



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 22 Feabhra, 2024

Thursday, 22 February, 2024

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Minister for Justice the changes that have been made to the INIS Oireachtas email alias, and if representations from TDs about immigration and asylum issues will still be acknowledged and processed. — Pa Daly. [8129/24]

2. To ask the Minister for Justice for a breakdown of the targeted number of Garda recruits in each cohort to begin training in Templemore and to attest for the year 2024, in tabular form. — Pa Daly. [8130/24]

3. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide an update on the latest Department activities in terms of the management of international protection; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [8329/24]

4. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 105 of 31 January 2024, why the Garda Vetting Bureau does not have a role in vetting local authority housing applicants; if there is capacity within the Garda Vetting Bureau to assist local Garda superintendents in this process; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [8393/24]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

5. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will consider a health impact assessment on the Sale of Alcohol Bill. — Thomas Gould. [8368/24]

6. To ask the Minister for Justice to outline her proposals for family law reform, with particular reference to the need for an indicative timescale; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8246/24]

7. To ask the Minister for Justice what action her Department is taking to tackle the rising levels of cybercrime and online fraud in Ireland; what strategies or initiatives are being considered and developed by her Department to enhance digital security and protection of citizens personal information; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [8271/24]

8. To ask the Minister for Justice the provision made for leadership development at all levels of the Garda force and how leadership development is benchmarked and reported; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [8348/24]

9. To ask the Minister for Justice in regard to delays in probate, what the current waiting time is; how many cases are on a waitlist in 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2024 to date, in tabular form; the average wait time 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2024 to date, in tabular form; what measures she plans to address this; if there are plans to reopen the office to the public; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8339/24]

10. To ask the Minister for Justice if there are figures on prison capacity and overcrowding over the past 12 months. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [8221/24]

11. To ask the Minister for Justice the work her Department has undertaken in designing a solution to integrate immigration permissions and employment permits; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [8274/24]

12. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide an update on the number of gardaí assigned to the Carlow District. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [8241/24]

13. To ask the Minister for Justice for an update on the Criminal Legal Aid Bill; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8379/24]

14. To ask the Minister for Justice for an update on the community-based CCTV system; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8378/24]

15. To ask the Minister for Justice if opening of the new divisional headquarters at northern cross will result in the closure of Coolock Garda station; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [8219/24]

16. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide a breakdown by age of people who have been given a ten-year mandatory sentence for drugs issues over the past decade. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [8222/24]

17. To ask the Minister for Justice for an update on the proposal to establish a domestic violence refuge centre in County Monaghan. — Matt Carthy. [7899/24]

18. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide a regional breakdown of where charges for possession of a controlled drug for personal use have been issued in the past five years, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [8325/24]

19. To ask the Minister for Justice if her attention has been drawn to the discrepancy in treatment of doctors who transitioned from stamp 1 permits to stamp 4 permits prior to the introduction of the stamp 1H permit, where those who have a stamp 1H permit can then get a two year stamp 4 permit and those who previously had a stamp 1 permit must renew their stamp 4 permit on an annual basis; if she intends to address this discrepancy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [8151/24]

20. To ask the Minister for Justice the up-to-date position on the most recent Garda recruitment drive; the age and gender demographic breakdown of new applicants; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8311/24]

21. To ask the Minister for Justice in the recent Coroners (Amendment) Bill 2024, what is her rationale for proposing a change of employment status for coroners to designate them as civil servants; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [8270/24]

22. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will establish an independent inquiry into the death of a person (details supplied) as mandated by resolutions of Dáil and Seanad Éireann. — Matt Carthy. [7900/24]

23. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 78 of 12 December 2023, the status of the independent review of part 4 of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017; the status of the recruitment process to replace the individual who had previously been engaged to carry out the study; if the new person has been appointed; the timeline for the completion of the review; the timeline for the publication of the final report; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8202/24]

24. To ask the Minister for Justice how her Department plans to address the growing risk of legal deserts in counties with no or single digit trainee solicitors; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [8309/24]

25. To ask the Minister for Justice to provide a breakdown on the number of Garda officers, by rank, attached to all Meath east Garda stations in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; the number of Garda officers who retired from Meath east Garda stations in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8340/24]

26. To ask the Minister for Justice when she intends to report to Government with an implementation plan and associated timelines for the development of a fully integrated single application process for immigration permissions and employment permits; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [8275/24]

27. To ask the Minister for Justice the up-to-date position regarding the possible posthumous pardoning in the historic cases of Poff and Barrett in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8310/24]

28. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [3499/24]

29. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of prisoners sleeping on mattresses in the prison system at present; the number of prisoners sleeping more than one to a cell; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7784/24]

30. To ask the Minister for Justice if she has plans to resource An Garda Síochána to enable adequate recruitment levels; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [8381/24]

31. To ask the Minister for Justice what action her Department is taking to improve access to alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, such as mediation and arbitration, as a means of resolving legal disputes outside of the courts system; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [8272/24]

32. To ask the Minister for Justice how it is intended to phase in the new community safety plans; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [8347/24]

33. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of times in this jurisdiction the EU Dublin Regulation has been enforced per annum since September 1997; the number of escorted deportations that have occurred since 2018; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [8158/24]

34. To ask the Minister for Justice how many minors or people aged under 18 years have been charged with possession of a controlled drug for personal use for each of the year 2017 to 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [8324/24]

35. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of people currently in Gaza who have permission to remain in Ireland, or who have a visa to live, study or work in Ireland; the steps being taken by her Department to assist them in exiting Gaza; the details of any engagement between her Department and the Department of Foreign Affairs in this regard since October 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8203/24]

36. To ask the Minister for Justice to indicate the efforts currently in hand to ensure an adequate number of Gardai by way of recruitment to ensure the adequate strength of the force; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8247/24]

