



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 31 Eanáir, 2024
Wednesday, 31st 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 if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [3055/24]
 2. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4020/24]
 3. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Paul Murphy. [4023/24]
 4. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Bríd Smith. [4299/24]
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CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

- *5. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs whether he is aware of the activities of the sole remaining animal shelter in Gaza, Sulala Animal Rescue, and its collaboration with Animals Australia; whether he has raised the issue of animal feed reaching the shelter through the Kerem Shalom checkpoint with the Israeli Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4410/24]
- *6. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if passports will issue for children (details supplied) in County Donegal in time for a travel date of 14 February 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [4331/24]
- *7. Chun a fhiafraí den Tánaiste agus Aire Gnóthaí Eachtracha an bhfuil sé ar an eolas faoin bhfeachtas chun Gaelscoil a bhunú i Melbourne na hAstráile, agus an bhfuil aon obair ar bun ag a Roinn nó ag Ambasad na hÉireann san Astráil chun tacú leis na hiarrachtaí sin. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4500/24]
- *8. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he can review an application (details supplied), given the urgent nature of this application, if all documentation required has been received to have this application processed at the earliest possible convenience; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [4524/24]

*9. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when a decision will be made in relation to an application for a passport (details supplied); the reason for the delay in issuing the said passport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [4556/24]

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

*10. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what engagement he has had with local authorities to make the deposit return scheme available in civic amenity sites nationwide; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4350/24]

*11. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide an update on the roll out of the National Broadband Plan in County Cork from 1 January 2023 to date; what percentage of targets of the roll out have been met in Cork during this timeframe; the targets for 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4369/24]

*12. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the average cost for a three-bedroom house of installing solar panel with and without Government grants; the average time before they are paid off both with and without Government support; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [4407/24]

*13. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress of local authorities' climate action plans; to outline, in tabular form, each local authority that has completed public consultation; and the local authorities that are currently completing public consultation and those that are yet to begin public consultation. — Eoin Ó Broin. [4428/24]

*14. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will expedite National Broadband Ireland broadband connection to a property (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [4486/24]

*15. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 138 of 18 January 2024, to outline whether the two schemes that have received €40,000 each in grant funding are 100% community owned or 51% community owned, in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [4508/24]

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

*16. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the current status of the stated intention to scrap the LÉ Eithne; if he will review the decision to scrap the vessel and instead put it to alternative uses, considering that this was the last such vessel built at Verolme dockyard in Cork and the other historical roles that this vessel was involved in; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [4354/24]

*17. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence what steps his Department is taking to increase recruitment and retention within the Defence Forces. — Peadar Tóibín. [4514/24]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*18. To ask the Minister for Transport if the DAA is contemplating spending over €250 million on a tunnel at Dublin Airport for a handful of vehicles per hour; if so, if this project has received approval through the public spending code; and what public money including EIB borrowing has been made available to DAA since 2020. — Matt Shanahan. [4353/24]

*19. To ask the Minister for Transport if he plans to include Monasterevin County Kildare in the reduced public transport fares area; if so, the timeline to implement same; and if not, if he will consider the addition of Monasterevin to the scheme. — Patricia Ryan. [4391/24]

*20. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will instruct the NTA to ensure the Dublin Bus route 74 will serve Crumlin village or in lieu of this to expedite the proposed 82 route. — Patrick Costello. [4420/24]

*21. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of persons waiting for a driving test; and the number of persons waiting for a theory test in Cork city and county, by test centre, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [4458/24]

*22. To ask the Minister for Transport the average waiting time for a driving test in Ballincollig and Sarsfield Road test centres in Cork; and the number of persons waiting to sit a test in both.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [4459/24]

*23. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will clarify whether there are national mandatory accessibility regulations that provide technical guidance which governs public transport infrastructure such as bus stops, pedestrian footpaths that can enforced through sanctions and fines for noncompliance. — Catherine Murphy. [4515/24]

*24. To ask the Minister for Transport when the next applications for active travel projects will be accepted by his Department from local authorities; the breakdown per local authority in tabular form regarding the funding previously allocated; the amounts drawn down to date; the amounts still to be drawn down and the amounts returned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [4586/24]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*25. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider introducing tax relief or VAT reduction on assisted technology required by children and adults who have a diagnosis of dyslexia, dysgraphia or dyscalculia; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [4338/24]

*26. To ask the Minister for Finance the progress to date to consider a number of reforms to the taxation system under relevant tax heads from an environmental perspective as outlined in the climate action plan 2023; what, if any reforms have been made; what is the environmental impact of these reforms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [4484/24]

*27. To ask the Minister for Finance for a reduction in VAT to 9% for the hospitality sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4526/24]

*28. To ask the Minister for Finance for a further extension on the current deadline of 31 March 2024 on the rate reduction to auto diesel, petrol and marked gas oil; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4527/24]

*29. To ask the Minister for Finance what engagement he has had with financial institutions to have machines available in their branches to print off financial statements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4528/24]

*30. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on a case (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4652/24]

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.

*31. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the current status of works on the weir at Ballincollig Regional Park; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [4454/24]

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

*32. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the current average waiting time for a WRC adjudication hearing to be heard from the time the complaint(s) are submitted; whether the delay in the hearing of a particular case (details supplied) can be accounted for; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [4378/24]

*33. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what action he is taking to safeguard the pharmaceutical industry in Ireland and future investment in manufacturing and research and development into Ireland, from any unintended consequences as a result of the European Commission on the pharmaceutical review, currently underway; if he can update on any meetings his Department has had on the subject in Ireland and at an EU level since 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Frankie Feighan. [4401/24]

*34. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will outline details of a scheme for those businesses who has a shortfall of flood cover (details supplied) compared to the cost of damages to their businesses from the flooding from Storm Babet; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4419/24]

*35. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what action he has taken to safeguard employment at a company in Ballincollig (details supplied) which is an IDA client company and has recently announced job losses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [4462/24]

*36. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the estimated annual cost of establishing an additional public holiday. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4473/24]

*37. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to provide an update on the increased cost of business scheme (ICOB) announced as part of Budget 2024 (details supplied); the current status of the ICOB; the date on which it will start; the process businesses need to

follow to apply for this grant; the measures in place to ensure the grant is distributed fairly and reaches the businesses most in need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [4550/24]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*38. To ask the Minister for Education if she will review the well-being element of the secondary school curriculum, as advocated by Cycle Against Suicide; if she will reshape and resource it to improve the outcome for student; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [4334/24]

*39. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update in relation to a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [4340/24]

*40. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to reintroduce the allowance for teachers in Irish-medium and Gaeltacht schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [4346/24]

*41. To ask the Minister for Education whether the State examinations commission will consider reducing the number of sraithpictiúirí on the Irish leaving certificate oral exam from 20 to 10 permanently as has been the case on a temporary basis for the past number of years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [4349/24]

*42. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department is aware of the lack of learning support resources in classrooms due to the shortage of teachers and as a result the resource teachers having to be redirected to fill the place of the teacher in many classrooms across the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [4352/24]

*43. To ask the Minister for Education the current position in regard to the provision of a new school (details supplied) the progress on the project to date; when work will be completed, given the number of local primary feeder schools to this particular school and given the level of anticipated applications for the school for 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4368/24]

