



## DÁIL ÉIREANN

*Dé Máirt, 27 Feabhra, 2024*  
*Tuesday, 27th February, 2024*

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

1. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in relation to the new student accommodation policy for which he sought Cabinet approval, if he can he provide details of the refurbishment grant which he had outlined. — Mairéad Farrell. [9106/24]

2. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the introduction of mandatory 51-week leases by private student accommodation providers; the actions he intends to take on these leases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [9077/24]

3. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science following on from his confirmation that his officials were examining the issue of 51 week leases for purpose built student accommodation, if he can update on same. — Mairéad Farrell. [9105/24]

4. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he and his Department will consider removing the eligibility criteria exclusion of the category of parents of an Irish citizen for SUSI applications in relation to persons with permission to remain under a Stamp 4 visa. — Gary Gannon. [9088/24]

5. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps he is taking to tackle the growing backlog of apprenticeship off the job training. — Mairéad Farrell. [9107/24]

**CEISTEANNA EILE**  
**OTHER QUESTIONS**

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

6. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what progress has been made to date to increase radiation therapy course places in Trinity College Dublin and University College Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9085/24]

7. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the up-to-date position regarding the development of a facility in Killarney (details supplied) as a new training centre of excellence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9011/24]

8. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he plans to develop Skillnet in its capacity to accelerate adaptation to the challenges of sustainability and digital transformation of business models. — Richard Bruton. [9082/24]

9. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps he is taking in 2024, the European Year of Skills, to increase the uptake of lifelong learning; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [9084/24]

10. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if Ireland is likely to experience a shortage of graduates in the future within a particular area to meet the demand of the corresponding workforce; his plans to address same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9019/24]

11. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on his Department's work on the borrowing framework for technological universities; the proposed timeline for when such a framework will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [9079/24]

12. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the up-to-date position on improving pathways between second-level education and apprenticeships to ensure that apprenticeships are seen as a very attractive career pathway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [9025/24]

13. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if there are plans to include courses for adults with intellectual disabilities such as the level 3 certificate in skills for independent living at Dundalk IT under the SUSI grant scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [8724/24]

14. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on the centre of excellence for electric vehicles in Mullingar; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [9075/24]

15. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he has considered the role that further and higher education could play in the future in supporting the contribution of people after they retire from full-time work both from their past experience and empowering them for a third age; and if he will consider evolving a new strategy in this sphere. — Richard Bruton. [9081/24]

16. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to report on the Departmental subgroup on education in prisons that was proposed to be established; if that has been established; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [8220/24]

17. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [3496/24]

18. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on the dentistry school for Cork, for which the ground was broken, but has yet to be delivered. — Mairéad Farrell. [9109/24]

19. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware of recent reports (details supplied) which highlight critical skills and labour gaps in order to meet our 2030 targets as part of Ireland's energy transition; the corrective measures he will take in order to fill these gaps; the timeline for delivery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8986/24]

20. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on his Department's plans to expand the provision of education in veterinary medicine in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [8629/24]

21. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the degree to which higher education costs have increased/fluctuated over the past number of years; the extent to which the proportion of the national budget under that heading has varied in the past six years; if continued access to third level education for all students seeking to avail of it will be ensured; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9018/24]

22. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when the review on the status of PhD researchers, that is, classification as either students or employees, will be published. — Aodhán Ó Riordáin. [9078/24]

23. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware of the University of Limerick's recent purchase of social housing units in Rhebogue, County Limerick. — Brian Stanley. [8903/24]

24. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way his Department is supporting young people from the Traveller community to become apprentices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [8809/24]

25. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way his Department is incentivising people from disadvantaged backgrounds to become apprentices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [8808/24]

26. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the work that has been carried out to fast track the delivery of the proposed new veterinary school. — Mairéad Farrell. [9111/24]

27. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way in which he has engaged with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to restrictive 51-week tenancies for the 2024-2025 academic year announced by some operators of student accommodation in Dublin. — Gary Gannon. [9090/24]

28. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when the increases to the PhD stipend that he announced as part of Budget 2024 will be operational; and when PhD researchers will see this change take place. — Aodhán Ó Riordáin. [9080/24]

29. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the work his Department has carried out to promote the new guidelines in relation to student digs accommodation. — Mairéad Farrell. [9110/24]

30. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will deliver decent public sector work contracts for the 3,500 adult education tutors who are employed by the education and training boards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [9132/24]

31. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will comment on his future plans for the expansion of further and higher education in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [9115/24]

32. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will report on the delayed actions his Department is leading on as part of the Climate Action Plan 2023; the proportion that have been completed and delayed, respectively; if any are still outstanding from the Climate Action Plan 2021; the expected timeline for delivery for all delayed actions; the estimated emissions impact of delayed actions; the impact on carbon budgets; the measures he is taking to mitigate these impacts and make up any possible shortfalls; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8987/24]

33. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps he is taking to encourage persons from disadvantaged backgrounds and ethnic minorities into third level education. — Peadar Tóibín. [8775/24]

34. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures he is taking to address the current shortcomings in the provision to mental health supports for third level institutions. — Mairéad Farrell. [9112/24]

35. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what actions he and his Department are taking to reduce staff-to-student ratios in higher education, given Ireland was decreed to have one of the worst ratios in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. — Gary Gannon. [9089/24]

36. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his priorities for Kerry in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9012/24]

37. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the engagement he has had to date with private student accommodation providers to prevent the practice of full year compulsory leases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [9024/24]

38. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider putting in place a scholarship programme for radiation therapy students with a signed agreement that they would work for two years in the HSE once qualified, given that University College Cork has a two-year master's programme costing students €12,000 per annum; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9086/24]

39. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on plans for development of Longford Westmeath ETB further education

campus in Longford town; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Flaherty. [8777/24]

40. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the Irish Survey of Student Engagement; and if his Department has any input into the drafting of the questions asked in the survey. — Peadar Tóibín. [8776/24]

41. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an up-to-date report on the provision of student accommodation at University College Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin City University and the University of Limerick. — Brian Stanley. [8902/24]

42. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on the plans to enhance disability supports for students at further and higher education centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [8725/24]

43. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason some of the craft apprenticeship curricula course syllabi are almost fifteen years old; and the steps he will take to modernise them. — Mairéad Farrell. [9108/24]

44. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will report on the funding allocation to date and the timeframe for the development of Cavan Institute as a hub for further education and training; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8782/24]

45. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 103 of 18 January 2024, the status of the proposed new further education college in Galway city; if the preliminary business case has been completed and submitted to Solas to-date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8904/24]

46. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on the ability of technical universities to borrow funds to provide their own student accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [9076/24]

47. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps he and his Department are taking to support students who are being asked to pay for accommodation for 52 weeks of the year, despite only being in college for nine months of the year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8780/24]

48. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider all the issues outlined in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [9133/24]

49. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the position regarding progress on the public private partnership, bundle 2, specifically with reference to the funding of the engineering building in the Waterford Campus SETU; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [9083/24]

50. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 109 of 18 January 2024, for an update on the plans to

provide additional student accommodation units for students at the University of Galway; the timeline for the delivery of the additional units; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8905/24]

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## CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

*Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.*

\*51. Chun a fhiafraí den Taoiseach cé líon na gcainteoirí laethúla Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht ar cainteoirí iad atá idir 3 bliana agus 4 bliana d'aois de réir Daonáireamh 2022. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [9043/24]

\*52. To ask the Taoiseach if the electronic Irish Statute Book (eISB) website uses a third-party assistive technology software tool (details supplied), and when an issue will be rectified. — Michael Collins. [8436/24]

\*53. To ask the Taoiseach the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9384/24]

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

\*54. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if officials from his Department met with representatives of an organisation (details supplied) in February 2024 to discuss the ongoing political situation for the Sahrawi people in Western Sahara; if so, the content of these discussions; and if his Department remains committed to continuing to engage constructively with the organisation. — Chris Andrews. [8689/24]

\*55. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps taken to ensure that neither of two US military aircraft (details supplied) were on intelligence gathering missions, in contravention of Irish Government prohibitions, on 11, 12 and 15 February 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [8768/24]

\*56. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when a decision will be made in relation to applications for foreign birth registration (details supplied); the reason for the delay in making a decision on said applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8804/24]

\*57. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what actions Irish diplomatic representatives in Morocco have taken to support the United Nations process and support efforts to bring about a definitive and mutually acceptable political settlement with regard to Western Sahara; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [8882/24]

\*58. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he is aware of an offer by a group (details supplied) which has a team of over 20 highly qualified specialist doctors, licenced and experienced in various medical fields in Dublin, ready to volunteer their services in Gaza;



if he has considered this offer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8926/24]

\*59. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will upgrade the diplomatic status of Western Sahara and, if he will establish an Irish diplomatic presence in the region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [8927/24]

\*60. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will establish an embassy in Algeria; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [8928/24]

\*61. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the details of the projects that will receive funding in Northern Ireland over the next six years (details supplied); the departments/agencies in Northern Ireland with whom these projects have been discussed, negotiated and agreed; the level of matching funding that will be paid and by whom; the departments that will have their allocations deducted to meet these payments; and if he will make a detailed statement on this important expenditure of taxpayers money. — Michael Ring. [9171/24]

\*62. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the estimated cost of reducing the Passport fee to €60 for applicants aged over 80 years based on 2023 figures. — Paul Donnelly. [9251/24]

\*63. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how Irish medical volunteers might be able to offer their services in Gaza, or to communities of individuals displaced from Gaza, for example in Rafah, Egypt, in light of the worsening humanitarian and health crisis unfolding in Gaza; the steps his Department will take to assist individuals or groups who contact them expressing an intention to do so; what contact points in the Department are suitable for such individuals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [9268/24]

\*64. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the up-to-date position regarding the provision of emergency humanitarian aid in Gaza and the surrounding region (details supplied); if this includes the potential for direct deployment of Irish medical professionals; if this further includes the potential for deploying a humanitarian response that is not initiated through the DG ECHO platform; if this includes assisting and facilitating Irish medical professionals seeking to volunteer in Gaza or the surrounding region; his views on how the HSE Global Health Programme might support the amelioration of the humanitarian and health crisis in Gaza; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [9269/24]

\*65. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the person or body that can make a formal request for assistance on the DG ECHO platform; how they would go about it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [9270/24]

\*66. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what interim measures and or injunctions are available through the European Court of Human Rights to stop the British government halting the inquests or investigations into legacy issues in the north of Ireland; and if he sought to use any interim measures or injunctions to do so. — Peadar Tóibín. [9293/24]

\*67. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide this Deputy with a copy of the submission the Government has submitted to the European Court of Human Rights in its case against the British government over the Legacy Act. — Peadar Tóibín. [9294/24]

\*68. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he is aware that the person accused of the rape and murder of an Irish citizen (details supplied) in India in March, 2017 has again been granted bail; and the engagements that the Government has had with the Indian government on the length of time that this trial has taken. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9380/24]

\*69. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9385/24]

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

\*70. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on a matter (details supplied) in relation to cancer patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [9343/24]

\*71. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to review correspondence regarding energy grants (details supplied); if it is correct that this person is omitted from applying; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8630/24]

