadar Tóibín. [3943/24]

*533. To ask the Minister for Health when the planned 96 bed unit which is under construction at UHL will be operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [3949/24]

*534. To ask the Minister for Health when enabling works on the second 96-bed block will be completed; and when the 2nd 96 bed unit will be operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [3950/24]

*535. To ask the Minister for Health when will the surgical hub planned for Limerick and the MidWest become operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [3951/24]

*536. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [3965/24]

*537. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a update on a matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [3966/24]

*538. To ask the Minister for Health to comment on the current delays being experienced by patients waiting for an appointment for mammograms and ultrasounds at Beaumont radiology department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [3969/24]

*539. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of recent protests outside of Limerick Maternity Hospital and their impact on women attending the hospital for terminations; if he is also aware that this is still happening in other areas where women need to access healthcare; if he will give a clear indication of when the Health (Termination of Pregnancy Services) (Safe Access Zones) Bill 2023 will complete the legislative process and recognise the urgency and necessity of its enactment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [3995/24]

*540. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 586 of 3 October 2023, if he is comfortable with the governance approach in raised therein, if he can further clarify who undertakes performance appraisals and signs off on any expense claims in relation to the executive roles in the SSWHG; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [4042/24]

*541. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE speech and language therapists working in the primary care system within CHO5 in 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4056/24]

*542. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the current service in relation to the provision of physiotherapy and occupational therapy in a location (details supplied) for adults and separately for children; how many wholetime equivalent staff are providing this service; the number of people on the waiting list; the time of the longest waiting on the list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [4061/24]

*543. To ask the Minister for Health for an update regarding the establishment of the sodium valproate inquiry; the current status of the appointments to the inquiry; when the inquiry will commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [4063/24]

*544. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant dermatologist with a special interest in skin fragility at Beaumont Hospital in 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [4078/24]

*545. To ask the Minister for Health the number of primary care eye teams that are currently based in CHO7: and where these are located, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [4079/24]

*546. To ask the Minister for Health why a person (details supplied) is waiting on a cataract appointment in the Mater hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [4090/24]

*547. To ask the Minister for Health the financial supports available to older people who wish to avail of assisted living; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [4108/24]

*548. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the actions being taken by the HSE to protect its assets (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [4111/24]

*549. To ask the Minister for Health why the HSE have seen fit to close residential beds for people with enduring mental illness in the SRU unit in Carndonagh, leaving Inishowen without the service of residential beds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [4118/24]

*550. To ask the Minister for Health why frontline workers, who were employed as drivers and receptionists with the midwest region’s out of hours GP service Shannon Doc at the height of the pandemic, are not eligible for the pandemic special recognition payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [4123/24]

*551. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the details of his Department’s/HSE analysis on the safe staffing and skill mix of nurses and others working in nursing homes, public and private and in care homes; to give an update on findings and recommendations to date; when the final analysis will be completed and published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O’Dowd. [4128/24]

*552. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the appointment of the sodium valproate inquiry chair; the timeline he is working towards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [4138/24]

*553. To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify whether social workers who were working in direct services, e.g. residential care during the Covid-19 pandemic, were entitled to the Covid recognition payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [4142/24]

*554. To ask the Minister for Health if there are any additional supports available for carers who are put under physical strain when caring for a person who may require lifting, for example financial aid for physiotherapy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [4143/24]

*555. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an operation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [4155/24]

*556. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide definitive information on the establishment of a promised inquiry into sodium valproate; when a chair will be appointed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4156/24]

*557. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the Budget 2024 requirement to cease recruitment for approved development posts and to make a statement on any planned further cessation of recruitment by his Department. — Mick Barry. [4158/24]

*558. To ask the Minister for Health the number of outpatient hospital cancellations and the procedures cancelled from 2022 to date for the National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh, in tabular form. — Dessie Ellis. [4162/24]