*44. To ask the Minister for Education the reason no special needs school place is available for a child (details supplied). — Patricia Ryan. [4393/24]

*45. To ask the Minister for Education if there are plans to address the need for another secondary school in Newcastle, County Dublin and to examine the population growth in Newcastle and predicated population growth to ensure second level education is provided to all in this community. — Gino Kenny. [4409/24]

*46. To ask the Minister for Education if she will outline the expected timeline for an appointment of a project manager on an application for the feasibility study under the additional school accommodation scheme, from a school (details supplied) who has issues with spaces within the school and the lack of expansion for classrooms, SET Rooms, toilets and play areas; if her Department is examining the possibility of moving the school to a green field site due to the lack of capacity for expansion; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4411/24]

*47. To ask the Minister for Education if an application for additional space by a school (details supplied) for a special unit providing Leaving Certificate applied tuition can be considered in light of increased roll numbers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [4446/24]

*48. To ask the Minister for Education the number of ASD places available in secondary schools in Ballincollig, County Cork for September 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [4455/24]

*49. To ask the Minister for Education the number of ASD places available in secondary schools in Cork City and County for September 2024; if she will provide this information in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [4456/24]

*50. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the school building programme in County Cork; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [4457/24]

*51. To ask the Minister for Education when a building project will be progressed (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [4464/24]

*52. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais cén costas a bhainfeadh leis an liúntas do mhúinteoirí lánGhaeilge agus Gaeltachta a thabhairt ar ais mar a bhí nuair a cuireadh deireadh leis, agus cén costas a bhainfeadh lena thabhairt de réir ráta a chuimsíonn boilsciú ó cuireadh deireadh leis; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4470/24]

*53. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais cén costas a bhainfeadh le leabhar Gaeilge ar chostas €10 a mhaoiniú do gach dalta le linn dóibh a bheith i rang a cúig sa bhunscoil agus sa dara bliain sa mheánscoil, i mbliana agus gach bliain go dtí 2030, bunaithe ar líon na ndaltaí lena bhfuil sí ag súil. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4471/24]

*54. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais cén costas a bhainfeadh le seachtain bhreise tumoideachais sa Ghaeltacht a mhaoiniú d'ábhair oidí. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4472/24]

*55. To ask the Minister for Education if there are plans to build new secondary schools in Newcastle and Rathcoole given the recent population growth; what planning is in place to address this shortage of secondary school places in both areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [4488/24]

*56. To ask the Minister for Education to outline when the transition year curriculum was last amended; if he will carry out a review of the possible benefit of adding dance and performative arts to current curriculum; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Chris Andrews. [4518/24]

*57. To ask the Minister for Education the reason SUSI is refusing to accept child benefit as proof of residence for a home schooled Irish born child of a resident Irish citizen, despite the fact that under statute such payments can only be made on Irish residency; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [4522/24]

*58. To ask the Minister for Education the criteria for the STEM awards; if there is an appeal process; if he is aware that schools maintain that the capitation grant does not allow for STEM resources to be purchased; and if consideration will be given to alternatives to fund this

new mandatory curriculum.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [4578/24]

*59. To ask the Minister for Education the number of requests for a meeting made to her Department an organisation (details supplied), by year, 2021, 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024; and how many meetings have taken place, in tabular form, per year, for the same period. — Sorca Clarke. [4584/24]

*60. To ask the Minister for Education what representative groups were engaged with in the production of the new guidelines on restraint and seclusion. — Sorca Clarke. [4585/24]

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

*61. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide a breakdown in tabular form of the projects relating to arts and culture that have been supported by the Shared Island Unit, including the amount of funding provided to each project. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4501/24]

*62. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán an dtabharfaidh sí briseadh síos i bhfoirm tábla de na tograí a bhaineann leis an nGaeilge a fuair tacaíocht ó Thionscnamh an Oileáin Chomhroinnte, agus méid an mhaionithe a tugadh don togra á chur san áireamh. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4502/24]

*63. 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. [4351/24]

*64. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will advise when the sports capital grants that were submitted in September 2023 will be allocated. — Peter Burke. [4453/24]

*65. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the estimated revenue that would be generated by introducing a levy of 3% on audiovisual media service providers as provided for under the Online Safety and Media Regulation Act 2022, and if her Department discussed such a provision with Coimisiún na Meán in the last 12 months. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4475/24]

*66. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide, in tabular form, a list of every State board or council over which she has responsibility for appointments, and separate columns outlining the total number of board members and the number of current vacancies on the board, as well as a column stating if the position of chair of the board or council in question is vacant or occupied. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4495/24]

*67. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide a progress update on the plans to redevelop the Abbey, Ireland's National Theatre. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4496/24]

*68. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide a progress update on the work of the expert committee examining the establishment of a national

women's museum, and a list of times and dates when the advisory committee met since being established. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4497/24]

*69. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to provide a progress update on the work of the advisory committee on the restitution and repatriation of cultural heritage, and a list of times and dates when the advisory committee met since being established. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4498/24]

*70. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén dáta faoina mbeidh an straitéis do na healaíona teangabhunaithe Gaeilge foilsithe. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4499/24]

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

*71. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has received and examined the report 'Respiratory Health in Oliver Bond House', launched last week; their analysis of its findings and what specific measures his Department are taking (in both the short and long-term) to alleviate the negative health consequences of living in the Oliver Bond House; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [4668/24]

*72. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department will ensure there is community centre within the geographic bounds of the regenerated Oliver Bond House complex. — Patrick Costello. [4671/24]

*73. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department will ensure the publication of a report by independent engineers commissioned by DCC in 2021/21 in relation to conditions in the Oliver Bond House complex. — Patrick Costello. [4672/24]

*74. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to advise whether it would have been possible for Dublin City Council to apply for Stage 2 Approvals recently rather than full Stage 1 approvals in relation to the Oliver Bond House regeneration; and to provide a timeline for the full project. — Patrick Costello. [4673/24]

*75. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide funding for housing officer function to be delivered by a local community organisation in relation to the regeneration of the Oliver Bond House complex. — Patrick Costello. [4674/24]

*76. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what action he is taking along with Dublin City Council to address a recent report which highlighted the major health implications of living in Oliver Bond flats in Dublin 8 due to the failure to address the defects in the buildings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4919/24]

*77. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will reconsider the way in which his Department is leading the "Your Council" campaign so that advertising is also undertaken in local newspapers and on local radio stations (details supplied). — Cathal Crowe. [4317/24]

*78. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to his response during Leaders Questions on 18 January 2024 (details supplied), if he will provide details of the

request issued to Tipperary County Council to review the situation with regard to log cabins; to provide a copy of the correspondence issued to Tipperary County Council in this regard; the details of the review being carried out in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [4370/24]

*79. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of local authorities/county councils that completed an up-to-date housing needs demands assessment for older people for the years 2020 to 2023, inclusive, in tabular form. — Patricia Ryan. [4386/24]

*80. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will examine the serious delays in the processing and approval of housing adaptation grants; and the details of what measures if any can be taken to speed up the process. — Patricia Ryan. [4387/24]