\*72. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reasons he has delayed sanctioning the SEAI to proceed with a bespoke scheme for participants in the defective concrete blocks scheme (details supplied). — Dara Calleary. [8642/24]

\*73. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if fibre broadband service will be provided to an area (details supplied) as part of the current roll out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [8671/24]

\*74. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 68 of 14 February 2024 (details supplied), the accessibility of the deposit return scheme; if any disability advocacy organisations were consulted on the accessibility of the deposit return scheme in advance of its roll out; the formation of the consultative group to ensure concerns are heard and addressed; when this group was formed and how many times it has met; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8679/24]

\*75. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress made to develop carbon capture and storage technologies in Ireland; if any private companies are carrying out CCS in Ireland; how CCS is regulated and monitored if carried out by private companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8701/24]

\*76. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the work the Government is undertaking to prepare for a potential collapse in the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation; what representations the Government has made regarding the EU's preparations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8708/24]

\*77. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the officials associated with the Climate Change Advisory Council that are considered designated

public officials under the Regulation of Lobbying and Oireachtas (Allowances to Members) (Amendment) Act 2023. — Eoin Ó Broin. [8711/24]

\*78. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when a location (details supplied) will have access to multiple broadband suppliers. — Denise Mitchell. [8751/24]

\*79. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if changes have taken place to legislation (details supplied); if so, to outline same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [8764/24]

\*80. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if an analysis has been conducted on the amount of emissions reductions associated with each euro spent by the climate action fund. — Eoin Ó Broin. [8819/24]

\*81. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if it is the latent policy of the Inland Fisheries division to legitimise all anthropogenic freshwater fish introductions in County Galway (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [8827/24]

\*82. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if officials in the Inland Fisheries division are content to see a population of pacu, conserved in Garadice Lake and the Shannon-Erne Waterway under the Conservation of and Prohibition on Sale of Coarse Fish Bye-Law No. 806 of 2006 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [8828/24]

\*83. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason the appropriate assessment screening document was not made available to angling stakeholders during the four-week consultation period (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [8829/24]

\*84. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if officials in the Inland Fisheries division plan to conduct retrospective appropriate assessment screenings on the Conservation of and Prohibition on Sale of Coarse Fish Bye-Law No. 806 of 2006 and the Conservation of Pike Bye-Law No. 809 of 2006 for SAC/Natura 2000 waterbodies, when reviewing the said bye-laws as per recent statements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [8830/24]

\*85. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when infrastructure to ensure access to high-speed fibre broadband will be installed in the case of a premises (details supplied); when high-speed fibre broadband will be available to this premises; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [8917/24]

\*86. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the reinstitution of the price monitoring group to monitor the cost of residential waste collection to households; his plans to ensure price stability across the sector and prevent price gouging in areas that do not have the option of more than one service provider; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [8977/24]

\*87. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of SEAI home energy upgrades that have been grant supported since 2020, per county; and the

amount of grant funding paid out in euro under home energy upgrades, per county, in tabular form. — Cathal Crowe. [8985/24]

\*88. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views on a matter (details supplied). — Brendan Griffin. [9036/24]

\*89. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to set out the guidelines reported to now be in place for low usage customers accessing electricity credit payments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Lou McDonald. [9057/24]

\*90. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if there are plans to review the energy credits for properties that were vacant or had low usage; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that a lot of vulnerable people were unable to qualify for the energy credit after receiving an offer of social housing from their local authority as some local authority homes were vacant for a lengthy period of time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [9138/24]

\*91. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will review correspondence (detail supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9244/24]

\*92. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his attention has been drawn to instances of lithium exploration in County Wicklow; the way in which permission is obtained to prospect in this jurisdiction; if he will provide a schedule of the number of licences to include the location for which he has granted permission to companies and or individuals to prospect drill here and to include substances being searched for in each of the years 2020 to date in 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [9299/24]

\*93. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 147 of 30 January 2024, the steps a customer can take having already raised the issue with the supplier and the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [9331/24]

\*94. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9395/24]

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

\*95. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the defence infrastructure projects that have been completed since 2020; and the funding provided for each project, by county, in tabular format. — Cathal Crowe. [8993/24]

\*96. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the general policy of his Department if unused army land or property is sought for school building, car parking or playground purposes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9054/24]

\*97. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if he will engage with Defence Forces personnel who have been excluded from the pandemic recognition payment despite having

worked frontline in Covid testing centres; if he believes it is unfair that these people were not nominated by the Defence Forces for receipt of the payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9055/24]

*Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.*

\*98. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are plans to open up a further NCT testing centre in County Wicklow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [8647/24]

\*99. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration has been given to implementing a further driving testing centre in Wicklow taking into consideration the increasing demand and waiting list timeframes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [8648/24]

\*100. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 81 of 14 February 2024, if he intends to reconvene the meetings of the steering group on the flood mitigation at Ballycar; if the group will report to the relevant departments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [8748/24]

\*101. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on a matter (details supplied) regarding funding for a project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8758/24]

\*102. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the report by the Climate Change Advisory Council; if he will report on his engagement with the Minister for Finance in respect of the recommendation on taxation policy and transport emissions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [8762/24]

\*103. To ask the Minister for Transport the specific motor taxation requirements for vehicles registered in other jurisdictions but belonging to residents in this jurisdiction and in use here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [8787/24]

\*104. To ask the Minister for Transport his views regarding licencing issues for airline pilots and the current wait times for responses from the Irish Aviation Authority (details supplied); if he is aware of concerns that this is posing safety risks; if he has engaged with the Irish Aviation Authority on this; the measures he is taking to address these concerns; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8792/24]

\*105. To ask the Minister for Transport when the new 82 bus route is scheduled to be in place. — Patrick Costello. [8824/24]

\*106. To ask the Minister for Transport if the All-Ireland Strategic Rail Review will be open for additional actions, particularly in relation to the providing of a rail connection to Donegal; if the reinstatement of the Northern Ireland Assembly provides an opportunity for additional review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [8831/24]

\*107. To ask the Minister for Transport if the DAA will fund the necessary works required for the runways at Dublin Airport for A380 type of aircraft to be able to park at the airport. — Paul Donnelly. [8863/24]

\*108. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of new full time bus mechanics recruited by Dublin Bus in each of the years of 2022, 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8864/24]

\*109. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of cars clamped at each Irish Rail station in 2023 and to-date in 2024; the amount collected by such clamping; and the purposes for which the money collected is used for, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8865/24]

\*110. To ask the Minister for Transport if plans are in place to increase the CIE pension; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [8930/24]

\*111. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of the disparity and inconsistency in national standards with regards to the pass rates in a driving test centre (details supplied); if this can be reviewed by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [8939/24]

\*112. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware there is still a significant backlog in the scheduling of driving test appointments in a driving test centre (details supplied); the steps his Department is taking to clear the backlog; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [8940/24]

\*113. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration will be given to the provision of fast bus services from Sligo to Dublin (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [8943/24]

\*114. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration will be given to the upgrade of the trainline from Sligo to Dublin (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [8944/24]

\*115. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of tests taken and the pass rate of all driving test centres in Dublin from 2022 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [8946/24]

\*116. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of an anomaly with motor tax where those with a herd or flock number can avail of commercial motor tax for their van or jeep, yet those with an equine number (the equivalent of herd or flock) cannot; if the Minister will include equine numbers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [9006/24]

\*117. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps he is taking to address delays for driving tests; the number of tests that are cancelled, broken down by quarter in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, in tabular form; what measures a person (details supplied) can take to ensure that they are able to take a test as soon as possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [9056/24]

\*118. To ask the Minister for Transport when a driving licence will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Cork; the reason for the delay in issuing this licence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [9067/24]

\*119. To ask the Minister for Transport when work will commence on double tracking the rail line from Athenry to Galway city; the timeframe for completion of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Cannon. [9068/24]



\*120. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason why, in the new regulations introduced as a consequence of Covid-19 extending the maximum permissible age for taxis on the road (details supplied), taxis with registration plates dating back to 2015 were not included; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [9104/24]

\*121. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update regarding increased increments for existing retired staff at CIÉ, noting that they have not received any increase since 2008; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [9130/24]

\*122. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will review correspondence (details supplied); if he will contact Bus Éireann and request they implement bus stops and timetables at the stop in Bailieborough town; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9137/24]

\*123. To ask the Minister for Transport the timeframe envisaged for the completion of the M11 motorway from Oylegate to Rosslare Europort; when the location of the required motorway service station will be known; when he expects construction to begin; when the motorway will be open to traffic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [9158/24]

\*124. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 354 of 25 March 2021 and 86 of 7 February 2024, the reason there is no definite plan for implementing the legislation in 2024, given the importance of same in 2014 for the Garda Ombudsman and for an organisation (details supplied) in 2017 and the enacted legislation on it in 2023. — Paul Murphy. [9164/24]

\*125. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will follow up on correspondence to the National Transport Authority (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9173/24]

\*126. To ask the Minister for Transport the position of the Dublin Airport Authority in relation to negotiations with taxi driver representative associations; if the authority has a position of refusing to recognise or consult representative associations of drivers who work in the airport; if so, if such a stance is compatible with Government policy on the rights of workers to be represented by trade unions and representative organisations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [9174/24]

\*127. To ask the Minister for Transport the timeframe for the introduction of BusConnects routes in the Crumlin area, specifically the proposed 82 route which is to replace the current 83 service; the proposed frequency of the new 82 route; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [9178/24]

\*128. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will upgrade the 350 bus service in counties Galway and Clare to ensure that larger buses are provided and that the frequency of the service is improved to meet the increased demand for public transport by people living in Kinvara, Ballinderreen, Ballyvaughan and Doolin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [9197/24]

\*129. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 167 of 15 February 2024, if he will provide an itemised breakdown of how funding of €300 thousand, allocated in December 2022 for the Bóthar Dhoirefhearta, Carraroe, County Galway was spent on this road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [9222/24]

\*130. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of WTE railway accident investigators employed by his Department in 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form; and if this number will be further increased during 2024. — Alan Kelly. [9257/24]

\*131. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department and any relevant agency can update their records and databases to reflect the facts about a vehicle (details supplied) with which the owner is experiencing difficulties in insuring because of misinformation being associated with this vehicle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [9305/24]

\*132. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of funding that has been allocated to County Offaly on an annual basis from central Government to Offaly County Council from January 2020 to date for the repair, upgrade and maintenance of roads in the county; the amount spent by Offaly County Council annually during this same period on the county's roads in the local electoral areas of Edenderry, Tullamore and Birr; and what amount, if any, has been returned unspent or used for other infrastructural projects by the Council since 2020, in tabular form. — Sorca Clarke. [9373/24]

\*133. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of funding his Department intends to allocate in 2024 to maintain, repair and upgrade roads in County Offaly in each of the three local electoral areas of Edenderry, Tullamore and Birr; and what plans, his Department has to address to the appalling state of the roads throughout the county, particularly in north Offaly, which are amongst the worst in the State, in tabular form. — Sorca Clarke. [9374/24]

\*134. To ask the Minister for Transport the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9400/24]

*Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.*

\*135. To ask the Minister for Finance the policy rationale within his Department's cost rental policies for corporation tax to be charged on LDA cost rents but not AHB cost rents. — Eoin Ó Broin. [8699/24]