37. To ask the Minister for Justice how many people received an adult caution for the possession of cannabis for personal use since cannabis was included in the adult caution scheme; how many people have been brought before the courts for simple possession of cannabis since the inclusion of cannabis under the adult caution scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [8322/24]

38. To ask the Minister for Justice the current numbers of gardaí for each Cork division in February 2024; to confirm the number of gardaí in February 2023 for each Cork division; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [8314/24]

39. To ask the Minister for Justice the steps being taken to reduce overcrowding in the prison service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7783/24]

40. To ask the Minister for Justice her plans to tackle the increasing number of SLAAP cases being taken against media outlets in Ireland. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [8242/24]

41. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide extra capacity at the old Cork prison site to offset any overcrowding in the new block; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [8157/24]

42. To ask the Minister for Justice what measures are being considered under the expert forum on anti-social behaviour; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [8315/24]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

43. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on afforestation levels under the new forestry programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8331/24]

44. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on delays to ACRES payments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8332/24]

45. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what measures his Department is taking to assist small scale fishers with fuel costs. — Holly Cairns. [8554/24]

46. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide an update on the Shannon Callows flood scheme; if he is aware of ongoing issues raised by those affected; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8505/24]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

47. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to impose buffer zones around areas where turf cutting is permitted in commonage areas and the effect this will have on ACRES payments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [8201/24]

48. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will report on his attendance at a meeting (details supplied). — Jackie Cahill. [1699/24]

49. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the progress that has been made on sourcing new markets and uses for wool; if he will provide an update on the work of the wool committee; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8349/24]

50. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his Department's efforts to increase the number of organic farms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [8385/24]

51. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will report on his attendance at a meeting (details supplied). — Brendan Smith. [1697/24]

52. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount of land afforested in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023; and the Government's target for afforestation in 2024. — Matt Carthy. [7872/24]

53. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to tackle food waste. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [8244/24]

54. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on the women farmers' capital investment scheme under TAMS III; if there will be review of eligibility criteria for the scheme given low numbers of approved applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8153/24]

55. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason for continuing delays in advance payments for participation of ACRES in tranche 1 under general ACRES and co-operation ACRES; the rationale on interim payments being made to participants; to provide

timeline for when calculations will complete to issue full payments due to farmers under ACRES; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [8312/24]

56. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how the new UK import controls are impacting small Irish agri-food businesses. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [8374/24]

57. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of farmers with commonage in the ACRES scheme; the number of these that have received a payment to date; when the balance of these will receive a payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7782/24]

58. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on the proposal to bring forward a solution for the group known as forgotten farmers in view that details of the scheme were supposed to be published in Q1 of 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8152/24]

59. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for clarification on the sheep improvement scheme and whether affected hill flock participants that were identified in 2023 will have an option open to them for 2024 to select new actions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [8313/24]

60. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what new initiatives he plans on the farm safety front; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8350/24]

61. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine about the delayed actions that his Department is leading on as part of the climate action plan 2023; the proportion that are complete and the proportion that are delayed; if any are still outstanding from the 2021 climate action plan; the expected timeline for delivery for all delayed actions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8337/24]

62. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he provided additional funding for the protection of animal welfare during recent cold weather. — Thomas Gould. [8367/24]

63. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will comment on agricultural sustainability in the context of the nitrates derogation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [8371/24]

64. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what consideration his Department has given to measures to support succession and generational renewal in agriculture; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8155/24]

65. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will legislate to ban hare coursing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8357/24]

66. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department can provide grant aid or any other assistance to Mountrath livestock mart to re-open for business. — Brian Stanley. [3927/24]

67. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which he remains satisfied that productive agricultural land currently contributing to food production in this country is not decommissioned in favour of climate change objectives and that all possible scientific and

dietary means are used to ensure carbon reduction without affecting the food-productive capacity of this country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8248/24]

68. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the status of work to develop the new Inshore Fisheries Sector Strategy, in light of the fact that the previous one expired in 2023; the timeline for the publication of the new Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8250/24]

69. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the steps his Department are taking to address the issue of unchipped horses wandering in urban settings considering the Department does not maintain a centralised database in relation to levels of non-compliance for failure to microchip equines or the number of horses impounded. — Maurice Quinlivan. [5644/24]

70. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for an update on the work of the working group on women in agriculture. — Niamh Smyth. [8277/24]

71. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when farmers in the CP areas of ACRES who carry out approved “non-profit investments” in 2024 will be reimbursed under the scheme; if he will confirm that it will be in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [8353/24]

72. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to encourage responsible dog ownership. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [8245/24]

73. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will report on his attendance at a meeting (details supplied). — Michael Moynihan. [1698/24]

74. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 33 of 14 December 2023, for an update on the work of the wool council; if the €30,000 in Departmental funding has been drawn down to-date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8243/24]

75. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will increase the minimum age for the live export of calves to 28 days and the minimum weight to 50 kg; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [8321/24]

76. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the steps being taken to tackle the issues of maltreated and unchipped horses in Limerick’s urban areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [8360/24]

77. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [3505/24]

78. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of participants in the ACRES scheme for the last year; the number of these that have received a payment broken down by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [7781/24]

79. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to report on the resumption of beef exports to China following a recent diplomatic visit by the Chinese Premier in January 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [5646/24]

80. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if Cork north central is in receipt of funding for projects supporting agri-food tourism initiatives; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [8375/24]

81. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to outline the process and timelines for decision surrounding the consultation on trawling activity inside the Six Nautical Mile Zone. — Jennifer Whitmore. [7870/24]

82. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the current rate of take-up of new farm methods which he regards as key to the Government climate ambitions and the step up needed by 2030 to meet the targets. — Richard Bruton. [8346/24]

83. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine following the recent power outages in parts of County Leitrim during storm Isha as a result of poorly maintained forests, where some areas in County Leitrim were without power for up to six days, what actions he plans to take to ensure remediation works are carried out as a matter of urgency and furthermore that proper planning is adhered to in the planting of new forests. — Marian Harkin. [8279/24]

84. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he is satisfied with the distribution of CAP direct payments whereby the top eight recipients received over €200,000 each, compared to an average payment of less than €9,657; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8355/24]

85. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what recent engagement he has had with regard to the residential zoned land tax and the potential impact of same on land actively being used for agricultural purposes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8156/24]

86. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what action his Department is taking to improve environmental sustainability on Irish farms, in particular in respect of soil health and nutrient management; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [8372/24]

87. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the way his Department is encouraging and supporting farmers to put solar panels on their farm buildings to generate electricity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [8276/24]

88. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will report on the progress of his Department implementing the Working Paper to address challenges related to peat supply in the horticulture sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [7871/24]

89. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his Department’s efforts to tackle food waste; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [8386/24]

90. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what efforts his Department is making to ensure that farmers are incentivised to create and maintain habitats on farms under the Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan and the Rural Development Plan. — Darren O’Rourke. [8338/24]

91. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department has considered new measures in the likely context that the sectors for which he has responsibility

cannot meet the targets in the climate plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [8345/24]

92. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will act to reverse the reduction in the area under tillage in 2022 in light of the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in agriculture; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8356/24]

93. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for an update on the ACRES scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8376/24]

94. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine given that there is no EU funding in place to support farmers to implement the nature restoration law, if he still supports this legislation. — Marian Harkin. [8335/24]

95. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the engagement he has had with suckler farmers following announced changes to SCEP; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8154/24]

96. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for an update on the horse project in Cork city. — Thomas Gould. [8366/24]

97. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if it will be necessary for Ireland to reduce dairy and beef production to reach our legally binding greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8358/24]

98. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the situation with respect to BALAMI funding for the dredging of Ballycotton Harbour, County Cork; his Department's role in same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [8387/24]

99. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how the sectoral emissions reductions targets for agriculture for the first carbon budget period can now be met; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8354/24]

100. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which he remains satisfied that agri-food imports into this country from whatever source are only allowed from countries adhering to similar carbon reduction measures that apply in this jurisdiction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8249/24]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*101. 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 said passport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8424/24]

*102. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on a case (details supplied); the assistance provided to that person by the Department; if he continues to engage with the relevant Ministry for Justice and embassies; whether progress has been made

in returning the children to their mother; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [8431/24]

*103. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if support will be provided in relation to a matter (details supplied). — Seán Canney. [8563/24]

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

*104. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when a person (details supplied) can expect works to be completed under his warmer homes application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [8410/24]

*105. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of units deemed to have availed of a deposit return take back exemption, by county and by category of retail, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [8479/24]

*106. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has had engagements with disposable nappy manufacturers to explore whether a more sustainable approach to disposing of used disposable nappies could be established (details supplied); the estimated percentage of nappies used for children deemed to be disposable versus re-usable; if local communities can be empowered to help address the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8550/24]

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

*107. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence whether the Air Corps will continue to appear in air/military exhibitions and so on, overseas, given local concern notified to his Department regarding the emissions levels involved in practice for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [8480/24]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*108. To ask the Minister for Transport where a former employee of a company (details supplied) can access service records and details of any possible pension entitlement owing to them before privatisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [8422/24]

*109. To ask the Minister for Transport when the draft revised Transport Plan for Galway will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8490/24]

*110. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will reassess the refusal to consider an additional driving test centre in south Dublin, given that the waiting list in Tallaght has passed seventeen thousand people and represents more than 10% of the State-wide waiting list; if he accepts that the previous, temporary measures have failed to stem the growth in the backlog, which has more than doubled since he took office; if he has confidence in the RSAs management of the situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Crowe. [8529/24]

*111. To ask the Minister for Transport the current position regarding a request by a local authority for the provision of facilities (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [8552/24]

*112. To ask the Minister for Transport the timeframe for motor insurers to be granted access to information on his Department's driver file database on disqualified drivers and verify the driver number of a driver on the entry, under the Road Traffic and Roads Act 2023; if motor insurance brokers will also be granted access to this information under the Act; if the information will be provided in real time to motor insurers directly from his Department; if so, if there will be a cost to access this information incurred by the insurer concerned; the reason for the delay in commencing this piece of legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [8562/24]

*113. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure that adequate funding is allocated to a local authority in 2024 to advance proposed road projects (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [8566/24]

*114. To ask the Minister for Transport the level of funding that will be provided for a project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [8569/24]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*115. To ask the Minister for Finance the exact procedure for a person wishing to import a car from Australia; the costs associated with importing a car; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [8568/24]

*116. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will explain why the Revenue Commissioners have issued tax rebates directly to taxrebate.ie in the names of individuals who clearly had not asked the company to act on their behalf; if the claims aired publicly will be investigated; the number of individuals affected, and value of the rebates issued; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [8435/24]

*117. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 1279 of 17 January 2024, if clarity will be provided in the case of a person (details supplied). — Niamh Smyth. [8472/24]

*118. To ask the Minister for Finance if persons on invalidity pensions are exempt from DIRT tax on savings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [8553/24]

*119. To ask the Minister for Finance when the pension levy will be abolished for ESB pensions. — Thomas Gould. [8557/24]

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.