*559. To ask the Minister for Health the waiting times for each hospital department from 2022 to date for the National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh, in tabular form. — Dessie Ellis. [4163/24]

*560. To ask the Minister for Health the number of outpatient appointments before cancellations at the National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh, in tabular form. — Dessie Ellis. [4164/24]

*561. To ask the Minister for Health what measures are being taken to replace GP services in Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15 since Centric Health in Tyrrelstown Medical Centre has closed having been in operation since 2005 because it could not recruit a principal GP; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4195/24]

*562. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the provision of GP services in the Navan Road/Pelletstown/Ashtown area of Dublin West who have reported difficulty in accessing GP services and complain the list of doctors they have been provided with is out of date with retired and in some cases deceased GPs, and where an empty medical centre lies empty in Pelletstown; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4196/24]

*563. To ask the Minister for Health if he can request a response in relation to Parliamentary Question No. 130 of 8 November 2023 surrounding the appointment of an audiologist appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [4206/24]

*564. To ask the Minister for Health if he can request a response in relation to Parliamentary Question No. 130 of 8 November 2023 surrounding the appointment of an audiologist appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [4206/24]

*565. To ask the Minister for Health if he will instruct the HPRA to investigate and provide an outcome for a complaint submitted about First IVF Clane and if he will make a statement about the investigation conducted into First IVF Clane. — Paul Murphy. [4209/24]

*566. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4222/24]

*567. To ask the Minister for Health if a power pack for a wheelchair will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4240/24]

*568. To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date in providing a primary healthcare facility in Oranmore, County Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [4268/24]

*569. To ask the Minister for Health if he can provide information on the new agency being set up to deal with emerging health threats; who is involved in the design, creation of terms of

reference and membership of the group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [4283/24]

*570. To ask the Minister for Health if he can provide information on what aspects of public health it is envisioned the new agency being set up to deal with emerging health threats will deal with; if the agency will deal only with infectious diseases and pandemic preparedness; what definition of “emerging threats to public health” will be used; if threats to public health will be broader to deal with risk factors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [4284/24]

*571. To ask the Minister for Health who is working on the proposal on the scope and functions of the new agency being set up to deal with emerging health threats; what unit has responsibility for this within his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [4285/24]

*572. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that a community (details supplied) which provides residential addiction service to vulnerable women and children in collaboration with HSE Mid-West at Westbourne House, Limerick city, requires an alternative property; what efforts have been made to identify and provide a suitable residential premises to ensure that the service continues uninterrupted after December 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [4286/24]

*573. To ask the Minister for Health to make a statement on the closing of the primary care centre in Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15 and lack of GP practices taking new patients in the general Dublin 15 area.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Donnelly. [4305/24]

*574. To ask the Minister for Health if he will investigate the Connolly Hospital endoscopy unit closure; can he look at reopening the endoscopy unit or increasing bed capacity in Connolly Hospital to avoid shutting down day services to manage in- patients. — Paul Donnelly. [4306/24]

*575. To ask the Minister for Health when he plans to establish an alongside birth centre in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4329/24]

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

*576. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on his Department's work on the borrowing framework for technological universities; if there is a proposed timeline for when such a framework would be published; if he recognises the disadvantage that the inability to borrow places on technological universities compared to traditional universities in relation to borrowing for the provision of student accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [3651/24]

*577. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if he will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if he continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3782/24]

*578. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for the full list of craft apprenticeships, along with the latest taught version of the syllabi; the

date it was first published; the date of last review by QQI, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [3836/24]

*579. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the total allocation of capital grants, devolved capital grants and the further education capital grants to the Laois/Offaly Education and Training Board and if the Minister; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [3849/24]

*580. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide the total allocation under the Student Assistance Fund provided to each higher education institution for the past three academic years including 2023-2024, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [3879/24]

*581. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the date his new Student Accommodation Strategy will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [4071/24]

*582. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the date that the funds for the running of the WorldSkills Ireland event 2024 will be disbursed; if the limited time left runs the risk of the event not proceeding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [4072/24]