\*136. To ask the Minister for Finance if vehicles registered and insured in other countries have full insurance cover in this jurisdiction; the countries, if any, with which Ireland has mutual recognition of motor vehicle insurance cover; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [8786/24]

\*137. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 104 of 7 February and 220 of 20 February 2024, if he will identify those Irish registered companies involved directly or indirectly in purpose-built student accommodation, for which the ISIF or a subsidiary thereof holds an equity stake; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [9334/24]

\*138. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on whether renewable electricity generated outside the State, and which was transmitted by means of a guarantee of origin certificate through the fuel mix disclosure process separate from the flow of electricity, is eligible for relief from the electricity tax. — Eoin Ó Broin. [8626/24]



\*139. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will reconsider the proposed end to the motor fuel subsidy on 31 March 2024 as planned (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [8675/24]

\*140. To ask the Minister for Finance the engagement his Department has had with Government colleagues regarding the Climate Action and Biodiversity (Mandates of Certain Organisations) Bill 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [8730/24]

\*141. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to reopening the SCBI loans (details supplied) as well as the current funding that can be applied for; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [8816/24]

\*142. To ask the Minister for Finance if an application for a refund of VAT relative to the purchase of a milk tank under TAMS 2 which was rejected by the Revenue Commissioners will be examined again and paid in full to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [8832/24]

\*143. To ask the Minister for Finance the backlog in the appeals process for the primary medical certificate (details supplied) in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024, broken down by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8836/24]

\*144. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of contracts for service workers in RTÉ that have had tax deducted at source through PAYE by the Revenue Commissioners since 1980; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [8837/24]

\*145. To ask the Minister for Finance the validation process used by the Revenue Commissioners to validate written RTÉ contracts for employment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [8838/24]

\*146. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of WTE vacancies, by job title, in the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman as of 20 February 2024; the estimated full year cost of filling each of those vacancies; and when each vacancy will be filled, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8866/24]

\*147. To ask the Minister for Finance when he last spoke formally with the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer. — Paul Donnelly. [8867/24]

\*148. To ask the Minister for Finance if funding will be made available in 2024 to purchase three additional mobile baggage scanner vans for the Revenue Commissioners; and if he will seek EU funding to cover these costs. — Paul Donnelly. [8868/24]

\*149. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 131 of 17 February 2021, the value of Section 50 tax expenditures provided to purpose-built student accommodation in each of the years 2000 to 2010, and 2019 to 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [9070/24]

\*150. To ask the Minister for Finance the annual increases in the retail price of the most popular price category MPPC for a 20-pack of cigarettes since 2011; the portion of the increase

related to taxes; the portion of the increase due to price rises by the tobacco industry in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9099/24]

\*151. To ask the Minister for Finance the estimated revenue that would be raised annually if tobacco taxation were to be increased annually on a pro-rata basis so that all packs of 20 cigarettes cost at least €20 by 2025; and the estimated revenue that would be raised annually if an equivalent annual tobacco tax on roll-your-own cigarettes was introduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9100/24]

\*152. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of persons successfully prosecuted for tobacco and or cigarette smuggling in 2022, 2023 and for the year to date in 2024, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9101/24]

\*153. To ask the Minister for Finance the resources he is currently allocating to the Revenue Commissioners; the new or improved enforcement actions that are being taken to combat illicit tobacco smuggling; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9102/24]

\*154. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will clarify a point of policy (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [9118/24]

\*155. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the inclusion of expenditure incurred on research and development activities undertaken in the green technology space for the research and development tax credit. — Louise O'Reilly. [9272/24]

\*156. To ask the Minister for Finance the process through which the Revenue Commissioners estimate tax which may have been overpaid by PAYE workers (details supplied); and in particular, whether this is based on an assumption about tax allowable expenses claimed by these individuals, or by applying some inference about these taxpayers from the claims made by others. — Richard Bruton. [9280/24]

\*157. To ask the Minister for Finance the method the Revenue Commissioners use for calculating yearly interest rates on local property tax; the reason behind fluctuating rates; if the Revenue Commissioners are required to inform homeowners of increasing or decreasing interest rates each year; the way for homeowners to challenge increased interest rates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [9326/24]

\*158. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has engaged with the Central Bank and or the Revenue Commissioners in respect of online tax agents acting on behalf of PAYE customers; if he will clarify the regulations that tax agents must comply with; and if his attention has been drawn to tax agents taking excessive fees in respect of their acting role. — Catherine Murphy. [9348/24]

\*159. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of homebuyers in each county have availed of the help-to-buy scheme since July 2020, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [9349/24]

\*160. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of taxpayers are currently claiming the rent tax credit, by county, in tabular form. — Michael Moynihan. [9350/24]

\*161. To ask the Minister for Finance the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will

identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9386/24]

*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.*

\*162. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the current status of the State Data Centre Project; how will it proceed with being connected to the grid, given its location within a constrained section of the grid; and whether the project might be delayed as a result; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9401/24]

\*163. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the engagement his Department has had with Government colleagues regarding the Climate Action and Biodiversity (Mandates of Certain Organisations) Bill 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [8731/24]

\*164. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide an update in relation to a scheme (details supplied); when a reasoned conclusion on the environmental impacts of the proposed works will be made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [8790/24]

\*165. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the number of males and females that applied for the post of chefs at the most recent recruitment campaign for the OPW. — Paul Donnelly. [8852/24]

\*166. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform when the funding necessary to put measures in place that would prevent future devastation from flooding in an area (details supplied) will be released; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [9000/24]

\*167. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the Garda stations within the Dublin region that are scheduled to be refurbished by the OPW in the next six months where the costs are in excess of €150,000; the nature of works that will be carried per station; and the estimated timeframe for completion per project, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [9246/24]

\*168. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the length of time it takes for requests for pension payments information to be finalised by the resignations and retirements team HR services in the National Shared Services Office; if more staff are required in this office; if a particular application (details supplied) can be finalised without delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [9295/24]

\*169. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9390/24]

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

\*170. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the deductions payable by employers when they make a statutory sick payment to an employee; the reason these differ from those payable by the State under illness benefit; if he will amend statutory sick pay criteria to align it with illness benefit in relation to PRSI, USC and employer's PRSI deductions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [8621/24]

\*171. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the use of dynamic pricing models by primary ticket sellers for tickets for cultural, entertainment, and recreational events (details supplied); if he will consider amending the Sale of Tickets (Cultural, Entertainment, Recreational and Sporting Events) Act 2021 to prohibit primary ticket sellers from using dynamic pricing models; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [8638/24]

\*172. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will introduce a financial support package for small businesses and rural pubs to offset the recent increase in the minimum wage, VAT and energy costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8734/24]

\*173. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has engaged with management at a company (details supplied) since it was announced that the firm would be making a portion of its workforce redundant; and if he will make a statement on job losses in the technology sector more generally. — Ivana Bacik. [8756/24]

\*174. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the level of trade between Kuwait and Ireland in 2023. — Paul Donnelly. [8869/24]

\*175. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the level of trade between Qatar and Ireland in 2023. — Paul Donnelly. [8870/24]

\*176. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide a list of companies in Ireland which currently have dual use export licences, in tabular form; the export value of each company for 2022 and 2023; the details of the products they are they producing; and if he can guarantee that none of these components and weapons are being used for the purpose of the taking of human life, either directly or enabling that process. — Patrick Costello. [8923/24]

\*177. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment in cases in which a worker is not under the provisions of the new statutory sick scheme for workers because they are deemed to be in an employer scheme which is more beneficial, if such workers now effectively have six waiting days before they can access social protection payments; if employers that operate such sick schemes have any legal obligation to pay a worker for days four, five and six under current legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [9179/24]

\*178. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment given some recent media highlighting of various issues, if he can make a statement in relation to a company website (details supplied) which acts as an agent for processing tax returns on behalf of individuals, and particularly the costs or charges that this company imposes; and whether consumer rights are protected in this regard. — John Lahart. [9233/24]

\*179. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the budget allocation in 2023 and 2024 for the innovation voucher scheme, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [9249/24]

\*180. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on his engagement with external stakeholders in respect of the provision of paid leave for persons who have experienced a pregnancy loss before 24 weeks' gestation, or to facilitate access to reproductive healthcare treatments; if he will list the stakeholders which have made representations to him on the matters; and the position of his Department in respect of the measure. — Ivana Bacik. [9311/24]

\*181. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will request the CCPC to investigate the practices and pricing within the infant formula market under his powers in section 10 (4) of the Competition and Consumer Protection Act 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [9371/24]

\*182. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 74 of 8 February 2024, if in light of concerns related to the ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people Gaza, he will provide additional information which would allay concerns that export licences may been issued for products or components used by military forces or for military applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [9381/24]

\*183. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9387/24]

*Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.*

\*184. To ask the Minister for Education if she will acknowledge that a rural DEIS school in County Mayo (details supplied) is being unfairly impacted by the methodology change in allocating special education teaching hours; if she will ensure that the children with additional needs in this school are not left without their fair share of special education teaching allocation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [8632/24]

\*185. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 196 and 197 of 15 February 2024, to provide further details in respect of her statement (details supplied); the education partners that have been engaged to date; the timeline for completion of these discussions; to explain what she meant by "strengthening of approach" in her previous reply; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [8639/24]

\*186. To ask the Minister for Education if funding or grants are available for school playgrounds; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [8641/24]

\*187. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will consider a review of the wellbeing programme in schools with a view to further helping young people in dealing with mental health and emotional resilience. — Louise O'Reilly. [8649/24]

\*188. To ask the Minister for Education when a child will receive an appointment (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8651/24]

\*189. To ask the Minister for Education when a school (details supplied) will receive music or art therapy supports; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [8656/24]

\*190. To ask the Minister for Education when a school (details supplied) will receive literacy and numeracy therapy supports; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [8657/24]

\*191. To ask the Minister for Education if Circular 02/2024 will be revised to permit more than two schools to form a cluster for the purpose of combining principal release hours with SET hours; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [8659/24]

\*192. To ask the Minister for Education if funding will be provided for a hall at a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [8672/24]

\*193. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the serious shortage of school places for new entrants and primary school students in Portlaoise; if having regard to significant new housing developments in the area, appropriate school places might be facilitated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [8688/24]

\*194. To ask the Minister for Education when a decision will be made on a stage 2b report for a schools additional accommodation project that was received by her Department in November 2023 (details supplied); the turnaround time for a decision on such reports; if she will expedite the project, given the long delays already experienced by this project which was sanctioned in 2017; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [8703/24]

\*195. To ask the Minister for Education if she will acknowledge the concern of parents of children with special needs following the issuing of circular 0002/24 regarding special education teacher hours (details supplied); if the category of complex educational needs is to be removed from the special education teacher hours; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [8704/24]

\*196. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on plans for two primary schools in Moate, County Westmeath (details supplied); if amalgamation plans will be progressed to meet the educational needs of the town into the future; and if short term works for the schools will be outlined. — Robert Troy. [8710/24]

\*197. To ask the Minister for Education the reason a pre-school (details supplied) is experiencing significant delays in receiving payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [8712/24]

\*198. To ask the Minister for Education the urgent steps her Department will take in relation to a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [8736/24]