*81. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the right to housing report will be published; and the timeline in place for the Government to act on the recommendations of that report. — Patricia Ryan. [4388/24]

*82. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many HAP inspections for the purpose of establishing suitability of accommodation/living conditions were carried out in each of the years 2020 to 2023, inclusive, in tabular form. — Patricia Ryan. [4389/24]

*83. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will urgently update the rural planning guidelines to loosen the restrictions on modular/log cabin type accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [4434/24]

*84. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated cost of hiring a qualified archaeologist for every local authority. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4474/24]

*85. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to list in tabular form, the number of Croí Cónaithe vacant property refurbishment grant applications and derelict top-up grant applications received to date by each respective local authority; the number of applications approved and rejected; the total funding paid out to date; the number of applications that remain to be processed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [4506/24]

*86. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage regarding the guidelines being formulated for the live streaming of council meetings, what, if any, progress has been made on this issue and when can local authorities expect to receive them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4516/24]

*87. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he agrees that appropriate community infrastructure should be included within the geographic bounds of a regenerated Oliver Bond House and that this would not affect Dublin City Council's ability to honour any prior arrangements regarding the delivery of community services in the wider area; the steps he will take to ensure that this will be accommodated within the regenerated Oliver Bond complex; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4560/24]

*88. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of Robert Emmet CDP's 2021 'Environmental Conditions in Oliver Bond House' report and an independent engineers report commissioned by DCC, and the very recently launched 'Respiratory Health Among Residents of Oliver Bond House', all of which highlight and outline the significant

issues in the complex; if he will acknowledge that the ameliorative works required to bring conditions in the complex up to a BR Rating of C3 will cost €4.3 million, in light of the current conditions being in breach of residents' right to a healthy and habitable environment; if his Department will commit to covering this cost under their existing maintenance or capital budget should DCC be unable to meet these costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4561/24]

*89. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will clarify if it would have been possible for DCC to apply for Stage 2 approvals recently rather than full Stage 1 Approvals, and what would have been required for this to happen; if he will make enquiries to ascertain if there are any internal difficulties that DCC are facing with progressing regeneration projects in a timely and appropriate manner and offer support to DCC if there are any issues related to resourcing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4562/24]

*90. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider making funding available for a housing officer function to be delivered by a local community organisation; if he will acknowledge that this function would have ten key separate KPIs and that this proposal can be provided to him at his request; if he will signal his support for such a proposal and make funding available to DCC to disburse to a relevant community organisation for this purpose under circular N11/2007 issued by his Department to County Councils entitled 'Policy Framework for Regeneration of Local Authority Estates'; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4563/24]

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

*91. To ask the Minister for Social Protection with regard to the dental and optical tax rebate, if consideration has been given to reviewing the procedures covered by same to ensure that workers can avail of this support for essential dental and optical procedures; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [4485/24]

*92. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the terms of the widows'/widower's pension particularly in relation to non-married/co-habiting couples; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [4343/24]

*93. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to address the needs of coeliac diagnosed children with regard to the ever growing and welcome roll-out of the School Meals Programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [4404/24]

*94. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what options are open to a person who was previously in full time employment and is now in full time education in regard to availing of social welfare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [4406/24]

*95. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of eligibility for increase in rate for qualified adult in respect of a State pension (contributory) in the case of a person (details supplied); if she will list the information still outstanding, if any; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4408/24]

*96. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost of expanding Catherine's Law to exempt the receipt of scholarships or grants from An Chomhairle Ealaíon by recipients of disability allowance or the blind pension from their means testing. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4476/24]

*97. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost of expanding Catherine's Law to exempt the receipt of the basic income for the arts scheme by recipients of disability allowance or the blind pension from their means testing. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4477/24]

*98. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a programme could be extended to a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [4489/24]

*99. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will confirm that Irish citizens can only receive child benefit if the child is resident within the State; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [4519/24]

*100. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review an overclaim for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [4587/24]

*101. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person (details supplied) was refused an exceptional needs payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4632/24]

*102. To ask the Minister for Social Protection that average length of time it takes from the day of application for an applicant to be either granted or denied disability allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4651/24]

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

*103. To ask the Minister for Justice the average turnaround for a naturalisation application currently; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [4339/24]

*104. To ask the Minister for Justice if a join spouse visa will be issued in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4342/24]

*105. To ask the Minister for Justice how many applications for Garda vetting are received per local authority; the average time it takes to process an application in each of the years 2021 to 2023, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [4403/24]

*106. To ask the Minister for Justice to clarify the steps for applying for asylum in Ireland, specifically, where applicants stay for the initial five days if they do not apply at the port of entry; the conditions under which the port authority grants entry; what information the IPO officer looks for to verify the applicants identity, country of origin and immigration history; what conditions do not allow for entry; how the personal interview differs from the preliminary interview; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4430/24]

*107. To ask the Minister for Justice the reasons for the delays in processing asylum seeker applications; the average length of time it takes for an application to be fully processed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4431/24]

*108. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason asylum seekers cannot begin work immediately on the granting of asylum seeker status; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4432/24]

*109. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of designated community gardaí in the Cork City Division for the years 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020 and 2019; if she will provide this information in tabular form, by station; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Gould. [4460/24]

*110. To ask the Minister for Justice for an overview of how her Department incorporates culture and arts into rehabilitation and prevention for crime. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4504/24]

*111. To ask the Minister for Justice if there has been a specific review of the oversight of the Immigrant Investor Programme in respect of premises (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [4525/24]

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

*112. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on efforts to address the issue of TB eradication with regard to deer management (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [4344/24]

*113. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 1155 of 17 January 2024, if he will advise on fencing with regard to traditionally unfenced uplands; if it is also not necessary to fence those areas under payment scheme guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [4345/24]

*114. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how he intends to publicise the Departmental public consultation on electric shock collars; what steps he intends to take following receipt of all submissions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [4385/24]

*115. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will review correspondence (details supplied); the progress made in afforestation efforts, particularly in relation to the targets set for 2024; what measures are being implemented to ensure sustainable forestry practices in these operations; how these trends align with the national forestry management strategies and environmental conservation efforts; the impact of the ash dieback scheme and the native tree scheme on biodiversity and forest health in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [4396/24]

*116. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when his Department will have the IT system in place to pay those persons who are part of a partnership arrangement (details supplied) who have applied under the ACRES scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [4433/24]

*117. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a decision will be made for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [4437/24]

*118. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will create a centralised database for dog microchips; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [4588/24]

*119. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what engagement his Department has had with Scottish authorities on matters of biosecurity with specific reference to the bark beetle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4628/24]

*120. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine about the issue of ash dieback in respect of roadside recovery and felling, who is responsible for clearing ash dieback effects from the roadside; what role his Department has in this action; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4629/24]

*121. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will engage with local authorities on the recovery of ash dieback from the roadside; if he has a role in requesting a local authority to remove ash dieback related debris; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4630/24]

*122. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how he will increase biosecurity measures at Irish points of entry are increased as a preventative step; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4631/24]