*120. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the position of the Office of Public Works in relation to South Dublin County Council's proposal to redevelop the Rathfarnham Castle courtyards and stables by building a 14,000 square metre commercial retail and food unit; and specifically, the position regarding the proposal to

create a new food retailer beside the café operated by the Office of Public Works in Rathfarnham Castle. — Ivana Bacik. [8416/24]

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

*121. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if psychotherapists accredited by the Irish Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy are considered under the medical professional occupation category for critical skills employment permits. — Mairéad Farrell. [8437/24]

*122. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the engagement he has had with his EU counterparts on revising the EU carbon border adjustment mechanism to ensure that any revenues generated from taxing imports would be ring fenced to help poorer countries to scale up to less intensive carbon intensive production; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [8492/24]

*123. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the timeline for completion and delivery of the planned IDA-backed advance facility in Drogheda, County Louth; the sector/ purpose for which the facility will be marketed to potential IDA clients; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [8517/24]

*124. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when the cost of business grant scheme will be open for applications; the length of time the application process is expected to take; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Carey. [8530/24]

*125. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is aware of the impact on the local economy of the decision made by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability Integration and Youth to use all beds in a hotel (details supplied) in Drogheda to accommodate international protection applicants from March 2024; if he, his officials and local agencies will introduce a package of supports for local businesses to mitigate the anticipated loss of revenue to the local economy as a consequence of this decision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [8539/24]

*126. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the level of help/support his Department can offer to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8584/24]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*127. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on whether or not the application by a school (details supplied) has been approved, or when it will be approved in terms of additional accommodation which is badly needed at this location; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [8407/24]

*128. To ask the Minister for Education when the Department will provide the money for the contract work that was carried out at a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [8408/24]

*129. To ask the Minister for Education the reason why pension abatement of a person (details supplied) who worked on occasions for WWETB after his retirement was calculated on a daily basis; when a daily calculation of days worked, regardless of hours worked, was introduced by her Department for pension abatement purposes; if this method of calculation applies to all employees under the auspices of her Department; if this method of calculation applied to employees of ETBs prior to the issuing of circular letter 0003/2021; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [8409/24]

*130. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide a further update in respect of a large-scale major school project in Naas, County Kildare (details supplied); the budget allocation; the date on which it will be complete; and if she will set out any factors that are delaying delivery, and the remedy to same. — Catherine Murphy. [8411/24]

*131. To ask the Minister for Education to clarify why a school (details supplied) has been refused approval for an application under the emergency works programme for an urgent project which is causing health and safety hazards to staff and children in this school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [8427/24]

*132. To ask the Minister for Education if a school place will be secured for a person (details supplied). — Paul McAuliffe. [8439/24]

*133. To ask the Minister for Education when an additional classroom will be sanctioned for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [8445/24]

*134. To ask the Minister for Education the avenues open to parents of children with special needs (details supplied) who are without a primary school place for coming school term; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [8446/24]

*135. To ask the Minister for Education if she will sanction increased funding and resources for primary schools in County Laois to ensure that no child with special needs is left without a place in an ASD unit where required; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [8447/24]

*136. To ask the Minister for Education the number of school places available in ASD units in County Laois; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [8448/24]

*137. To ask the Minister for Education to respond to concerns raised by persons (details supplied) in respect of the SET provision; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [8460/24]

*138. To ask the Minister for Education when a decision will be made in relation to an application for extra accommodation at a school in County Galway (details supplied) given urgent need for additional accommodation at the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8481/24]

*139. To ask the Minister for Education what arrangements will be made to ensure that a student (details supplied) who returned to live in Ireland last Christmas is offered a place in a school that teaches through the medium of English; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8489/24]

*140. To ask the Minister for Education if parents of pupils who had no school bus service from October to February (details supplied) will be eligible for the remote area grant for the period the bus service was suspended; if they will have to make an application for same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8503/24]

*141. To ask the Minister for Education when a planning application for a school (details supplied) will be submitted; the expected timeframe for the project to reach completion; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [8532/24]

*142. To ask the Minister for Education when a planning application for a school (details supplied) will be submitted; the expected timeframe for the project to reach completion; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [8533/24]

*143. To ask the Minister for Education if the case of students (details supplied) will be examined; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [8534/24]

*144. To ask the Minister for Education the steps that can be taken in relation to a child (details supplied) that has been denied a school bus service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [8540/24]

*145. To ask the Minister for Education the progress made on a school extension (details supplied) to the final stages of the tender; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [8548/24]

*146. To ask the Minister for Education when the new modular building for an autism class will be in place in a school (details supplied); what updates have been provided to the school since the announcement was made four months ago; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [8549/24]

*147. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the building project for a school (details supplied); the timeframe for when the tender will progress; the timeline for the completion of the project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [8551/24]

*148. To ask the Minister for Education the euro amounts of net surplus cash derived from school transport by Bus Éireann that the auditors and directors categorised in the accounts as profit in the profit and loss balance sheet and cash flow statement for each of the years 2005 to 2015, in tabular form. — Seán Canney. [8560/24]

*149. To ask the Minister for Education if her officials obtained legal assistance from the Office of the Attorney General regarding complaints about information being withheld in answers to Parliamentary Questions between 2013 and 2015; and the assistance provided in relation to same. — Seán Canney. [8561/24]

*150. To ask the Minister for Education the progress to date in securing primary and second level educational school places in Prosperous, County Kildare for September 2024; the progress to date in proceeding with the replacement of a school (details supplied); the proposals at present; when the new school will be available; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8579/24]

*151. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which replacement facilities/new school (details supplied) is progressing; whether the causes of the delay can be ameliorated in the short-term; the extent to which security costs/maintenance in the interim might be a factor in the determination of any outcome; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8580/24]

*152. To ask the Minister for Education if provision can be made for a second level place for a student (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8589/24]

*153. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which provision and work is in hand to replace a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8590/24]