\*199. To ask the Minister for Education when her Department's technical team will access a site as a matter of urgency (details supplied) in County Clare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [8746/24]



\*200. To ask the Minister for Education if she will ensure that a school (details supplied) will be allocated funding for necessary advance works; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [8760/24]

\*201. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the severe shortage of school places for children with moderate to severe profound general learning disabilities in County Wexford; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [8800/24]

\*202. To ask the Minister for Education what provisions are being made to accommodate the reported 46 children with moderate to severe profound general learning disabilities who have been unsuccessful in their applications for the 2024/2025 academic year to a special school (details supplied) in Enniscorthy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [8801/24]

\*203. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on a school (details supplied) in County Wexford; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [8802/24]

\*204. To ask the Minister for Education when a school (details supplied) will receive DEIS status; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8812/24]

\*205. To ask the Minister for Education the reason a school (details supplied) has not been designated with DEIS status despite the fact that the area of Lumcloon, County Offaly is identified as a disadvantaged area by Pobal; if this will be re-examined by her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [8826/24]

\*206. To ask the Minister for Education if she will expedite a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [8833/24]

\*207. To ask the Minister for Education if she will reassess the use of the IQ component criteria when assessing students who apply for assistive technology on the basis that these criteria are outdated and refers to an old circular; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [8884/24]

\*208. To ask the Minister for Education what grants are available for students attending modern foreign language courses; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8885/24]

\*209. To ask the Minister for Education how DEIS funding for ETB schools is allocated; the process for school principals to apply; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8886/24]

\*210. To ask the Minister for Education if DEIS funding through ETBs is available for foreign language courses; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8888/24]

\*211. To ask the Minister for Education how the DEIS funding for ETB schools is allocated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8889/24]

\*212. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on school building projects (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [8893/24]

\*213. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 123 of 13 February 2024, if she is aware that for children with dyslexia, the support provided through mainstream schools, 20 minutes for three times a week, does not compare to what children get in a special school, where they learn reading and writing using the Wilson method, which many mainstream teachers have zero education on how to teach; given this information, why the Department has no plans to open more of these classes; if she has considered that the demand is so high for these special schools because what is being offered through mainstream school is not working; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8913/24]

\*214. To ask the Minister for Education if children (details supplied) can be accommodated on a school bus; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [8929/24]

\*215. To ask the Minister for Education for a review of correspondence (details supplied) and if she will provide an update on this matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8934/24]

\*216. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on a new school project (details supplied); the timeframe for when this project will move to stage 2B; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8937/24]

\*217. To ask the Minister for Education the assistance her Department is providing in relation to the shrinking of the play area at a school (details supplied) due to extensions and a growing school population in the area; her views on the current situation regarding inadequate parking space at school; her views on the ongoing safety issues presenting due to same and if she will review this case urgently; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8938/24]

\*218. To ask the Minister for Education regarding the current funding crisis threatening a preschool for autistic children (details supplied), if she will ensure that her Department responsible for processing the payments processes them promptly; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8953/24]

\*219. To ask the Minister for Education if there are changes being made in how resource teachers are being allocated or deployed, if she is aware of concerns expressed by Down's Syndrome Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [9033/24]

\*220. To ask the Minister for Education whether the NCSE has reported on the adequacy of capacity of special schools and special units on the northside of Dublin to meet the needs of pupils presenting for placement this year; if increases in capacity have been identified; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [9034/24]

\*221. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an dtabharfaidh sí sonraí i bhfoirm tábla le haghaidh na n-uaireanta teagaisc Gaeilge in aghaidh na seachtaine a bhí riachtanach i mbunscoileanna de réir bliana ó 1990 go dtí an bhliain seo. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [9047/24]

\*222. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais an bhfuil painéal ar leith ann do mhúinteoirí agus do mhúinteoirí ionaid san earnáil lán-Ghaeilge, agus an ndéanfaidh sí cur síos ar an gcreatlach earcaíochta do scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [9049/24]

\*223. To ask the Minister for Education how her Department is liaising with the Minister for Education and the Minister of State for Special Education and Inclusion in the matter of associated services at a school (details supplied) in the context of the mooted moving of services



provided by an organisation to the HSE; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [9059/24]

\*224. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on her plans to deliver a modular building to accommodate the ASD unit at a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Cannon. [9073/24]

\*225. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider increasing the salary paid to school bus escorts as it is only 70 cent above the national minimum wage; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [9113/24]

\*226. To ask the Minister for Education why a school (details supplied) is the only school in the Donegal Gaeltacht that has not been identified for DEIS funding under the refined DEIS identification model, where the Pobal deprivation index for the catchment area is worse than the average for County Donegal as a whole; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [9146/24]

\*227. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide a list of all second level education institutions aided by her Department in which instruction in higher mathematics was provided from another school by video link rather than being provided on-site; the roll number of each school receiving instruction by video link and the school sending instruction by video link, for each school year since 2010, in tabular form. — Patrick Costello. [9172/24]

\*228. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question 181 on 7 February 2024, if she will outline a definite date for the completion of the feasibility study; the plans for the school's expansion of accommodation for the 2024/25 school year, especially when children of refugee families will be attending the school in question; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [9187/24]

\*229. To ask the Minister for Education if an application for additional accommodation for a school (details supplied) will be considered as a matter of urgency; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [9199/24]

\*230. To ask the Minister for Education if a school in County Kerry (details supplied) will be considered for DEIS status; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9206/24]

\*231. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of the impact the decision to eliminate the category of complex educational needs from consideration when allocating special education teacher hours on children with Down syndrome in mainstream schools; if this decision will be reviewed to ensure children with Down syndrome can receive the required supports in mainstream schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [9221/24]

\*232. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware of a shortage of special school places to serve Dublin's northside; if she has received a report from the NCSE on capacity constraints and how they might be filled; if new places are coming on stream for this coming September or beyond; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [9271/24]

\*233. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on progress under the additional accommodation scheme for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [9273/24]

\*234. To ask the Minister for Education the reason future employment contracts for school secretaries do not include provisions for bereavement leave and wedding leave, in accordance with standard Department contracts; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [9288/24]

\*235. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on efforts by her Department to ensure that school caretakers will be offered a new agreement for revised salary and annual leave entitlements similar to the agreement put in place for school secretaries; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [9337/24]

\*236. To ask the Minister for Education when a review being undertaken by her Department in respect of a stage 2B submission will be finalised and the school (details supplied) contacted about the outcome of this review as it has been confirmed that it has been near completion for some time; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9366/24]

\*237. To ask the Minister for Education the most up-to-date progress on the proposed upgrade to a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [9378/24]

\*238. To ask the Minister for Education the location of the data centre or centres used by her Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from her Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under her Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9389/24]

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

\*239. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will consider providing support to a club (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9237/24]

\*240. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the estimated timeline for the announcement of the sports capital funding grant (details supplied); the details of the clubs and organisations that have applied for sports capital funding in the constituency of Dublin South-West; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [8645/24]

\*241. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if her attention has been drawn to the environmental initiatives being carried out (details supplied); if her officials could engage with the board of this club to see if their work is replicable in other clubs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [8880/24]

\*242. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media her views on the merits of introducing a Department-led competition or initiative that would promote increased focus on environmental initiatives (details supplied) by golf clubs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [8883/24]

\*243. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media for an update on a sports capital application (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8935/24]

\*244. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media for an update on a sports capital application (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8936/24]

\*245. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the total value of SCEP applications in the current round under the equipment only category; the number of such applications per county; when he expects allocations to be made for equipment only applications; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9038/24]

\*246. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if an application (details supplied) in County Kerry for the SCEP will be categorised as equipment only; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9039/24]

\*247. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cé líon na naíonraí agus na náiscoilleana Gaeltachta a fhaigheann maoiniú ó Údarás na Gaeltachta. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [9044/24]

\*248. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén bhliain inar cuireadh tús le Scéim Labhairt na Gaeilge a bhí ann roimhe seo agus cén ráta a bhí i gceist in aghaidh an pháiste tráth a cuireadh tús leis an scéim sin. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [9046/24]

\*249. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán cén ráta a fhaigheann mná tí in aghaidh an dalta faoi Scéim na bhFoghlaimoirí Gaeilge. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [9048/24]

\*250. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán an dtabharfaidh sé figiúirí maidir le líon na mac léinn lasmuigh den tír atá ag fáil teagasc sa Ghaeilge le cabhair ó mhaoiniú an rialtais seo, agus cé líon na ndaoine atá ag múineadh Gaeilge thar lear le cabhair ó mhaoiniú an rialtais seo. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [9051/24]

\*251. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when the Registration of Short-Term Tourist Letting Bill and General Scheme of the Bill will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [9143/24]

\*252. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if there is a set financial exposure limit on the Irish taxpayers commitment associated with Ireland hosting the Ryder Cup in 2027; if the commitment given by him on behalf of the Irish taxpayer is open ended; if such an exposure limit is set, the limit amount; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [9184/24]

\*253. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in relation to Ireland hosting the Ryder Cup in 2027, if a risk assessment on behalf of the Irish taxpayer regarding the specific costs to the taxpayer of hosting of this event has been put in place and in the interests of transparency can that risk assessment be made available to the public. — Paul Murphy. [9185/24]

\*254. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in relation to Ireland hosting the Ryder Cup in 2027, given that residents of the area are voicing certain reservations about the estimated 250,000 people expected to attend the event in the village of Adare over a three day period in 2027, if an infrastructural report which outlines environmental damage and which confirms the suitability of the venue to host such an event is available; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [9186/24]

\*255. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to review correspondence (details supplied); if she can provide an update on this scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9282/24]

\*256. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media when she expects the register for short-term tourist letting to be in operation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [9375/24]

\*257. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the plans to celebrate and commemorate the Irish born, internationally recognised and celebrated arctic explorer, Ernest Shackleton's 150th anniversary; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9383/24]

\*258. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the location of the data centre or centres used by her Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from her Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under her Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9396/24]

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

\*259. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated annual investment of private funding in biodiversity projects; if a breakdown can be provided regarding the categories of projects involved; how the impact is measured; how the State is supporting such initiatives; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9037/24]

\*260. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline the complaints procedure with Irish Water; and the process for escalating such a complaint. — Thomas Gould. [8634/24]

\*261. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of concerns in Fingal that the ceiling for the first home scheme is insufficient; if he is aware of queries as to the reason the ceiling for an apartment is higher than a house; if these ceilings will be subject to review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [8640/24]

\*262. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average cost to the Exchequer in 2023, per unit of accommodation, for housing schemes (details supplied), in tabular form. — Eoin Ó Broin. [8674/24]

\*263. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the policy rationale for applying corporation tax at the rate of 25% to LDA rental profits; and if this policy decision was made following engagement with the European Commission. — Eoin Ó Broin. [8698/24]

\*264. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how the equity portion of an affordable home delivered with the Affordable Housing Fund is represented in the registration of the purchase price of the property with the Property Price Register. — Eoin Ó Broin. [8700/24]

\*265. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware that Waterways Ireland is in the process of issuing a licence to the Portaneena Marina based in the Killinure Lough off Lough Ree outside Athlone (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Buckley. [8726/24]

\*266. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Buckley. [8727/24]

\*267. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on previous representations made to his Department on behalf of a club (details supplied); if his Department has a valid application from the club for the proposed field trials; when a decision will be issued on this application; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [8750/24]