*123. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he has given consideration to a request from an organisation (details supplied) to temporarily suspend the importation of timber into Ireland while simultaneously setting up a taskforce and a National Forestry Strategy in his Department to oversee and investigate the biosecurity failings that allowed bark beetle to enter County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4633/24]

*124. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine about the significant lack of confidence from farmers in respect of the delays with the forestry programme and the need for the urgent establishment of a national forestry strategy taskforce to address the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4634/24]

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

*125. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of modular homes that have been built for Ukrainian accommodation; the provider of such homes; the planning requirements relating to these homes; the reason why modular homes are being used for Ukrainian accommodation but are not being permitted for homeless citizens; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [4434/24]

*126. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if an assessment of need can be urgently facilitated in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4341/24]

*127. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is happy with the current standard of child care in Ireland; does he believe we are doing enough to ensure the protection of children given that in 2021 a new born baby was allowed to stay in the care of two heroin addict parents, the baby did not survive past seven weeks, nobody was held accountable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [4372/24]

*128. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if in relation to the provision of accommodation for those seeking international protection, he will take steps to ensure that training for new accommodation providers is not only provided but rigorously applied

and tested as much as possible; is he aware that while experienced accommodation providers know the supports and services that are available, there are reports that new providers do not and will he acknowledge that these gaps must be addressed by ensuring appropriate training ; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4465/24]

*129. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware that at IPAS accommodation in Inchicore, food vouchers for Tesco are distributed but that there is only a Tesco Express in that area which is limited and expensive; if he will direct the changing of food vouchers to another supplier as the accommodation provider is happy to do so upon his instruction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4466/24]

*130. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide all Members of Dáil Éireann with the contract that is provided to new IPAS accommodation providers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4467/24]

*131. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of education welfare officers across the state broken down by local area office for 2022 and 2023. — Patrick Costello. [4478/24]

*132. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of vacancies for education welfare officers across the state broken down by local area office. — Patrick Costello. [4479/24]

*133. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children supported by TUSLA's education welfare service in 2022 and 2023 broken down by local area office. — Patrick Costello. [4480/24]

*134. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of referrals to the education welfare service relating to children in care of the state for 2022 and 2023 broken down by local area office. — Patrick Costello. [4481/24]

*135. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide a progress update on actions 4 and 5 relating to Culture and Identity of the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021, which sets out the need to provide educational resources on Traveller and Roma Culture and History for schools, and to support Traveller and Roma cultural heritage centres and communications media, and to provide a date for when a new strategy will be in place. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4505/24]

*136. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to clarify if the premises formally known as The Limit Bar in Ballyshannon, County Donegal, is being considered or has been accepted for use as an international protection accommodation site; if so, the number to be accommodated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [4509/24]

*137. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to clarify if the Technology Centre in Birr, County Offaly, is being considered or has been accepted for use as an international protection accommodation site; if so the number to be accommodated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [4510/24]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*138. To ask the Minister for Health if he will advise on the process of food recalls by the FSAI in situations (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [4427/24]

*139. To ask the Minister for Health what measures are in place to assist and make progress on the current infrastructural delays being experienced in Naas General Hospital (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [4326/24]

*140. To ask the Minister for Health to examine the capacity deficits in Naas General Hospital (details supplied) and what immediate plans are in place to meet the significant increases in demand for the services of the hospital. — James Lawless. [4327/24]

*141. To ask the Minister for Health what measures are being taken to replace GP services in Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15 since a company (details supplied) due to difficulties recruiting a principal GP; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [4336/24]

*142. To ask the Minister for Health the provision of GP services in the Navan Road/Pelletstown/Ashtown areas of Dublin west, where people have reported difficulty in accessing GP services and complain that the list of doctors they have been provided with is out of date, including retired and in some cases deceased GPs, and where a medical centre lies empty in Pelletstown; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [4337/24]

*143. To ask the Minister for Health if an application for a discretionary medical card in the case of a person (details supplied) can be reviewed as a matter of urgency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4347/24]

*144. To ask the Minister for Health if he has considered technology to create incidental activity which leads to better health outcomes without people realising it at the time (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [4348/24]

*145. To ask the Minister for Health the ten highest risks on the risk register maintained, by each of the hospital groups in respect of each of the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [4355/24]

*146. To ask the Minister for Health the details of his engagement with an organisation (details supplied) with regard to issues around the availability of dental services for persons with disabilities who are medical card holders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [4363/24]

*147. To ask the Minister for Health his plans for an audit of all dental services in Ireland to ascertain the level of medical card holders in their patient lists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [4364/24]

*148. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists in Galway who have signed up to provide dental care for medical card holders under the dental treatment services scheme; the number who have signed up nationwide; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [4365/24]

*149. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists who left the dental treatment services scheme, where they had been providing dental care to medical card patients in Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [4366/24]

*150. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to ensure that all medical card holders can access dental health care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [4367/24]

*151. To ask the Minister for Health the number of staff members required to sufficiently staff a neurology Department within a Model 4 Irish hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [4373/24]

*152. To ask the Minister for Health if he could confirm in tabular form per hospital how many temporary consultants in model 4 hospitals are currently “pending compliance clearance”; how long this process usually takes to complete; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [4374/24]

*153. To ask the Minister for Health if there is an electroencephalographic machine in University Hospital Waterford. — Matt Shanahan. [4375/24]

*154. To ask the Minister for Health if, due to the shortage of blood stocks in Irish hospitals, there are any plans within his Department to have full-time blood donation clinics in Ireland; if his Department is considering if the donation of blood could be incentivised in some way perhaps in the form of vouchers etc; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [4376/24]

*155. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an urgent referral; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [4377/24]

*156. To ask the Minister for Health when orthodontic treatment will commence for a child (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [4379/24]

*157. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department plans to put in place core funding for the provision of Level 6 (QQI) courses for healthcare assistants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [4390/24]

*158. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide the most recent update on the timeline for commencement of the new build at St. Vincent’s Hospital Athy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [4392/24]

*159. To ask the Minister for Health the annual revenue generated by public car parking at Beaumont Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [4397/24]

*160. To ask the Minister for Health to provide details of any contracts between private car park operators and Beaumont Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [4398/24]

*161. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the development of Ireland’s national position on the revision of the EU general pharmaceuticals legislation as proposed by the European Commission; when Ireland will be making its official response to the European

Commission on the pharmaceutical review known; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Frankie Feighan. [4400/24]

*162. To ask the Minister for Health the number of physiotherapists catering to the needs of public patients; whether waiting lists are maintained to measure the extent to which demand is being met by the existing throughput of caseload of these practitioners; if he has considered extending the NTPF system to those waiting for physiotherapy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [4402/24]

*163. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the reason for the delay in approving funding for sustainability impact assessment with St, John of God Community Services (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [4418/24]

*164. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) can expect to receive an appointment for a surgical procedure to remove cataracts (bilateral), as their sight is impaired and is affecting their day-to-day quality of life; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [4421/24]

*165. To ask the Minister for Health how long someone referred to the National Gender Service today would be expected to wait for their first assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [4422/24]

*166. To ask the Minister for Health why the National Gender Service chose not to close their waiting list in 2023, as was discussed in late 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [4423/24]

*167. To ask the Minister for Health how many trans patient support and advocacy organisations such as (details supplied) the National Gender Service met with in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [4424/24]