*154. To ask the Minister for Education the extent to which she is satisfied that all primary and second level school places required for September 2024 are available throughout County Kildare including but not limited to Prosperous, Clane, Naas, Maynooth, Leixlip, Celbridge, Kilcock and Straffan; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8591/24]

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

*155. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the position regarding updated regulations that will require owners that rent out their property under short-term holiday lets (details supplied) to register under Fáilte Ireland, among other requirements; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [8432/24]

*156. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media further to comments made by the RTÉ Director General (details supplied) at the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht on 14 February 2024, what discussions her Department had with RTÉ and An Post in relation to the stopping of advertising of the TV licence fee in summer 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8494/24]

*157. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media further to comments made by the RTÉ Director General (details supplied) at the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht on 14 February 2024, that RTÉ had discussions with her Department and An Post in relation to the stopping of advertising of the TV licence fee in the summer of 2023, and that the decision was made in conjunction with these parties, the reason she informed the Committee on 28 November 2023 that the matter had not been discussed with her Department; if she will request that the records of the Committee be changed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8495/24]

*158. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media further to comments made by the RTÉ Director General (details supplied) at the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht on 14 February 2024, that RTÉ had discussions with her Department and An Post in relation to the stopping of advertising of the TV licence fee, and that the decision was made in conjunction with these parties, if she was party to these discussions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8496/24]

*159. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media further to comments made by RTE Director General (details supplied) at the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht on 14 February 2024, that RTÉ had discussions with her Department and An Post in relation to the stopping of advertising of the TV licence fee, and that the decision was made in conjunction with these parties, if she was not party to these discussions, whether she was briefed on these discussions; if so, on what date any such briefing took place; if she will provide a copy of any documentary or digital briefing that exists; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8498/24]

*160. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media further to comments made by the RTÉ Director General (details supplied) at the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht on 14 February 2024, that RTÉ had discussions with her Department and An Post in relation to the stopping of advertising of the TV licence fee in the summer of 2023, and that the decision was made in conjunction with these parties, if minutes of these discussions were kept; if so, if these minutes will be provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8499/24]

*161. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén uair a fhogrófar na deontais faoi na scéimeanna deontais do threallamh spóirt agus do saoráidí spóirt bunaithe ar iarratais a rinne an bhliain seo caite faoin scéim “Sports Capital Grants”; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8504/24]

*162. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if her Department and the relevant agencies are aware of the fact that a hotel (details supplied) in Drogheda will, from March 2024, no longer have beds available for tourism use; if she and the tourism agencies are concerned about this, given the level of investment in Drogheda’s tourism product in recent years; if she and the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment have engaged on the matter; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [8538/24]

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

*163. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will expedite an application (details supplied) for a domestic wastewater treatment grant for a person. — Robert Troy. [8471/24]

*164. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will examine the administration of the recently enhanced domestic wastewater treatment system grant; and if applications are being selected randomly rather than on a priority basis from an environmental impact point of view. — Robert Troy. [8473/24]

*165. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an accessibility update (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [8541/24]

*166. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will allow an extension to cut diseased ash trees to 1 March 2024 to ensure all dangerous trees are removed as soon as possible, given the large number of trees to be felled at the same time. — Robert Troy. [8559/24]

*167. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what legislation is used for rental inspections by contractors of local authorities in terms of criteria of ventilation, etc., and if it is based on the year the property is built. — Sean Sherlock. [8405/24]

*168. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if inspectors of local authorities are using ventilation measurement machines when inspecting homes and the number of ventilation measurement machines being used by each local authority, in tabular form. — Sean Sherlock. [8406/24]

*169. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding fiscal oversight and management of the interim remediation scheme for fire safety defects in apartments and duplexes; what mechanisms and structures will be in place to ensure full oversight of this scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [8434/24]

*170. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of septic tank inspections that were carried out in the past three years in counties Cavan and Monaghan, in tabular form; how those due inspection are selected; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8465/24]

*171. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the delivery of affordable housing schemes in conjunction with Cavan and Monaghan County Councils; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8466/24]

*172. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the EU is still taking proceedings against Ireland due to the failure to install the Gweedore sewerage scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [8483/24]

*173. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the NSAI has received research results and/or statements from the research partners engaged by the GSI to investigate the issue of defective concrete in Ireland. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [8521/24]

*174. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if in the interest of transparency to families impacted by the defective concrete crisis he will ensure that all research results, whether interim or final, and all statements received by the NSAI to date from the Geological Survey Ireland and research partners are published forthwith. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [8522/24]

*175. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if all research results, whether interim or final, and statements from the independent research partners commissioned by Geological Survey Ireland into the issue of defective concrete are being acted upon with due diligence with immediate effect by his Department, NSAI and the Housing Agency. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [8523/24]

*176. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on his Department, the NSAI, the Housing Agency and local authorities to persist to administer the multi-billion euro defective concrete block scheme, based upon a flawed desktop study, without prudently and immediately taking into account the clear scientific evidence from independent researchers that the primary cause of defective concrete in all counties is internal sulphate attack. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [8524/24]

*177. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason there are no supports for local authority members to have an office; and if he will consider bringing in an allowance for same. — James Lawless. [8536/24]

*178. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 243 of 15 February 2024, the number of houses that will be remediated in 2024; the targets that he has set in relation to completions for the next five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [8544/24]

*179. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what proposals have been received from a local authority (details supplied) with respect to support from his Department for affordable housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [8547/24]

*180. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the vacant property refurbishment grant, particularly in relation to Cork County Council; the stage of applications at present, particularly in relation to a person (details supplied); the number of applicants that have drawn down and received the grant to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Buckley. [8555/24]