\*268. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average wait time for fire brigade attendance at a scene, following a call to emergency services, in each county. — Ivana Bacik. [8754/24]

\*269. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage time taken for approval by an Bord Pleanála for large- and small-scale residential developments, respectively, in each local authority area; if staffing shortages are exacerbating delays; and if shortfalls in staffing numbers will be remedied in 2024. — Ivana Bacik. [8755/24]

\*270. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will extend a timeline the completion of works (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [8765/24]

\*271. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider an exemption in planning laws for people wishing to construct timber cabins (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8769/24]

\*272. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider extending the 1 March 2024 deadline for hedge cutting, given the excessive rain, land is completely saturated and these works have been delayed to avoid compression and bogging of fields; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [8779/24]

\*273. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide updated figures on the number of private rental inspections completed; the number of dwellings inspected not meeting regulatory requirements; the number of improvement letters, improvement notices, and prohibition notices issued; and the number of legal actions initiated by Galway City and County Councils in 2023. — Mairéad Farrell. [8817/24]

\*274. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of residential units which are awaiting water connections in each local authority area; the average wait time for water connection in each local authority area; and the longest existing delay for a water connection in each local authority area. — Ivana Bacik. [8825/24]

\*275. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the updated acquisition cost guidelines (ACG) for the cost rental tenant in situ scheme. — Francis Noel Duffy. [8851/24]

\*276. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of WTE solicitors employed by his Department in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form; and the civil service grade this post is normally filled by. — Paul Donnelly. [8874/24]

\*277. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide urgent clarity regarding the ending of the cutting season (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [8945/24]

\*278. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide clarification on the significant delays experienced by certain tenants in the processing of their tenant-in-situ applications in Fingal (details supplied); the reasons for these delays; and if he can provide an update on when a person can expect a decision on their case. — Paul Murphy. [8982/24]

\*279. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on a case previously highlighted (details supplied), where a tenant is facing homelessness due to significant delays in the processing of their tenant-in-situ application; if he can outline a proposed intervention due to the delays; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8983/24]

\*280. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the communication he has had with Fingal County Council with regard to the long processing delays with the tenant-in-situ scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [8984/24]

\*281. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a property (details supplied) will be used by his Department for beneficiaries of temporary protection under the emergency refurbishment programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [8997/24]

\*282. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide a list of persons prohibited from running for local authority elections; if employees of a public body are barred from running in local elections (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8998/24]

\*283. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if employment contracts made between contractors and a public body (details supplied) prohibit those contractors from running in local elections; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8999/24]

\*284. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if an urgent review of adjustment of zones pertaining to a new national scheme for grants to upgrade or replace septic tanks could be undertaken as there are issues whereby people are now excluded from the scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [9042/24]

\*285. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of properties that have been refurbished under the refurbishment programme for accommodating beneficiaries of temporary protection; the details of all properties refurbished under the scheme;



the cost of each refurbishment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [9052/24]

\*286. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage which stakeholders contributed to the review of the implementation of the defective concrete blocks scheme from July to December 2023 that is due to be presented to the Minister in the next few weeks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [9058/24]

\*287. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 99 of 22 November 2023, if a review of SI No. 216/2004 and Circular letter LG(P) 06/09 as they relate to retained fire fighters is underway; the way in which this review will consider the fact that calls are not guaranteed income; when this review will be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [9192/24]

\*288. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the apparent withdrawal of a motion supporting child abuse victims by the CEO of Louth County Council in May 2023; what actions he proposes to take in light of the Taoiseach's State apology to people who were sexually abused in day schools (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [9205/24]

\*289. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total cost to date of the modular units built on State-owned lands itemised, by cost per unit and by location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [9216/24]

\*290. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if sanction is required by the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive for the purpose of signing contracts for homeless accommodation; if so, how many contracts have been entered into and for what duration since 2020; the costs involved; how many bed spaces are subject to such contracts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [9217/24]

\*291. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 290 of 1 February 2024, the number of cases that were unsuccessful in meeting the threshold required by the Office of the Chief State Solicitor to progress to prosecution, broken down by county for each of the years 2019-2023. — Eoin Ó Broin. [9223/24]

\*292. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of pre-2011 RAS tenants who are on the Galway County Council special transfer list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [9240/24]

\*293. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of pre-2011 RAS tenants who are on the Galway City Council special transfer list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [9241/24]

\*294. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if there are separate special transfer lists for pre-2011 and post-2011 RAS tenants in Galway City Council, or if these tenants are all on the same special transfer list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [9242/24]

\*295. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if there are separate special transfer lists for pre-2011 and post-2011 RAS tenants in Galway County Council, or

if these tenants are all on the same special transfer list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [9243/24]

\*296. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he intends to commence part 4 and 5 of the Electoral Reform Act 2022; if he intends for these parts of the Act to be in force before the upcoming European and local elections; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [9286/24]

\*297. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to introduce new measures, legislative or otherwise, to tackle the practise of some landlords knowingly allowing their rental properties to fall into disrepair; and his views on the adequacy of existing mechanisms for supporting the rights of tenants. — Ivana Bacik. [9309/24]

\*298. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to restrict no fault evictions; and the proposals which have been explored by his Department in respect of no fault evictions. — Ivana Bacik. [9310/24]

\*299. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on nutrition and access to play areas and recreational facilities for children in emergency accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the measures taken by his Department to monitor children's wellbeing while in emergency accommodation. — Ivana Bacik. [9313/24]

\*300. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the expenditure on women's refuges in each of the years 2021, 2022 and 2023; and the projected expenditure for 2024. — Ivana Bacik. [9314/24]

\*301. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to collect data on the role and function of staff at local authorities, as part of his Department's workforce planning for the local government sector. — Ivana Bacik. [9315/24]

\*302. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9391/24]

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

\*303. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are any State supports available to a family whose home has been seriously damaged by a lightning strike and who may lose out financially due to the gap between the insurance pay out and the actual cost of repair. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9202/24]

\*304. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the period a person can receive carer's benefit will be increased from 104 to 156 weeks; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8686/24]

\*305. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will increase the savings threshold for the exceptional needs payment from €5,000 to €10,000 to reflect the rising cost of living; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [8735/24]



\*306. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the appeal by a charity (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [8770/24]

\*307. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the current position regarding the Irish sign language voucher scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [8799/24]

\*308. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has investigated a scenario (details supplied) and how this can be resolved so that anyone in a similar situation can be automatically paid. — Joan Collins. [8899/24]

\*309. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an application for a carer's allowance (details supplied) will be considered in far greater detail on appeal, and if an oral hearing will be considered. — John McGuinness. [8909/24]

\*310. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will give due consideration to adding long-Covid to the list of diseases for which workers who have the required number of PRSI contributions can claim occupational injuries benefit; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [8921/24]

\*311. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to review the back to education allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [9026/24]

\*312. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a person (details supplied) can expect to receive a decision in regard to a carer's allowance appeal in respect of their spouse; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [9065/24]

\*313. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to examine and comment on an issue regarding the household benefits package (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [9136/24]

\*314. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress to date in the determination of application for domiciliary care allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9142/24]

\*315. To ask the Minister for Social Protection is she would consider allocating each application for carer's allowance to a specific staff member in the relevant section of her Department in order to prevent time consuming repetition of providing information during the application process. — Holly Cairns. [9170/24]

\*316. To ask the Minister for Social Protection in cases in which a worker is not under the provisions of the new statutory sick scheme for workers because they are deemed to be in an employer scheme which is more beneficial, if such workers now effectively have six waiting days before they can access social protection payments; if employers that operate such sick schemes have any legal obligation to pay a worker for days four, five and six under current legislation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brid Smith. [9180/24]

\*317. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will ensure that an invalidity pension application for a person (details supplied) is approved on appeal. — Robert Troy. [9204/24]

\*318. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she is aware that the fuel allowance means assessment includes income from the sale of a person's own home even if they have downsized in retirement; if the Minister will change this rule to bring it in line with other social protection payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [9207/24]

\*319. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the further review agreed to by her Department has been completed in relation to a domiciliary care allowance application in the name of a person (details supplied), and if so, if the application was approved. — John McGuinness. [9210/24]

\*320. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of WTE staff, by grade working in the special investigation unit of her Department as of 20 February 2024. — Alan Kelly. [9259/24]

\*321. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a domiciliary care allowance award in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry who was waiting for a HSE assessment will be backdated; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9281/24]

\*322. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his views on a matter (details supplied) in relation to cancer patients; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [9344/24]

\*323. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason that persons in receipt of disability allowance must share their boarding pass with her Department in order to avail of their 14 day holiday entitlement; the length of time this information is held by her Department; what the information included in these travel documents is used for by her Department; and the legislative basis for requesting this information. — Mairéad Farrell. [9372/24]

\*324. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider revising the long-term carers contribution scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [9379/24]

\*325. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the location of the data centre or centres used by her Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from her Department's offices; if she will identify the centres used by each agency under her Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9393/24]

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

\*326. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of learner drivers who were detected drink driving each year in 2020 to date in 2024; the number convicted in court for this offence; the number who were issued with a fixed penalty notice for drink driving; the number who paid the FCPN within the time limit, by county, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [9367/24]

\*327. To ask the Minister for Justice when the draft Bill to give effect to one of the central recommendations of the working group to examine the disregard of convictions related to consensual sexual activity between men (details supplied) will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [8680/24]

\*328. To ask the Minister for Justice the work that has been carried out by her Departmental officials along with other departments to deliver on promised Government legislation, which is a central recommendation by the working group to examine the disregard of convictions related to consensual sexual activity between men (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [8681/24]

\*329. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will establish an owners' management company (OMC) regulator on an interim non-statutory basis to address conflicts of interest issues where OMCs are still controlled by the original builder-developers and inappropriate procurement practices being used in terms of awarding of contracts and payments being made to directors; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [8684/24]

\*330. To ask the Minister for Justice if officials in her Department will make contact with representatives of an organisation (details supplied) concerning confusion about the status of their IIP project; if officials can review correspondence; if every effort will be made to rectify any possible irregularities in order that this application can be processed and finalised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [8692/24]

\*331. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide details on the number of applications received by her Department for the Ireland Immigrant Investor Programme in County Clare; and if she will provide topline detail on these applications. — Cathal Crowe. [8729/24]

\*332. To ask the Minister for Justice the average wait time for garda attendances at a scene, following a call to both emergency services and local Garda stations, in each county. — Ivana Bacik. [8753/24]

\*333. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason a person (details supplied) has been requested to supply another statutory declaration, different to the original one supplied with their application and proof of residency having already completed their e-vetting request; if this was sent in error; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8818/24]

\*334. To ask the Minister for Justice if a person (details supplied) is required to complete another on-line e-vetting; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [8840/24]

\*335. To ask the Minister for Justice if she is aware of the significant delays in processing times for naturalisation applications and in the sending of certificates to those who have attended naturalisation ceremonies; the current expected processing times and times to allocate certificates; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [8841/24]

\*336. To ask the Minister for Justice the current number of applicants awaiting naturalisation applications to be processed; the number pending from 2021, 2022 and 2023; the estimated timeline for clearing the backlog and the percentage of rejected candidates; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [8842/24]