*168. To ask the Minister for Health how the National Gender Service defines the term gender affirming care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [4425/24]

*169. To ask the Minister for Health if any consideration has been given to providing a national screening programme for coeliac disease, similar to that of the Italian system where they included a screening programme for 1-17 year-olds for coeliac disease into their national legislation in late 2023 (details supplied), with consideration that Ireland has one of the highest incidence rates of coeliac disease in the world. — Fergus O'Dowd. [4426/24]

*170. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the HSE website no longer has a facility for the public to record Covid-19 infections; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [4435/24]

*171. To ask the Minister for Health when the Westfield Integrated Care Centre in Ballincollig County Cork will be operational. — Thomas Gould. [4461/24]

*172. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 218 of 24 January 2024, the steps he will take to ensure that the review of Community Ophthalmic Services Medical Treatment Scheme is prioritised this year; the detail regarding any meetings carried out by his officials in the last 12 months regarding parameters of this planned review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [4487/24]

*173. To ask the Minister for Health for an overview of how his Department incorporates culture and arts into life in hospitals, care homes, assisted living institutions, and healthcare settings, and what work has been done to examine use of art as therapy. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [4503/24]

*174. To ask the Minister for Health to provide, in tabular form, the number of GPs reimbursed (PCRS) for the years 2019 to date for first and second consultations for terminations of pregnancy; the number of payments issued for all termination of pregnancy consultations by all other providers for the years 2019 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [4511/24]

*175. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1116 of 25 July 2023, to provide an update on the progress being made to a health centre in Wicklow (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [4517/24]

*176. To ask the Minister for Health if the Citizens' Assembly's final report on 'Older people' was ever referred back to the Houses of the Oireachtas for consideration; if not, the reason; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4521/24]

*177. To ask the Minister for Health if the free flu vaccines for children will be available this year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [4523/24]

*178. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a cohort of health workers (details supplied) were excluded from the pandemic special recognition payment when non-frontline staff were included; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [4555/24]

*179. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the new development funding for early intervention psychosis; the timeline for the roll-out of new services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [4564/24]

*180. To ask the Minister for Health his views on any developments made by his Department with implementing the 49 recommendations identified in a report (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4635/24]

*181. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the fact that 35% of the members of an organisation (details supplied) have said they would not feel comfortable to make a complaint; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4636/24]

*182. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the decision was made to exclude children with autism from the CAMHS hub pilot; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4637/24]

*183. To ask the Minister for Health the full detail of location, composition, staffing complement and services offered at each of the new CAMHS hubs, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4638/24]

*184. To ask the Minister for Health if he has any future plans for a CAMHS Hub in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4639/24]

*185. To ask the Minister for Health the full staffing complement and clinical spaces available to the east Clare CAMHS team; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4640/24]

*186. To ask the Minister for Health the full staffing complement and clinical spaces available to the west Clare CAMHS team; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4641/24]

*187. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the success or otherwise of the Vision for Change target of establishing 129 CAMHS teams nationwide; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4642/24]

*188. To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether CAMHS teams should continue to govern themselves independently; his future plans for further cohesion, oversight and accountability from his Department over CAMHS teams; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4643/24]

*189. To ask the Minister for Health if he will comment on a service level agreement (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4644/24]

*190. To ask the Minister for Health to report on the number of children who were refused support from a CAMHS team (details supplied) in each of the past ten years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4645/24]

*191. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that parents are now being advised not to disclose an autism diagnosis when accessing support from CAMHS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4646/24]

*192. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that children with a primary diagnosis of autism are routinely refused support from CAMHS; the threshold or criteria set out in policy that allows these refusals to take place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4647/24]

*193. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider reinstating a director of mental health services; if not, the reason; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4648/24]

*194. To ask the Minister for Health if he will comment on the need to regulate CAMHS and if that need has been costed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4649/24]

*195. To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the proposed telehealth option for those awaiting CAMHS support; the timeline for when this option will come onstream; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4650/24]

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

*196. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide all disbursements of moneys from his Department, national research bodies or HEA, by year and by funding stream, to include but not limited to State grant, fee income,

research funding and grants, capital investments, PPP payments, ad-hoc disbursements, and the various transformational funding schemes, in respect of each of the technological universities since 2020, in tabular form. — Matt Shanahan. [4356/24]

*197. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to detail a timeline and schedule of pre-procurement and procurement activities, including any costs defrayed in respect of the three PPP projects contemplated at SETU Waterford since 2005. — Matt Shanahan. [4357/24]

*198. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of additional college places, by higher level institution, provided in each of the areas in medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy and veterinary since 2020, in tabular form. — Matt Shanahan. [4358/24]

*199. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide a statement on the original projected costs and now envisaged final total cost in respect of the Cork School of Music and Cork Maritime College. — Matt Shanahan. [4359/24]

*200. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide a statement on the general decline in student numbers across the technological university sector since the sector was established. — Matt Shanahan. [4360/24]

*201. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to explain the nature of the slow and painstaking work in studying and developing of a borrowing framework by his Department for the technological sector. — Matt Shanahan. [4361/24]

*202. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to detail the annual payments in respect of the loans provided to IT Tralee and Waterford IT since the loan was provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [4362/24]

*203. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in relation to his forthcoming new Student Accommodation Strategy, if is he proposing the use of public private partnerships for the delivery of student accommodation by the technological universities; given the past criticism of PPPs from a value for money perspective, if his Department conducted a risk analysis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [4395/24]

*204. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to detail the progress of new lecturing and research contracts for faculty working in the technological university sector in light of the OECD Report entitled 'A Review of Technological University Academic Career Paths, Contracts and Organisation in Ireland'; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [4512/24]

*205. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a person (details supplied) in County Kerry will be provided with a travel allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [4559/24]

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

*206. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if the Government is carrying out a full review of the Dog Breeding Act 2010, as promised under the Programme of Government; the current status of this review.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [4583/24]

*207. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to outline her response to the report on the progress on the sustainable Development Goals 2023, produced by the Oireachtas Committee on Social Protection, Community and Rural Development and the Islands. — Jim O’Callaghan. [4447/24]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 1 FEABHRA, 2024
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 1 FEBRUARY, 2024**

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

1. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department has given any further consideration to the idea of a rail line from Navan to Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [4166/24]

2. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will make public transport free for under-18s and students; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4415/24]

3. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures being taken to address antisocial behaviour on or towards Dublin Bus and GoAhead Bus; what supports are available to their staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [4599/24]

4. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on progress to integrate of new DART carriages to the DART fleet; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [4004/24]

5. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has met recently with Bus Éireann in Cork city; and if he is aware of frequent delays and cancellations. — Thomas Gould. [4602/24]

6. To ask the Minister for Transport if the completion of the N86 Tralee to Dingle Road upgrade is a priority of his; the fatality figures on this road; the reason the progress made on the first phases has not been continued at the same pace; if he understands the challenges caused by peninsular peripherality in this location and the need for modern road infrastructure to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [4553/24]

7. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department is advising further education campuses to engage with the TFI Smarter Travel Programme for Third Level Campuses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [1546/24]

8. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which he continues to monitor transport costs and the contributory factors thereto with a view to ensuring that any negative impact on the economy might be alleviated insofar as is possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4545/24]

9. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department has plans to extend the student Leap card entitlement to students in part-time third level education; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4451/24]

10. To ask the Minister for Transport what measures he is taking to prevent cancellations and no-shows of buses in Dublin, particularly on the new BusConnects routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4414/24]

11. To ask the Minister for Transport how many driving testers are currently employed by the Road Safety Authority; if he will provide a breakdown of the contract type (permanent or temporary); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [4574/24]

12. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has an update on the funding for Mallow relief road and the Cork city north distributor road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [4557/24]

13. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the progression of phase 1 of the Limerick northern distributor road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [4244/24]

14. To ask the Minister for Transport to cost of roadside safety barrier installations along the N22 for 2022 and 2023; the rational for selecting the locations for their installation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4534/24]

15. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the proposed €96 monthly Leap card ticket and €960 annual ticket for Dublin public transport in light of the climate and cost living crises; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4417/24]

16. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of the deteriorating public bus services in County Meath; the level of bus cancellations; how he plans to improve these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [4448/24]

17. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update regarding the number of driving testers recruited in the past 12 months and for those testers on short-term contracts to be retained. — Brian Stanley. [3929/24]

18. To ask the Minister for Transport to advise if Local Link buses have permission to collect passengers along routes rather than passengers having to drive to stops; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [4468/24]

19. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the N17 Collooney to Knock scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [4491/24]

20. To ask the Minister for Transport the extent to which passenger capacity is being or can be improved on the north Kildare commuter lines such as Naas-Sallins, Hazelhatch, Kilcock, Maynooth, Leixlip and Confey; if park and ride facilities are likely to be provided/extended on

these very busy routes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4544/24]

21. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure a substantial increase in funding the non-national road network for counties Cavan and Monaghan for 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [4616/24]

22. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on any discussion within his Department in respect of the ongoing and urgent need to remove the Hebble Dredge from the River Boyne in Drogheda following its original sinking in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [4441/24]

23. To ask the Minister for Transport if local and on-demand bus services will be introduced in areas losing local connections as a result of BusConnects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4416/24]

24. To ask the Minister for Transport his view on Shannon Airport becoming a permanent member of the Regional Airports Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4613/24]

25. To ask the Minister for Transport when he intends to act on the motion passed by Dáil Éireann in October 2022 in favour of free public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4625/24]

26. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans for the future of rail transport in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4612/24]

27. To ask the Minister for Transport if he and his Department can ensure that any and all resources are provided to ensure that an appropriate site is found to recommence driver testing in Drogheda, which is the largest town in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [4440/24]

28. To ask the Minister for Transport if data exists in relation to the experience of and effectiveness of raised pedestrian crossings or junctions in built up areas on busy regional and national secondary roads such as the N86 in Annascaul, County Kerry or the R577 at Kishkeam, County Cork; if a funding stream will be provided to replicate these measures in other locations such as the N70 in Castlemaine village or the R561 in Boolteens village; the average cost for such interventions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [4554/24]

29. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of plans to increase toll charges again in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [4575/24]

30. To ask the Minister for Transport the funding provided in Budget 2024 to progress the N2 Ardee to Castleblayney road project; the projected completion date of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [4532/24]

31. To ask the Minister for Transport what action his Department is taking to progress the Mallow relief road project; what level of funding will be allocated for 2024, given €100,000 was allocated in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4614/24]

32. To ask the Minister for Transport to report on the current situation with respect to proposals to develop transport projects in east Cork (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [4452/24]

33. To ask the Minister for Transport if the necessary electric locomotives will be provided when the Cork line is fully electrified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [4558/24]

34. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the enormous number of bus cancellations on the NX and 109 bus services through Navan, County Meath; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [4167/24]

35. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the allocation of funding towards road projects (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O’Connor. [4566/24]

36. To ask the Minister for Transport to address the gaps in bus service emerging in the Chapelizod area of Dublin. — Patrick Costello. [4429/24]

37. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide match funding alongside the Department of Rural and Community Development for the local improvement scheme (LIS); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [4492/24]

38. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will make a statement regarding the National Fares Strategy. — Pauline Tully. [4540/24]

39. To ask the Minister for Transport if funding for the non-national road network will be increased for 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [4617/24]

40. To ask the Minister for Transport what progress has been made in the construction of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen road; when it will be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [4383/24]

41. To ask the Minister for Transport if the maintenance of roads on housing estates that have been taken in charge by local authorities are the responsibility of the local authorities under the Local Improvement Scheme; his views on whether it is appropriate for local authorities to advise residents to apply for funding to repair those roads under the Community Involvement Scheme which involves contributions from the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [53750/23]

42. To ask the Minister for Transport how he intends to address regional imbalance in the quality of road infrastructure, particularly in the west; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [4582/24]

43. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will heed the call of local residents and act to restore a bus service between the Armagh Road, Cashel Road and Clonard Road areas and Crumlin Cross; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [4412/24]

44. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the proposed N24 upgrade does not include a dual carriageway for the entire route in the interests of safety and forward planning; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [4490/24]

45. To ask the Minister for Transport the funding provided in Budget 2024 to progress the N2 Clontibret to the Border road project; the projected completion date of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [4531/24]

46. To ask the Minister for Transport the up-to-date position on the Connecting Ireland plan for Macroom to Bandon busses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4535/24]

47. To ask the Minister for Transport if a review will be carried out of the BusConnects plans for the new No.19 route which will result in an hourly service for the Wadelai estate area of Dublin 11 rather than the current 20-minute frequency relied on by residents. — Paul McAuliffe. [4627/24]

48. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 6 of 30 November 2023, the status of the roll-out of park and ride in Galway City; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [4380/24]

49. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the rollout of the Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan in County Carlow. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4450/24]

50. To ask the Minister for Transport to outline Government policy on the Sligo Mayo Greenway; to give an update on progress of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [4533/24]

51. To ask the Minister for Transport the capital funding he intends to provide this year for the upgrade of the rail line from Athenry in County Galway to Collooney in County Sligo so that work can continue on the reopening of this vital rail link; the purposes for which the funding will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [4539/24]

52. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will report on the Climate Action Plan for 2023 in respect of the transport sector; what actions are still outstanding from 2023; the timeline for delivery of these delayed actions; how he thinks delayed actions will impact on rising emissions in the sector; his plans to address rising emissions in the sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [4449/24]

53. To ask the Minister for Transport if the OWDT has been issued with the Minimum Irish Port Capacity Report; if so, to outline the main findings of the report and actions arising as a result; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [3350/24]

54. To ask the Minister for Transport when he intends to complete his Departmental review of the Regional Airports Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [4245/24]

55. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the curtailment of the No. 13 bus service in the Bawnogue area in the evenings; what measures are in place for replacement services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [4600/24]

56. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question 41 of 30 November 2023, the status of the feasibility study for light rail in Galway, which is being undertaken as part of the development of the Galway Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [4381/24]

57. To ask the Minister for Transport the total funding for local and regional roads in County Mayo; the breakdown of the details of the investment programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [4592/24]