*181. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will make changes to the guidelines that deny planning permission to applicants in Donegal who would have to access on to the N56. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [8558/24]

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

*182. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way in which a company applies to provide school meals under the school meals programme; when applications will open and the way in which applications are made; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [8570/24]

*183. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a prepaid return envelope can be included when requests are issued from the child benefit section asking parents to confirm their children's details concerning continued entitlement to child benefit payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [8418/24]

*184. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the current status of the review of the disability allowance means review for a person (details supplied), and when she could expect payment to increase; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [8421/24]

*185. To ask the Minister for Social Protection following the welcome news that full-time second level students over 18 years of age will be re-eligible for child benefit from May, if the arrears of missing months before May be paid from when they turned 18; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [8423/24]

*186. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a one parent family payment will continue to be paid to a person (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [8428/24]

*187. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if, pending the submission of additional information requested for a disability allowance for a person (details supplied), she will allow

continued payment of the allowance until eligibility has been established; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [8438/24]

*188. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to respond to concerns raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [8442/24]

*189. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a decision has been made on carers allowance appeal by a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8474/24]

*190. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a disability allowance will be made available in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8577/24]

*191. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a PPS number might issue in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8581/24]

*192. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the eligibility for disability allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8583/24]

*193. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the entitlement to an appropriate payment in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8586/24]

*194. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the maximum hours/income a person (details supplied) can work/receive to retain one parent family payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8604/24]

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

*195. To ask the Minister for Justice how many citizenship ceremonies are planned for 2024; the expected months for citizenship ceremonies in 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8624/24]

*196. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of citizenship ceremonies that are planned in 2024; and if she will provide a schedule of same, by date. — Catherine Murphy. [8412/24]

*197. To ask the Minister for Justice how many citizenship ceremonies are planned for 2024, and the expected months for citizenship ceremonies this year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [8426/24]

*198. To ask the Minister for Justice what level of proficiency in English and/or Irish is expected of an applicant for naturalisation before their application will be decided on; how this is monitored; whether she proposes to make any legislative or policy changes in this area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [8463/24]

*199. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of citizenship ceremonies anticipated in 2024; the month/months in which they will take place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [8475/24]

*200. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 506 of 30 May 2023, when a response will issue from the gardaí to this Deputy. — Peadar Tóibín. [8484/24]

*201. To ask the Minister for Justice the cost of the asylum process for each of the past five years. — Peadar Tóibín. [8512/24]

*202. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of people that have been with issued deportation orders in the past five years; the number of deportation orders that have been enforced for each of the past five years; and the process in place at airports and ports to confirm whether a person has voluntarily deported. — Peadar Tóibín. [8513/24]

*203. To ask the Minister for Justice the estimated number of people that are residing in Ireland illegally. — Peadar Tóibín. [8514/24]

*204. To ask the Minister for Justice the average, total and highest cost of deportation for each of the past five years. — Peadar Tóibín. [8515/24]

*205. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of people arriving in Ireland without travel documents, false travel documents or damaged travel documents in each of the past five years; and the location of entry. — Peadar Tóibín. [8516/24]

*206. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons, by county that are currently waiting for their Garda vetting application to be processed. — Catherine Murphy. [8572/24]

*207. To ask the Minister for Justice if she has engaged with An Garda Síochána in respect of providing a blanket clearance for persons that are cleared by gardaí that can be used across multiple roles by the person; and if she will consider a time-limited certificate that persons could present in lieu of separate Garda clearance requests. — Catherine Murphy. [8573/24]

*208. To ask the Minister for Justice the residency status in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8575/24]

*209. To ask the Minister for Justice the current and/or expected residency entitlement in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8585/24]

*210. To ask the Minister for Justice the current and expected residency status in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8587/24]

*211. To ask the Minister for Justice if her Department can facilitate a change of immigration status from Stamp 2 to Stamp 4 in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8588/24]

*212. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which she and her Department are successfully combatting organised crime; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8592/24]

*213. To ask the Minister for Justice the degree to which educational or rehabilitative provision continues to be made for first-time offenders while in prison, with a view to preventing recidivism; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8593/24]

*214. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which membership of criminal gangs or those associated with drug crimes have decreased/increased in each of the past five years to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8594/24]

*215. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of accused persons currently on bail throughout the country; the extent to which the number has fluctuated in each of the past six years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8595/24]

*216. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of positions to be filled on the benches of District, Circuit and High Court; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8596/24]

*217. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which funding for state-of-the-art technology is currently available or being made available to An Garda Síochána to assist in the detection and prosecution of all forms of crime; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8597/24]

*218. To ask the Minister for Justice the total number of gardaí available throughout the country on a full-time basis; the extent to which this number has fluctuated in each of the past six years to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8598/24]

*219. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which hate speech, hate crime and racism continue to be addressed in all areas throughout the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8599/24]

*220. To ask the Minister for Justice the efforts in hand to process applications for citizenship/naturalisation in an organised and timely manner; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8600/24]

*221. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which she proposes to strengthen the law in regard to child sexual abuse; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8601/24]

*222. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which the number of persons awaiting naturalisation is being addressed, with particular reference to those in this jurisdiction for more than five years and anxious to obtain employment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8602/24]

*223. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which members of An Garda Síochána, injured or traumatised in the course of their duty have access to appropriate counselling; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8603/24]

*224. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons with two or more Garda vetting requests being processed in parallel. — Catherine Murphy. [8619/24]

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

*225. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to provide an update on the provision of ACRES payments; and the number of eligible farmers who have not yet received payment from his Department. — Holly Cairns. [8556/24]

*226. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the degree to which he continues to ensure the meeting of emission targets while protecting the agri-food industry given the likelihood of food shortage in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [3222/24]