\*337. To ask the Minister for Justice how long the e-vetting process takes in the naturalisation process; the length of time for which e-vetting is valid; if she is aware of the issue with inputting the county on the on-line form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [8843/24]

\*338. To ask the Minister for Justice the next date on which new Garda recruits will enter Garda training college. — Paul Donnelly. [8853/24]

\*339. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of people held in solitary confinement within the Irish Prison Service for 21 hours or more, or locked up for more than 15 consecutive days, during 2023 and in January 2024, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8854/24]

\*340. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of WTE civilian intelligence analysts at the grade of administrative officer employed within An Garda Síochána in 2022, 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8856/24]

\*341. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide a list of what forms persons can attend a Garda station for official approval with a stamp; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [8895/24]

\*342. To ask the Minister for Justice how many Gardaí in Galway City and County have completed the CBD level 1 and CBD level 2 driver training course. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8896/24]

\*343. To ask the Minister for Justice how many gardaí do not have any formal driver training in Galway City and County. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8897/24]

\*344. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of fines issued to airlines for allowing people into the country without documentation in the past five years, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [8922/24]

\*345. To ask the Minister for Justice if she plans to establish an owners' management companies regulator on an interim non-statutory basis with its operations funded by a levy on OMCs; the steps she will take to guarantee impeccable governance and transparency in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [8931/24]

\*346. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 512 of 7 March 2023, and a subsequent reply (details supplied), if she will report on progress on the payment of an ex-gratia payment to a person; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [8978/24]

\*347. To ask the Minister for Justice her views on the alignment between the objective of the Gambling Regulation Bill to protect vulnerable persons and the exclusion of the National Lottery from the purview of the Gambling Regulatory Authority of Ireland, particularly in light of recent findings from the Economic and Social Research Institute study on problem gambling, which identified lotteries and scratch cards as the most prevalent forms of gambling and thus, addiction; how this exemption aligns with the broader objectives of the Bill aimed at promoting responsible practices within the gambling industry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9031/24]

\*348. To ask the Minister for Justice the reason the National Lottery is being excluded from being regulated by the new Gambling Regulatory Authority of Ireland, particularly when local lotteries run by local charities and local voluntary groups will be subject to such regulation; the reason the National Lottery will not be included in the watershed ban on advertising of gambling products proposed in the Gambling Regulation Bill 2022, when all other forms of gambling will be, including advertising charity lotteries and bingo games; how such a stance is in keeping with

the Bill's objective of a balanced regulatory approach; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9032/24]

\*349. To ask the Minister for Justice if additional funding will be provided to an organisation (details supplied) in Kerry in 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9035/24]

\*350. To ask the Minister for Justice when candidates who attended their citizenship ceremonies in October 2023 can expect to receive their certificates of naturalisation in view that it is now over 20 weeks since the ceremonies took place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9117/24]

\*351. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will consider putting a regulator in place to assist people in availing of the remediation scheme in respect of the not our fault campaign and issues arising with management companies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [9121/24]

\*352. To ask the Minister for Justice when candidates who attended their citizenship ceremonies in December 2023 can expect to receive their certificates of naturalisation in view that it is now over nine weeks since the ceremonies took place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9127/24]

\*353. To ask the Minister for Justice the procedure to be followed to update a stamp to stamp 4 in the case of a person (details supplied) who is currently working in Ireland as a dependent on stamp 1G; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9139/24]

\*354. To ask the Minister for Justice if he will compassionately examine an asylum application by a person (details supplied) and expedite a decision, given the extreme urgency of the situation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brid Smith. [9189/24]

\*355. To ask the Minister for Justice when a person (details supplied) can expect her passport and other relevant paperwork to issue following a naturalisation ceremony; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [9198/24]

\*356. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of an application for a naturalisation certificate in respect of a person (details supplied); if the certificate has issued to-date; if not, the expected timeline for it to issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [9234/24]

\*357. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of WTE vacancies, by job title currently in the Gambling Regulatory Authority of Ireland; and when she expects each of those vacancies to be filled, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [9250/24]

\*358. To ask the Minister for Justice the estimated current and capital costs of providing eight additional staffed family refuge spaces. — Alan Kelly. [9263/24]

\*359. To ask the Minister for Justice if An Garda Síochána or her Department has made funding applications for projects under the EU Anti-Fraud Programme in 2023 and to-date in 2024; and if so, the applications. — Alan Kelly. [9264/24]

\*360. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of WTE civilian equine instructors working in the Garda mounted unit in 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [9265/24]

\*361. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will review case (detail supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9283/24]

\*362. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of serving or past members of An Garda Síochána who applied for positions within the Prison Service between 1 January 2020 and 31 January 2024 and were given job offers following these applications; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [9296/24]

\*363. To ask the Minister for Justice the current staffing levels in a Garda station (details supplied); the opening hours of the station; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [9304/24]

\*364. To ask the Minister for Justice if he will respond to and his views on a press release from an organisation (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [9370/24]

\*365. To ask the Minister for Justice the location of the data centre or centres used by her Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from her Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under her Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9398/24]

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

\*366. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on a derogation appeal (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [8677/24]

\*367. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the sources of information, and if the information was peer reviewed, that led to the development of the new bird and bird foraging layers on IForIS, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [8693/24]

\*368. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if there are peat type lands now excluded from afforestation, including the native tree area scheme due to concerns of carbon emission which are being farmed intensively within the dairy sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [8694/24]

\*369. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide all peer reviewed research reports his Department relied upon in defining what peat types are plantable under the new forestry programme; the reports that specify the differences between native woodland afforestation and conifer afforestation which support his Department's position regarding same in the new forestry programme, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8718/24]

\*370. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for an update regarding the effectiveness of the NTA scheme in promoting forestry among farmers and landowners, given



its financial attraction and efficient approval process (details supplied); the reasons for the low uptake; his plans to address and improve the situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8719/24]

\*371. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a farm (details supplied) will be considered as eligible for social farming funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick O'Donovan. [8728/24]

\*372. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of 2023 BISS applicants in Ireland that have encountered Departmental IT issues in relation the computation of space for nature percentages for both single measure ( >7% of farm area) and the enhanced measure ( >10% of farm area); the number of these farmers that are still without their ECO scheme payment; when his Department will rectify the issues for these BISS applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8733/24]

\*373. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the full-year cost of delivering ACRES payments in 2024; the anticipated full year cost delivering payments under tranche 2 of the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8737/24]

\*374. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the average total payment made to farmers under the ACRES general and cooperation project streams, respectively in 2023 and 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8738/24]

\*375. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the entire amount spent under the RUS since 2020; the amount spent under the new forestry scheme 2023-2027 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8739/24]

\*376. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of applications to the interim RUS under the forestry scheme 2023-2027 to date; the number approved and the average payment, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8740/24]

\*377. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the estimated area covered by trees affected by ash dieback, by plantations affected by ash dieback and areas outside the forestry programme including roadside ash dieback; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [8741/24]

\*378. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 260 of 14 February 2024, if he will acknowledge that the fox hunting codes of practice he referred to do nothing to eliminate the cruelty inherent in the blood sport. — Patrick Costello. [8749/24]

\*379. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the position regarding the total spent on the vaccination of badgers for tuberculosis by his Department in the past ten years in County Wicklow; how many vaccinations have been administered to the badger population in the same time period in the county; and what research has been carried out on the impact of vaccination as a means of dealing with the prevalence of tuberculosis in the badger population, in tabular form. — Steven Matthews. [8821/24]

\*380. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will introduce funding for a new tillage incentive and sustainability scheme for 2024 to support new and existing farmers in the sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Mythen. [8823/24]

\*381. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for a progress report on the west wharf extension and return project for Dunmore East Harbour, to which €300,000 was allocated in the Fishery Harbour & Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme 2023, but which has no allocation in the 2024 Development Programme, and with, I am advised, no works having been carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [8845/24]

\*382. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the €150,000 funding announced for a new retaining wall along cliff in the Fishery Harbour Centres and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme 2024 is a reannouncement of funding for the same project committed to in the development programme for 2023 or if it is additional monies for further expansion; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [8846/24]

\*383. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide a full breakdown in tabular form of all funding spent and committed to in the Fishery Harbour Centres and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programmes at the six State-owned fishery harbour centres since 2020; if he will provide details of any projects that were announced but not commenced or completed during those years; the amount of funding that was allocated to projects but then did not proceed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [8847/24]

\*384. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of WTE solicitors employed by his Department in 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form; and the civil service grade this post is normally filled by. — Paul Donnelly. [8857/24]

\*385. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the total amount of farmer scheme payments made on a per county basis for the year 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [8906/24]

\*386. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the total amount of payments in euro paid out in 2023 to beef and sheep farmers in each county; the number of payees in each county, since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [8941/24]

\*387. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the total amount of payments in euro paid out in 2023 under the areas of natural constraint scheme, by county; and the total number of farmers paid in each county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [8942/24]

\*388. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a payment which is long overdue under the suckler carbon efficiency scheme will be paid immediately to a person (details supplied). — John McGuinness. [8948/24]

\*389. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will urgently give consideration to a scheme which would assist landowners in removing dangerous roadside trees, particularly those affected by ash dieback, and encourage landowners to plant trees at the lower

end of landholdings; and his views on whether ash dieback is becoming an extremely urgent issue to deal with in the ash tree population. — Robert Troy. [8952/24]

\*390. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a 2023 eco balancing payment will issue to a farmer in County Kerry (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8981/24]

\*391. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the fate of all thoroughbred horses that have been sold to China; and if he is concerned about the announcement that racing is to cease in Macau in April (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [9001/24]

\*392. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine given the criticisms raised about animal welfare in China, what procedures his Department has taken to ensure the safety of thoroughbred horses, particularly in the context of the announcement that racing is to cease in Macau in April (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [9002/24]

\*393. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for a detailed breakdown of all Irish horses exported to China, Hong Kong and Korea, by year (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [9003/24]

\*394. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 1284 of 17 January 2024, received from HRI if he will instruct HRI to provide a breakdown of the ages of the horses sent to slaughter. — Paul Murphy. [9004/24]

\*395. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine why there is a delay in the Forest Service granting afforestation licences, which are required to meet our national afforestation targets in 2024 and beyond; what actions are being taken to ensure that the Forest Service has the resources to meet its targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [9135/24]

\*396. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reasons for the delay in paying farmers the ECO payment that is due to them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [9154/24]

\*397. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a person in County Cork (details supplied) will receive their 2023 young farmers payment. — Michael Creed. [9208/24]

\*398. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when his Department will issue an ECO payment due to a person (details supplied); the reason this payment is being withheld; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Fitzmaurice. [9245/24]

\*399. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount of revenue generated through hospitality sales at Shelbourne Park Greyhound Stadium in 2023 and to-date in 2024; and the number that attended restaurant services at this stadium during same period, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [9266/24]

\*400. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if Horse Racing Ireland publishes figures for race attendees including everyone who attends even those who gain free admission for example trainers, jockeys, stable staff, press and so on; and if he will request HRI to provide the amount of paying attendees to all events for the past 12 months. — Alan Kelly. [9267/24]

\*401. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the location of the data centre or centres used by her Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from her Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under her Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9392/24]