*583. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the date that the HEA will publish its supply and demand analysis for student accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [4073/24]

*584. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of students enrolled in Level 5 pre-nursing courses in the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 academic years. — Catherine Murphy. [4074/24]

*585. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the percentage of alternative education settings, including Youthreach and related schemes, that have a canteen. — Catherine Murphy. [4075/24]

*586. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to him and to Ministers of State of his Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4221/24]

*587. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 123 of 19 October 2023, where it was stated that “the total stock of purpose built student accommodation (PBSA) equates to over 48,000 beds (Q2 2023)”; the source for this figure; the breakdown of publicly owned versus privately owned PBSA; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [4261/24]

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

*588. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide an update on when the community recognition fund will reopen for applications. — Robert Troy. [3720/24]

*589. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she and her Department will consider the purchase of Rowlton House, Sherrard Street Lower, Dublin 1, as part of the community recognition fund to be repurposed as a community centre. — Gary Gannon. [3724/24]

*590. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if her Department has availed of services and or consultancy from a list of related companies (details supplied) in the past five years to date; if so, if she will provide a schedule of costs and the purpose for which the company was engaged; and if she continued to use services provided by it. — Catherine Murphy. [3787/24]

*591. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will advise what grants or funding streams are available for an organisation (details supplied) affiliated community events; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [3968/24]

*592. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if he will consider establishing a national network of teen sheds, similar to men's sheds; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [3971/24]

*593. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the number of applications for the CLÁR funding under measure 1 and measure 2 in 2023 from County Cavan; and the number of successful applications under each measure, in tabular form. — Pauline Tully. [3996/24]

*594. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the number of Women's Sheds supported by her Department, by county basis; what Government supports have been allocated to Women's Sheds in 2023, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [3999/24]

*595. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when funding will be announced for this year's local improvement schemes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4100/24]

*596. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide a schedule of the number of civilian drivers and Garda drivers attached to her and to Ministers of State of her Department; to provide the official work pattern for each driver and the total annual hours worked by each driver; and to indicate the number of drivers assigned to each Minister and Minister of State. — Catherine Murphy. [4226/24]

*597. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if her Department has carried out an assessment of the potential to grow both commercial and social enterprises in developing networks to support the circular economy transformation; and if new initiatives are planned in this arena. — Richard Bruton. [50445/23]

*598. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if her Department has carried out an assessment of the potential of remote delivery in health and community development; and if new initiatives are planned in this arena. — Richard Bruton. [4243/24]

*599. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when an announcement will be made in relation to the outdoor recreation infrastructure scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [4269/24]

*600. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the extent to which she continues to liaise with various community groups in Kildare north and throughout the country with a view to assisting them with their requirements under the appropriate headings; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4287/24]

*601. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the extent to which she continues to engage with rural and community groups with a view to identifying the most pertinent needs of the respective communities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4288/24]

*602. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to indicate whether she intends to expand the mission statement of her Department to meet particular areas that did not previously qualify for assistance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4289/24]

*603. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to indicate her intentions for the current year in respect of the Leader programme; whether she intends to introduce any modifications; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4290/24]

*604. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to outline her ambitions for the community enhancement programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4291/24]

*605. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to indicate her ambitions for the development of the national hub network in the future, the major beneficiaries to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4292/24]

*606. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to outline her ambitions to support the rural road network under the LIS schemes throughout County Kildare and the country in the current year and in the future; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4293/24]

*607. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to outline the extent to which she hopes to continue to support recreational walk schemes throughout the country and in County Kildare over the next twelve months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4294/24]

*608. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the extent to which she continues to encourage the build-up of state-of-the-art technology hubs at convenient locations throughout the country to enable many enterprises to have the benefits of an office setting without the necessity of travel to more distant locations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4295/24]

*609. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the extent to which she and her Department have targeted areas of social isolation with a view to improving the prospects for those currently living in such areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4296/24]