*227. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what measures will be taken to deal with circumstances where forestry planting has occurred close to power lines, resulting in power outages due to power lines being knocked over by trees and sallies in their vicinity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [5475/24]

*228. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine what action he is taking to ensure proper maintenance of forestry plantations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [5476/24]

*229. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the issues he proposes to progress at a sectoral level through the work of the North-South Ministerial Council; if meetings will be held at an early date under the auspices of the Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [8392/24]

*230. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if an application for a milk tank under TAMS 2 which was submitted in 2022 will be paid in full including VAT to a person (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [8469/24]

*231. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the financial supports to veterinary practitioners outlined in his Department's notice to private veterinary practitioners regarding the entry of Ukrainian pets into Ireland are still available to practitioners; and, if not, when the said supports ended. — Michael McNamara. [8486/24]

*232. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the sum provided by his Department to veterinary practitioners pursuant to his Department's notice to private veterinary practitioners regarding the entry of Ukrainian pets into Ireland; and if the said sum was included in the sum of € 808,131.51 set out in his response to this Deputy of 16 February 2024 to the commitment given by the Taoiseach during Questions on Policy and Promised Legislation on 13 February 2024. — Michael McNamara. [8487/24]

*233. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount of funding that will be spent in 2024 out of the Brexit compensation fund for the fishing industry; when details of the various schemes will be finalised and announced; the agency or agencies that will administer the fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8502/24]

*234. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine whether he has considered the possible tax implications for some farmers of receiving a double ACRES payment in 2024; the level of tax disregards applied to ACRES payments; whether he has engaged with other Departments on this matter; whether he has considered the possible impact on thresholds for

SUSI applications for some farmers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8520/24]

*235. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his views on the future of Irish agriculture following the ending of the Nitrates Derogation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [8545/24]

*236. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which he continues to ensure the application of the highest standards in beef and dairy production, with a view to ensuring that Irish products can adequately compete on national and world markets, given the various potential threats at present; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8605/24]

*237. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the total number in the beef herd at present; the extent to which numbers have fluctuated in the past four years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8606/24]

*238. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the current strength of the dairy herd; the degree to which it has fluctuated or is likely to so do in the future, with particular reference to displacement by other enterprises in order to comply with the meeting of emissions targets; if due regard is being had for the possibility of a food shortage in the near to mid-future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8607/24]

*239. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which the ongoing forestry development programme continues with due regard for the necessity to use marginal lands as opposed to lands suitable for food production; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8608/24]

*240. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which farm supports contain new money or a replacement for previous schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8609/24]

*241. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which he and his Department continue to encourage the fishing industry with particular reference to ensuring that the industry here can compete with all others; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8610/24]

*242. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which his Department continues to monitor the effects of Brexit on Ireland's agrifood sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8611/24]

*243. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the efforts ongoing by his Department to address issues relating to farmer mental health and well-being; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8612/24]

*244. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which Irish lamb continues to be a major competitor on world markets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8613/24]

*245. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which employment continues in the agri-food and fishing sectors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8614/24]

*246. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which farm safety continues to be a major issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8615/24]

*247. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the extent to which he and his Department continue to monitor the cost of farm inputs including fuel and fertilisers with a view to identifying the best way to meet the challenges of issues arising therefrom; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8616/24]

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

*248. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he can provide any information on funding that may be available for providers of early intervention services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [8417/24]

*249. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to respond to concerns raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [8440/24]

*250. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of asylum seekers currently being accommodated at a location (details supplied); the number at this site who are single males with no other family members on site; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [8464/24]

*251. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 255 of 15 June 2023, if a business case proposal has been submitted to the HSE disability services for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [8470/24]

*252. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of hotel beds, by county that are currently provided to beneficiaries of temporary protection from Ukraine and persons in the international protection process respectively, disaggregated by hotels or accommodation providers which were commercially active and commercially inactive. — Pearse Doherty. [8476/24]

*253. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of hotel beds, by county that are currently provided to beneficiaries of temporary protection from Ukraine and persons in the international protection process, disaggregated by hotels or accommodation providers which were commercially active and commercially inactive prior to the State taking out contracts with respect to those beds. — Pearse Doherty. [8477/24]

*254. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total number of beds and contracts, referenced above, for which contracts expire within the next six and 12 months, respectively. — Pearse Doherty. [8478/24]

*255. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when supports will be put in place for a child (details supplied). — Seán Canney. [8485/24]

*256. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the proposals to provide a new service (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [8491/24]

*257. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he can help a community project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [8500/24]

*258. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth whether it is intended to provide extra funding to the HSE in Galway city and county to provide for extra respite services for young people and their parents that have serious intellectual disabilities or are autistic, or both, and where a clear need for these services has been identified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8506/24]

*259. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of workers that have been moved from the location of work from the Tallaght passport office to accommodate asylum seekers. — Peadar Tóibín. [8508/24]

*260. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the nature of accommodation for asylum seekers, Ukrainians and residents in direct provision in Ireland in terms of previous usage, hospitality, nursing homes, State building and so on. — Peadar Tóibín. [8509/24]

*261. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what research is undertaken in relation to the cost to tourism of the use of hotels, guest houses, or bed and breakfasts to accommodate asylum seekers, Ukrainians and residents in direct provision for each in each of the past five years. — Peadar Tóibín. [8510/24]

*262. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the average rate being paid to accommodate asylum seekers, Ukrainians and residents in direct provision in hospitality and separately in other accommodation venues in Ireland currently; the highest rate being paid in each of these location types; and the total spend to accommodate asylum seekers in Ireland for each of the past five years. — Peadar Tóibín. [8511/24]

*263. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on disability services (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [8567/24]