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

\*402. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware that many lawyers are refusing to sign papers creating an enduring power of attorney, where citizens have drawn up their own documentation, which is leaving these documents with no valid application; and if he has any plans which might overcome this problem. — Richard Bruton. [8783/24]

\*403. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will intervene in the case of a child (details supplied) awaiting an essential ASD assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [8881/24]

\*404. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how his Department is liaising with the Minister for Education and the Minister of State for Special Education and Inclusion in the matter of associated services at a school (details supplied) in the context of the mooted moving of services provided by an organisation to the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [9060/24]

\*405. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a community neuro-rehabilitation team will be put in place for CHO5; if funding has been allocated in 2024 to provide this service; when recruitment for this team will begin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [9145/24]

\*406. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide an update on the implementation plan for Roadmap for Service Improvement 2023-2026; when it will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [9300/24]

\*407. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if additional funding will be provided to a person (details supplied), given that their service needs have changed and will continue to change over time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9338/24]

\*408. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he can give assurances that transport issues (details supplied) at Kilbride Army Base International Protection Centre will be resolved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [8635/24]

\*409. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to give particular attention to IPAS applicants at Kilbride Army Base who have been accommodated at the isolated site for almost ten months since 20 May 2023; and process the request (details supplied) for a transfer to a more suitable location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [8636/24]

\*410. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if full-time residential care will be provided for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8652/24]

\*411. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a school (details supplied) will receive speech and language support; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [8653/24]

\*412. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a school (details supplied) will receive occupational therapy supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [8654/24]

\*413. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a school (details supplied) will receive physiotherapy supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [8655/24]

\*414. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when a (details supplied) will receive access to counselling services or assessment of needs supports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [8658/24]

\*415. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the Government's redress scheme for survivors of mother and baby homes is expected to be open for applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [8676/24]

\*416. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the steps that can be taken to assist a child (details supplied) whose life is being impacted profoundly by the lack of an assessment of needs that they require but has been too long awaiting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [8687/24]

\*417. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will detail the number of children in each county that benefitted from supports under the national childcare scheme in 2022 and 2023, by county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [8709/24]

\*418. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of a grant application by a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8716/24]

\*419. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will investigate the delay in providing and assessment of need for a child (details supplied) who urgently needs it completed to access the services they require; if he can provide advice for the parent in the interim; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [8721/24]

\*420. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will revert to this Deputy on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick O'Donovan. [8742/24]

\*421. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of IPAS applicants now residing in a facility (details supplied), by status that is, male, female or child; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [8747/24]

\*422. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if an assessment for a person (details supplied) will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8784/24]

\*423. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of a facility (details supplied); his plans for the facility; the stage of the plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8791/24]

\*424. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of a facility (details supplied); his plans for the facility; the stage of plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [8794/24]

\*425. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the stages involved in the assessment of properties offered for IPAS accommodation; the timeframe for assessment from time of offer to signing of contracts; the date offer was received for a property in Tipperary (details supplied); the current stage of assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [8805/24]

\*426. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of an application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8811/24]

\*427. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what analysis his Department has carried out in regard to the impact on existing law and policy of the proposed amendments to the Constitution regarding family and care; his plans to publish this analysis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8813/24]

\*428. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the inter-Departmental committee, which was established to examine the recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly on Gender Equality and the Special Joint Oireachtas Committee on Gender Equality, compiled a report of the submissions received in the public consultation that closed on 19 May 2023; if so, if the report has been published; if not, his plans for the publication of the report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8814/24]

\*429. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the status of the review of equality legislation; the timeline for the completion of the review; the expected timeline for when legislative proposals arising from the review will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8815/24]

\*430. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children with disabilities on waiting lists for overnight respite care within CHO7; and the number of those who currently receive respite care but who require additional nights. — Paul Donnelly. [8871/24]

\*431. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the caseload and headcount of staff and children awaiting intervention at a centre (details supplied). — Paul Donnelly. [8872/24]

\*432. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of WTE social workers and dietitians attached to a centre (details supplied) in each of the years 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8873/24]



\*433. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what efforts are being made to promote awareness of Irish legislation in reception centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [8898/24]

\*434. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide a list of the properties for which his Department currently has lease arrangements for the provision of direct provision and other accommodation for international protection applicants; if he will provide a corresponding list of the service providers in each of these properties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [8907/24]

\*435. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide a list of the properties for which his Department currently has lease arrangements for the provision of direct provision and other accommodation for beneficiaries of temporary protection; if he will provide a corresponding list of the service providers in each of these properties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [8908/24]

\*436. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the short and medium-term plans for Mosney direct provision centre; if there are any plans to transfer residents to other locations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [8914/24]

\*437. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the funding available for a club (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8919/24]

\*438. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason for the delay in the inspection by HIQA and Tusla of a crèche (details supplied); if he will ensure the process is prioritised due to the current pressure on child care waiting lists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [8925/24]

\*439. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if a child (details supplied) in south Tipperary will have a full cognitive assessment funded privately due to long delays; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [8951/24]

\*440. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total number of early years education settings receiving public funding in the Gaeltacht, and the number of which operate in the medium of Irish. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [9045/24]

\*441. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to confirm the payment rates per resident per night to each property owner accommodating international protection applicants; how the rate is calculated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [9053/24]

\*442. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of special emergency accommodation companies that have been set up, or contracted, by Tusla in Ireland in each of the past ten years, for the purposes of accommodating children in State care; the names of such companies; and the amounts paid to each company, per child per year, in each of the past ten years, in tabular form. — Peadar Tóibín. [9103/24]

\*443. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to indicate if an ADHD assessment can be secured for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9116/24]

\*444. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide information (details supplied) for the CDNTs in CHO 6 for each month from January 2022 to April 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [9144/24]

\*445. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the regional assessment hubs for CHO1 will be operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9159/24]

\*446. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what steps are being taken to increase recruitment of SLTs, OTs, physiotherapists and psychologists for organisation (details supplied) in County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9160/24]

\*447. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what steps are being taken to fill specialist posts in an organisation (details supplied) in County Cavan, such as dieticians; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9161/24]

\*448. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number and type of posts that are vacant in an organisation (details supplied) in County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9162/24]

\*449. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth his views on a case (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9163/24]

\*450. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for an update on the action plan for survivors and former residents of mother and baby and county home institutions; for an update on the excavation work in Tuam to recover remains; and to provide an update on negotiations with religious orders in regard to redress payment contributions. — Holly Cairns. [9169/24]

\*451. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when applications for the mother and baby institutions payment scheme will be open; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [9211/24]

\*452. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide this Deputy with a copy of the contract that exists between his Department and the operators of a facility (details supplied). — Catherine Murphy. [9214/24]

\*453. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware of an increase in providers leaving the core funding model; the steps his Department is taking on this issue; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that this move equates to higher charges for parents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9219/24]

\*454. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will provide a report on the provision of disability respite services in CHO7 in 2023 and to-date in 2024. — Paul Donnelly. [9247/24]

\*455. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated number of additional respite hours that would be delivered by opening three additional full time seven-bed respite centres. — Paul Donnelly. [9248/24]

\*456. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the estimated full year cost of recruiting two additional senior staff grade physiotherapists and two additional clinical specialist in the area of psychology for each children's disability network teams. — Alan Kelly. [9260/24]

\*457. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number and location of summer camp-based specialist services for children with complex support needs that will be established in County Tipperary for summer 2024. — Alan Kelly. [9261/24]

\*458. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of WTE clinical nurse specialists in behaviours of concern working within CHO3 and 5 in 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [9262/24]

\*459. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of adults and children in direct provision centres, broken down by centre, in County Wicklow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [9291/24]

\*460. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of adults and children remaining in direct provision centres, broken down by centre, in County Wicklow, after their leave to remain has been granted, for the most recent date available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [9292/24]

\*461. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware that the proposed buildings to be used in children disability network teams in area 9 have infrastructural issues (details supplied); if these issues will be resolved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [9301/24]

\*462. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if children's disability network teams in an area (details supplied) have been trained in the information management system. — Claire Kerrane. [9302/24]

\*463. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of current vacancies in children's disability network teams area 9; and the number of current vacancies due to absence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [9303/24]

\*464. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will report on his engagement with external stakeholders in respect of the provision of paid leave for persons who have experienced a pregnancy loss before 24 weeks' gestation, or to facilitate access to reproductive healthcare treatments; if he will list the stakeholders which have made representations to him on the matters; and the position of his Department in respect of the measure since the completion of a UCC study on the issue. — Ivana Bacik. [9312/24]

\*465. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if it will be possible for a person to apply for the mother and baby institutions payment scheme if their relative who was the deceased relevant person died prior to 13 January 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [9330/24]

\*466. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the supports available to assist childcare providers availing of ECCE funding with the extra costs associated with the new requirement to file detailed charter accounts reviewed by an accountant when previously childcare providers filed self-assessment accounts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [9339/24]

\*467. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he is aware of a case (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9382/24]

\*468. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9397/24]

*Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.*

\*469. To ask the Minister for Health when he will re-instate the provision of clothing for people with breast cancer (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [9329/24]

\*470. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the HSE recruitment embargo; if concerns of existing staff in HSE settings are being considered as part of negotiations on lifting it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [8623/24]

\*471. To ask the Minister for Health the way in which the national stroke strategy is to be funded in 2024; the items of expenditure that will be funded; the funding that is being made available for the stroke strategy in terms of existing levels of service and other measures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [8637/24]

\*472. To ask the Minister for Health if he will confirm that there is a serious backlog of unpaid invoices from suppliers to the HSE; if he will confirm the approximate delay time involved in making these payments; if he will give the actual number and value of these invoices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [8643/24]

\*473. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of the reported impact that proposed changes to the allowance/supports made available to women for the provision of post-mastectomy products (details supplied) may have; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [8644/24]

\*474. To ask the Minister for Health when a bed will be provided to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8646/24]

\*475. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that a person (details supplied) has had their procedure cancelled twice at short notice; and if the operation will take place on the newly appointed time as scheduled. — Louise O'Reilly. [8650/24]

\*476. To ask the Minister for Health for the steps his Department is taking regarding the provision of a dedicated diabetes care unit in University Hospital Waterford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8661/24]

\*477. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dedicated whole-time equivalents of consultant endocrinologists, dietitians, advanced nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, staff nurses, podiatrists and administrative support posts currently dedicated to the outpatient adult diabetes clinic in University Hospital Waterford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8662/24]

\*478. To ask the Minister for Health the steps his Department is taking regarding the recruitment of a dedicated diabetes physiologist for all with type 1 diabetes in University Hospital Waterford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8663/24]

\*479. To ask the Minister for Health the steps his Department is taking to ensure that the HSE has the necessary funding and support for recruitment to ensure that University Hospital Waterford has the minimum members of staff required to manage the diabetes unit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8664/24]

\*480. To ask the Minister for Health if contingency plans are in place for staffing of the diabetes unit in University Hospital Waterford, as a model 4 hospital, to ensure adequate cover in the event of staff illness or leave; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8665/24]

\*481. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults attending University Hospital Waterford with type 1 diabetes who have requested insulin pump therapy and when those patients can expect to avail of said diabetes technology; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8666/24]