58. To ask the Minister for Transport what steps are taken to ensure local intra-city bus services are reliable; the checks made to ensure they conform to timetable; what remedial actions are taken to ensure a punctual and reliable service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [4384/24]

59. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will review the criteria for awarding taxi plates. — Robert Troy. [4597/24]

60. To ask the Minister for Transport to outline how he intends to address the impact of the shortage of drivers on the delivery of bus services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4626/24]

61. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the work plan for 2024 by his Department, in conjunction with other agencies to improve road safety; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [4580/24]

62. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is satisfied that his Department and the bodies under its aegis are aware and in compliance with article 4(3) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [4541/24]

63. To ask the Minister for Transport if he plans to follow up on work carried out by Iarnród Éireann on line clearance on sections of the rail line from Collooney to Athenry by providing funding in 2024 for the design work on the upgrade of the line from Athenry to Claremorris to a suitable standard to reopen it for freight and passenger travel; if he supports the statement by Iarnród Éireann (details supplied); the discussions he has in relation the TII reinstating the railway bridge in Ballyglunin, County Galway as they have committed to doing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [4538/24]

64. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide further details on the increase in frequency and capacity for the red line Luas promised by the National Transport Authority, including when it will be implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [4413/24]

65. To ask the Minister for Transport the plan to resolve issues with bus services in Cork city. — Thomas Gould. [4601/24]

66. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will outline the mechanisms available to a resident in north Louth (details supplied) whose home has sustained over €50,000 worth of damage following three serious RTAs on the road in the past 12 months, including one fatal RTA, when Louth County Council is not minded to install a crash barrier or other traffic mitigation measures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [4579/24]

67. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on his Department's efforts to facilitate the DART+ Coastal North; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [4003/24]

68. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the N17 road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [4593/24]

69. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will outline the most recent progress on the implementation of the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4565/24]

70. To ask the Minister for Transport what action his Department is taking to progress the North Ring Road in Cork city; what level of funding will be allocated for 2024 in view of the large volume of traffic which is now forced to travel through Mayfield including traffic heading for the port facilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4615/24]

71. To ask the Minister for Transport what actions are being taken to address the long waiting times in many driving test centres. — Brian Stanley. [3928/24]

72. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to develop Local Link services in counties Roscommon and Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [4469/24]

73. To ask the Minister for Transport if ongoing capacity issues with the No. 424 bus following the implementation of the new timetable have been brought to his attention; and if his Department is working with the National Transport Authority to address these issues. — Mairéad Farrell. [4581/24]

74. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider applying a 0% VAT rate to all gluten-free food products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [4248/24]

75. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount and nature of all tax paid by domestic property funds and all foreign-owned property funds in Ireland and Irish real estate funds, REITS, UCITS, and ETFs, over the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [4168/24]

76. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will ensure flexibility and support for business with regard to tax debt warehousing. — Robert Troy. [4605/24]

77. To ask the Minister for Finance the latest projections for corporate tax revenue, given the introduction of 15% effective corporate tax rate for 2024 and 2025; and if he is satisfied that 15% will in reality be an effective tax rate. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4572/24]

78. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the disabled drivers and disabled passengers scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [4611/24]

79. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of eligible claims currently being made for the rent tax credit in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [4251/24]

80. To ask the Minister for Finance the total amount currently invested by the Irish State in companies that derive profit from activities in illegal Israeli settlements as defined by the database maintained by the United Nations Human Rights Council pursuant to HRC Res 31/36; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [4529/24]

81. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is satisfied that Irish banking customers are getting a good deal from their banks in areas such as interest on deposits, transaction charges, loan rates and other competitive metrics; what engagement he has had with the banks on these issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [4552/24]

82. To ask the Minister for Finance how the income tax treatment of low paid workers in Ireland compares with other EU countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [4264/24]

83. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount received in income tax receipts in 2023; the total number of people paying income tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4548/24]

84. To ask the Minister for Finance the total amount taken in by the Government on tax on electricity and tax on fuel, including petrol, diesel, home heating oil, and so on, in each of the past ten years. — Peadar Tóibín. [4169/24]

85. To ask the Minister for Finance the plans he has to review the VAT treatment of farmers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [4278/24]

86. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on his Department's efforts to support climate action projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [4005/24]

87. To ask the Minister for Finance the action he proposes to take to protect the role of cash in our society and economy in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [4265/24]

88. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will comment on the decision to remove the 9% VAT rate for tourism and hospitality; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [53599/23]

89. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider introducing a digital tax on digital and social media companies, as an alternative method of funding public service broadband to replace the regressive and widely discredited TV license model; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4569/24]

90. To ask the Minister for Finance about the actions outlined in Ireland's Sustainable Finance Roadmap; the progress to date to implement same; what engagement has been carried out at EU and international levels by him and his Department as outlined in the 2023 climate action plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [4482/24]

91. To ask the Minister for Finance to outline the efforts being made by his Department to engage with insurance providers on the cost of motor insurance premiums; the insights provided by the National Claims Information Database Report on Private Motor Insurance published in December 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [4591/24]

92. To ask the Minister for Finance what engagement he has had with the Central Bank and key players in the cash system in order to establish what the appropriate levels of access to cash are to ensure that any further evolution of the cash infrastructure will be managed in a fair,

orderly, transparent and equitable manner for all stakeholders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [4279/24]

93. To ask the Minister for Finance if it is proposed to amend the VAT refund regulations as applicable to farmers to ensure the continuation of the system that existed up to recently; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [4624/24]

94. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on his engagement with the Banking and Payments Federation and the Department of Finance with respect to the defective concrete blocks redress scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [4595/24]

95. To ask the Minister for Finance his response to the recent letter from the Chairperson of the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council with respect to a proposal to reduce the rate of pay associated with the chairperson role; if he has concerns that such a proposal risks diminishing the role and capacity of the council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [4622/24]

96. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will expand on his comments in Davos that the imposition of a 3% tax on incomes over €140,000 could jeopardise foreign direct investment, resulting in fewer jobs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [4266/24]

97. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider reducing the 13.5% VAT rate for restaurants and hospitality; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [4493/24]

98. To ask the Minister for Finance the action he is taking to ensure that future banking changes are managed in a controlled, fair and transparent manner for consumers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [4252/24]

99. To ask the Minister for Finance if the proceeds of the vacant homes tax and residential zoned land tax will be returned to the relevant local authority where it was raised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [4590/24]

100. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of mortgage holders who have switched their mortgage from vulture funds to the mainstream mortgage market since 6 September 2023; and as a consequence, his assessment of the effectiveness of the switching eligibility criteria announced by the banking sector on that date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [4610/24]

101. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 82 of 23 November 2023, his plans for the phasing out of the help-to-buy scheme; his plans in the interim to increase the minimum mortgage LTV to 80%, as recommended in a report (details supplied), and the timeline for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [4282/24]

102. To ask the Minister for Finance the action he proposes to take to ensure there is a safety net for consumers in the event of electronic banking or the payments infrastructure being impacted by outages or cyber-attacks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [4254/24]

103. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review the powers of the Financial Services Ombudsman with regard to protecting customers against unfair practices by financial institutions. — Robert Troy. [4606/24]

104. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review the tax incentives for the SME sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [4442/24]

105. To ask the Minister for Finance the ways that he is making processes easier for coeliacs to claim tax rebates, with particular consideration to the increasing cost of gluten free foods which is hitting those on marginal incomes hardest; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [4445/24]

106. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will confirm that householders that install solar panels on their home will not be liable for any tax for the green electricity fed to the grid from the solar panels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [2961/24]

107. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the small benefit exemption; in particular the restriction by which only the first two benefits qualify for the exemption, regardless of their combined value falling beneath the threshold of €1,000; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [4608/24]

108. To ask the Minister for Finance the rationale in the delayed opening of application by the Revenue Commissioners taxpayers to avail of the mortgage interest relief; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4536/24]

109. To ask the Minister for Finance how the income tax treatment of employees with salaries of €100,000 in Ireland compares with other EU countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [4276/24]

110. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider introducing a specific tax on data centres given their high impact on our energy and resource infrastructure. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4571/24]

111. To ask the Minister for Finance if he and his Department are considering measures to tackle financial fraud and scams; to outline policy considerations in this area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [4620/24]

112. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of eligible claims currently being made for the rent tax credit made in counties Cavan, Monaghan, Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Mayo and Galway, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [4280/24]

113. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will urgently consider making a revision to the flat rate of VAT, applicable to farmers, so that rebates can be provided on certain farm infrastructural investments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [4246/24]

114. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will investigate the many shortfalls of the insurance sector which has left both homes and businesses in the east Cork area making up the costs of damage following storm Babet in October 2023; if he will consult the insurance sector on how to improve access for the public to get insurance quotes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4567/24]

115. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on his engagements at the most recent ECOFIN meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [4006/24]

116. To ask the Minister for Finance the penalties he is considering on film production companies found to be in breach of their requirement and obligation for receiving section 481 film tax credit funding, given the recent Workplace Relations Commission rulings against a company (details supplied) for its failure to uphold the employment rights and blacklisting of 38 film crew; if he intends to undertake an investigation into whether the practices at play in these cases are widespread in the film industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4573/24]

117. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the small benefit exemption and, in particular the restriction by which only the first two benefits qualify for the exemption, regardless of their combined value falling beneath the threshold of €1,000; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [4618/24]

118. To ask the Minister for Finance the action he is taking to ensure that there will be widespread nationwide availability of ATMs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4250/24]

119. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department is considering measures to support businesses with the increased cost of doing business through the taxation system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [4609/24]

120. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider increasing the rate and reducing the threshold at which the 10% stamp duty with respect to the purchase of certain residential property applies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [4619/24]

121. To ask the Minister for Finance to outline his reasoning for substantially reducing the remuneration for the Chair of the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [4594/24]

122. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which positive conclusions can be drawn from this country's economic performance when considered alongside other EU zone countries and all other European countries; if the methodology for the measurement of the economy here continues to be robust and accurate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4546/24]

123. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on the work of the Office for the Promotion of Competition in the Insurance Market, particularly in relation to reducing the cost of public liability insurance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [4576/24]

124. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of applicants for the help-to-buy scheme in County Mayo in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [4494/24]

125. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the National Payments Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [4277/24]

126. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will be extending the powers of the Central Bank in relation to the regulation of ATMs especially in relation to matters such as reporting, service

standards, and denomination stocking; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [4267/24]

127. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of eligible claims currently being made for the rent tax credit made in counties Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford, Wicklow, and Kildare, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [4249/24]

128. To ask the Minister for Finance for a review of tax treatment of increase for qualified adult, that the payment is treated as a separate source of income for the qualified adult in order they can avail of the PAYE employee tax credit and that the extended rate band can be made available to that dependant if jointly assessed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [4537/24]

129. To ask the Minister for Finance the work he and his Department are doing to support people in the continued usage of ATMs and cash; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [4549/24]

130. To ask the Minister for Finance if a VAT refund on aids and appliances for persons with a disability can be considered for works (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [3002/24]

131. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will be introducing new measures for the warehousing of tax debt; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [4443/24]

132. To ask the Minister for Finance if he plans to address the difficulties that businesses are facing with regards to warehouse debt; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [4589/24]

133. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 91 of 23 November 2023, for an update on the Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeal; to clarify if appeal hearings have recommenced to-date, and if not, the timeline for same; the number of people currently on the appeal hearing list; the expected timeline for the clearing of the backlog of appeals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [4382/24]

134. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is aware of Revenue no longer accepting certain items of expenditure for the construction, extension, alteration or reconstruction of farm buildings or structures with respect to VAT refunds for unregistered farmers; if he has engaged with Revenue on this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [4621/24]

135. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he and his Department continue to monitor economic progress with a view to ensuring that inflation continues to be curbed and that the reduction in inflation is passed on to the consumer by way of lower prices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4547/24]

136. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider and introduction of a wealth tax, given recent reports by an organisation (details supplied) and the Central Bank on the wealth distribution showing ever growing concentration of wealth in the hands of the very wealthiest households. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [4570/24]

137. To ask the Minister for Finance the progress to date to promote opportunities for the European Investment Bank to invest in relevant climate projects in Ireland; if a working group has been established; how many times the working group has met; if will he report on these meetings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [4483/24]

138. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will ensure that the concerns of farmers in relation to changes to VAT refunds are given urgent and detailed consideration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [4623/24]

139. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of earners in Cork who will benefit from the USC reductions announced in Budget 2024; the number of renters in Cork who benefitted from the rent tax scheme in 2023; how many are eligible to claim the same in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [4568/24]

140. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is considering any further easing of VAT rates for retrofitting/renewable energy works or products for domestic purposes, to assist homeowners in reducing reliance on energy providers in what is a crippling energy crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [4444/24]

141. To ask the Minister for Finance the regional criteria he intends to put in place for ATM provision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [4281/24]

142. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on the work being done to ensure that cash cannot be refused in retail and other premises; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [4577/24]

143. To ask the Minister for Finance to outline the situation with respect to community groups and festival committees acquiring insurance for the staging of local community events; if he is satisfied with the work of the Office to Promote Competition in the Insurance Market to make insurance available for such events; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [4598/24]

144. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of homes for which the increased stamp duty for bulk buys has been paid in Cork. — Thomas Gould. [4604/24]

145. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider a finance bill to re-introduce the 9% VAT rate for catering and tourist accommodation, as was done seamlessly in May 2011; if he appreciates the crisis in hospitality at present; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [4551/24]

146. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of eligible claims currently being made for the rent tax credit made in counties Limerick, Clare, Tipperary, Waterford, Cork and Kerry, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [4253/24]

147. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on the meetings officials in his Department were involved in on the Senior Officials Group in July, November and December 2023 with regard to considerations for replacing the disabled driver and passenger scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [4542/24]

148. To ask the Minister for Finance the action he proposes to take to ensure that consumers retain access to cash; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [4256/24]

149. To ask the Minister for Finance to detail the number of persons who are currently on the waiting list for the Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [4543/24]

150. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of eligible claims currently being made for the rent tax credit made in counties Offaly, Laois, Westmeath, Longford, Meath and Louth and Kildare, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [4255/24]