*264. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when his Department started to write to people with status/leave to remain in direct provision centres giving them dates by which they would have to leave the direct provision centre or be moved to another centre; the number of such letters issued to date; the criteria for issuing such letters; the rationale for this policy; the number of people who have been moved on foot of these letters; and a breakdown of these moves, including information on, from where; and the location to which they have been moved. — Eoin Ó Broin. [8618/24]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*265. To ask the Minister for Health if a retirement lump sum and pension entitlement has issued to a person (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [8429/24]

*266. To ask the Minister for Health the total cost of defending medical negligence litigation against the HSE and Department of Health in each year from 2010 to date, including awards made in the courts or settlements made out of court to resolve disputes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [8462/24]

*267. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the work and current status of the Public Health Alcohol Research Group; and if he intends to publish the report of the group. — Gino Kenny. [8414/24]

*268. To ask the Minister for Health what plans he has in relation to monitoring and evaluating the outcomes of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act 2018, and the impact of any changes to licensing laws as proposed by the Minister for Justice through the Sale of Alcohol Bill. — Gino Kenny. [8415/24]

*269. To ask the Minister for Health if he will revise the national treatment purchase fund calculation mechanism for funding fair deal stays in not-for-profit charitable nursing homes, such as Cahercalla Community Hospital in Ennis and Carrigoran Nursing Home, Newmarket-on-Fergus, to reflect rising costs in providing healthcare along with incidental costs often arising from HIQA inspections; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [8419/24]

*270. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on legislation pertaining to the use and supply of products containing hexahydrocannabinol, which has psychoactive effects upon consumption by humans. — Paul Donnelly. [8425/24]

*271. To ask the Minister for Health if financial assistance is available for those who need to rent or buy medical equipment such as scalp cooling or cold cap machines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [8433/24]

*272. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE has introduced a central processing system for the payment of invoices from suppliers; if so, when this system was introduced; the cost of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [8443/24]

*273. To ask the Minister for Health the number on the waiting list for CAMHS for the month of January, by CHO, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [8444/24]

*274. To ask the Minister for Health the number of filled posts, by job description, within the community mental health services in Clondalkin; the number of vacancies per post; the steps that are being taken to fill these vacant positions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [8449/24]

*275. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that it is now virtually impossible for any new patient in Wexford town to be accepted by any of the existing GP practices, which are at capacity in terms of service delivery; the plans he intends to put in place to address this critical health issue, which is having a significant impact both on the health and wellbeing of the existing

growing Wexford population and on the prospects of attracting new people to live and work in the town; if he plans to provide any particular incentives to attract new doctors to work in general practice in Wexford, or to existing practices to expand their services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [8450/24]

*276. To ask the Minister for Health the assistance that can be given to a person (details supplied); and if night-time care will be allocated to them, given the circumstances. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [8451/24]

*277. To ask the Minister for Health if the 8,000 people who depend on services (details supplied) will continue to have access to them under the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [8452/24]

*278. To ask the Minister for Health the list of engagements his Department has had with the HSE in the process of securing funding for services (details supplied) given their criticality to 8,000 people; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [8453/24]

*279. To ask the Minister for Health how 8,000 service users (details supplied) will be accommodated by the HSE, given the recruitment embargo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [8454/24]

*280. To ask the Minister for Health when the proposed nursing home in a facility (details supplied) will be open. — Thomas Gould. [8455/24]

*281. To ask the Minister for Health whether retention planning permission was received for a facility (details supplied); and if so, when this was received. — Thomas Gould. [8456/24]

*282. To ask the Minister for Health for an itemised list, by cost, of the equipment purchased and installed in a facility (details supplied). — Thomas Gould. [8457/24]

*283. To ask the Minister for Health the cost of redevelopment of a facility (details supplied), by labour costs, construction costs and equipment costs in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [8458/24]

*284. To ask the Minister for Health the number of paediatric bays in emergency departments in Mercy University Hospital and CUH in January 2023; and the current number. — Thomas Gould. [8461/24]

*285. To ask the Minister for Health the average ambulance turnaround time, by hospital in Cork and Tipperary in 2023. — Thomas Gould. [8467/24]

*286. To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital beds currently provided in each public/voluntary hospital as of 16 February 2024, or the latest date available, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [8482/24]

*287. To ask the Minister for Health the position in relation to the cancelled of non-elective surgeries in UHK to date; when such surgeries will re-commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8488/24]

*288. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an operation for a person (details supplied). — Paul McAuliffe. [8518/24]

*289. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) has not received approval for a new prosthesis; the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [8519/24]

*290. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a breakdown of the spend on ambulance services across CH05 between 2017 and 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [8531/24]

*291. To ask the Minister for Health if all paramedic staff in Kerry are being used to their fullest based on rostering; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [8535/24]

*292. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider allowing patients with a Ministerial licence to access the products that are approved under the medicinal cannabis access programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [8542/24]

*293. To ask the Minister for Health the annual salary of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [8543/24]

*294. To ask the Minister for Health the HSEs plans for the care of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8571/24]

*295. To ask the Minister for Health when provision can be made for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8574/24]

*296. To ask the Minister for Health if a medical card will be extended for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8576/24]

*297. To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which the HSE can support and fund mental health service carers in the future with particular reference to services provided by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8578/24]

*298. To ask the Minister for Health when a medical card might issue in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8582/24]

*299. To ask the Minister for Health if he will ensure that a health service will be restored to its former level (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [8617/24]

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

*300. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on an application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Danny Healy-Rae. [8420/24]

*301. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department has plans to introduce an apprenticeship for tiling; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [8459/24]

*302. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the availability of student accommodation in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [8546/24]

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

*303. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she can help a community project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [8501/24]

*304. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when funding for the local improvement scheme will be announced; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [8537/24]