\*482. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons with diabetes who are awaiting an appointment to see an endocrinologist over the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8667/24]

\*483. To ask the Minister for Health the number of new insulin pump starts done in all hospitals within the RCSI Hospital Group in people aged between 0-17 years and those aged 18 years or greater for 2019, 2020, 2021 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8668/24]

\*484. To ask the Minister for Health when the Sláintecare project on the development of a national diabetes register will recommence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8669/24]

\*485. To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital admissions that occurred through the University Hospital Waterford accident and emergency or the acute medical assessment units due to diabetic ketoacidosis in people aged between 0-17 years and those aged 18 years or greater and in each of the years 2017 to 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [8670/24]

\*486. To ask the Minister for Health when the medical cards of persons (details supplied) are due to expire. — Sorca Clarke. [8673/24]

\*487. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive speech and language therapy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8691/24]

\*488. To ask the Minister for Health the number of critical care beds, by type, at each Children's Health Ireland location in each January in each of the years 2012-2024, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [8705/24]

\*489. To ask the Minister for Health the number of approved posts attached to each critical care bed at each location within Children's Health Ireland in each January in each of the years 2012-2024, by staff grade, in tabular form; and the number of vacancies at each point. — David Cullinane. [8706/24]

\*490. To ask the Minister for Health the status of naming the new Children's Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [8707/24]

\*491. To ask the Minister for Health if a financial assessment of the costs of repurposing a hospital (details supplied) has been carried out or considered; if an estimate is available or can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Browne. [8713/24]

\*492. To ask the Minister for Health if he is confident that all contracts put to tender are awarded to companies that meet the tender criteria; and if it was to be identified where one clearly did not meet the stated criteria in the tender specs, what the recourse would be. — Robert Troy. [8714/24]

\*493. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that residents living in HSE-owned properties at a location (details supplied) cannot access grants or any other supports for insulation or upgrading their homes; if he is aware that the residents are living in houses that are in an extremely poor state of repair but cannot get their landlord (the HSE) to carry out any necessary internal repairs; if he plans to support the residents or to arrange for the repairs to be carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [8715/24]

\*494. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a hospital appointment for a person (details supplied); what options are available to them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8717/24]

\*495. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a hospital appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8720/24]

\*496. To ask the Minister for Health if romosozumab which is used to treat women with severe osteoporosis is also approved by the EMT for use in Ireland for men with severe osteoporosis (details supplied); if romosozumab is approved by the EMT to be used under medical supervision by a registered consultant in Ireland for a 45 year old male with severe osteoporosis with a very high risk of bone fracture; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [8732/24]

\*497. To ask the Minister for Health the practices of the National Gender Service that consultants are concerned would be affected by a potential ban on conversion therapy, as referenced in a newspaper article (details supplied) in June 2023. — Mairéad Farrell. [8744/24]

\*498. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the National Gender Service believe a conversion therapy ban would make it impossible to develop a children's service as referenced in a newspaper article (details supplied) in December 2023. — Mairéad Farrell. [8745/24]



\*499. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to reduce waiting times for ambulance arrival; and if he will supply a breakdown of average wait times in each county. — Ivana Bacik. [8752/24]

\*500. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to remove prescription fees for medical card holders. — Ivana Bacik. [8757/24]

\*501. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider the regulation of CAMHS, which would ensure that recommendations on governance and clinical reform made by the Mental Health Commission can be implemented by the HSE and the State; if he will allow the Mental Health Commission to monitor the implementation of any such recommendations and allow it to publish an annual report on progress; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [8759/24]

\*502. To ask the Minister for Health if proposed amendments (details supplied) will come before Dáil Éireann; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [8761/24]

\*503. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding special leave with pay for frontline healthcare workers that are suffering with long-Covid; if a further extension or an alternative support scheme is being considered for those in this situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [8766/24]

\*504. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an update for survivors of the vaginal mesh controversy; if a scheme or some level of assistance will be offered to women left in this situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [8771/24]

\*505. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the long-term illness scheme only includes mental health conditions for persons under 16 years of age; his plans to extend this beyond 16 years of age; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [8798/24]

\*506. To ask the Minister for Health the way in which the HSE plans to award a tender for a service (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [8803/24]

\*507. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of in-patients who were admitted to Bantry General Hospital in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023; the average length of stay for each patient, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [8806/24]

\*508. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of out-patients that attended Bantry General Hospital in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [8807/24]

\*509. To ask the Minister for Health if plans are in place to expand the HSE national pilot for ADHD in adults which is currently restricted to three CHO's to provide access to assessments and therapies to adults throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [8820/24]

\*510. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients removed from hospital waiting lists through validation processes for each year 2019-2023, by reason for removal, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [8822/24]

\*511. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 84, 89, 94, 96, 113, 131 and 148 of 24 November 2023, regarding a case (details supplied) as it related to the primary medical certificate and the disabled drivers and passengers scheme, the alternative supports that are in place until the planned review takes place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [8835/24]

\*512. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the expert review of the paediatric orthopaedic surgery service at CHI; the timeline for the completion of the review; if he has received any interim reports to-date, and if so, his plans for the publication of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [8844/24]

\*513. To ask the Minister for Health when will the promised Mental Health Bill be brought forward for debate at second stage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [8848/24]

\*514. To ask the Minister for Health if the promised Mental Health Bill will address the registration or regulation of community mental health services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [8849/24]

\*515. To ask the Minister for Health if the promised Mental Health Bill will implement the recommendations contained in independent review of the provision of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in the State by the Inspector of Mental Health Services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas Pringle. [8850/24]

\*516. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nurses, vehicles and doctors that are based in each D-Doc treatment centre in 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form; and if these numbers will be further increased this year. — Paul Donnelly. [8858/24]

\*517. To ask the Minister for Health when phase one of the development of the major trauma centre at the Mater Hospital will be completed. — Paul Donnelly. [8859/24]

\*518. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE dentists and dental nurses working in primary care centres within CHO7 in each of the years 2022, 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8860/24]

\*519. To ask the Minister for Health the number of hazardous emergency response vehicles in the national ambulance service fleet in each of the years of 2022, 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8861/24]

\*520. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that attended each outpatients clinic at CHI Temple Street in 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8862/24]

\*521. To ask the Minister for Health if he will expediate a dental appointment for a child (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [8891/24]

\*522. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for reducing support for women with breast cancer by reducing their allowance to access prosthetic bras following a mastectomy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8892/24]

\*523. To ask the Minister for Health to detail any changes in available public funding for wigs/hairpieces and post-mastectomy products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [8911/24]

\*524. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children awaiting appointments for primary care psychology in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [8912/24]

\*525. To ask the Minister for Health what services are currently provided in Balbriggan primary care centre; what additional services are planned to be introduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [8916/24]

\*526. To ask the Minister for Health if he will take the necessary steps to extend the temporary scheme of paid leave for public health service employees unfit for work post Covid infection as a matter of urgency in view of the fact that the scheme is due to end on 31 March 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [8920/24]

\*527. To ask the Minister for Health if there is any provision to encourage the establishment of dental practices in towns currently without them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [8924/24]

\*528. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultants in emergency medicine based at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda in 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8954/24]

\*529. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE plans to establish a minor injuries clinic on the Inishowen Peninsula, County Donegal. — Duncan Smith. [8955/24]

\*530. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE orthopaedic registrars based at Roscommon University Hospital in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8956/24]

\*531. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE dietitians working in Monaghan General Hospital in 2022 and 2023 in tabular form; and if this number will be further increased during 2024. — Duncan Smith. [8957/24]

\*532. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE theatre nurses working in CHI Temple Street in 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024; and if this number will be further increased. — Duncan Smith. [8958/24]

\*533. To ask the Minister for Health the refurbishment works that were carried out at Bantry General Hospital in 2022 and 2023; and to detail the refurbishment works that are likely to commence at this hospital during 2024. — Duncan Smith. [8959/24]

\*534. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting period for occupational therapists within primary care services in County Offaly. — Duncan Smith. [8960/24]

\*535. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE speech and language therapists working in University Hospital Limerick in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8961/24]

\*536. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the provision of a primary care centre in New Ross, County Wexford, and the services that will be provided when it opens. — Duncan Smith. [8962/24]

\*537. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant plastic surgeons working in Portlaoise Regional Hospital in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8963/24]

\*538. To ask the Minister for Health the amount spent by the Rotunda Maternity Hospital on access to private diagnosis in each of the years 2020 to 2023 inclusive, by firm, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8964/24]

\*539. To ask the Minister for Health the names of dentists within CHO9 that are currently accepting new medical card holders, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8965/24]

\*540. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE nurses working in each community hospital within Galway in 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [8966/24]

\*541. To ask the Minister for Health the revenue generated by car parking charges at Mullingar General Hospital in 2022 and 2023, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8967/24]

\*542. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in Waterford waiting to be assessed for a carer; and the timeframe for when they will be assessed. — Duncan Smith. [8968/24]

\*543. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE registrars in cardiothoracic surgery at Cork University Hospital in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8969/24]

\*544. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients treated in Nenagh General Hospital in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8970/24]

\*545. To ask the Minister for Health the number of portable cardiac echo machines in use at University Hospital Waterford. — Duncan Smith. [8971/24]

\*546. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE ophthalmologist registrars working in Sligo University Hospital in 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8972/24]

\*547. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultants in intensive care medicine at Galway University Hospital in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8973/24]

\*548. To ask the Minister for Health the number of rapid response vehicles that are available on a 24-7 basis in County Cavan in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8974/24]

\*549. To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE advanced paramedics based in County Kerry in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [8975/24]

\*550. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE emergency department nurses working in Tallaght University Hospital in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form; and if this number will be further increased during 2024. — Duncan Smith. [8976/24]

\*551. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people waiting for an appointment through the counselling in primary care service by CHO area and by time waiting, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [8988/24]

\*552. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who received counselling from the counselling in primary care service, by year since 2019, by CHO area, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [8989/24]

\*553. To ask the Minister for Health the number of counselling sessions delivered by the counselling in primary care service, by year since 2019, by CHO area, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [8990/24]

\*554. To ask the Minister for Health the cost of the counselling in primary care service, by year since 2019; the average cost of delivering a session inclusive of staffing and administration costs in the same period; the funding allocated to the counselling in primary care service per year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [8991/24]

\*555. To ask the Minister for Health when an ex-gratia payment will issue to a former employee (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [8996/24]

\*556. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that a programme designed to help and support people with ADHD has been unexpectedly cut by the HSE (details supplied); the reason funding was cut; if he will consider sanctioning the funding in order that this important work can be resumed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [9005/24]

\*557. To ask the Minister for Health the number of advanced paramedics working in the National Ambulance Service. — Claire Kerrane. [9007/24]

\*558. To ask the Minister for Health the number of advanced paramedics working in the National Ambulance Service in 2016, 2019, 2021 and 2024. — Claire Kerrane. [9008/24]

\*559. To ask the Minister for Health to advise when the National Ambulance Service (NAS) stopped training advanced paramedics; the rationale for this decision; if there was engagement with the Minister on this decision; if the NAS is aware that this decision means paramedics cannot upskill via the training which was available, and now cannot progress and advance to this level; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [9009/24]

\*560. To ask the Minister for Health the impediments that exist to the opening of more beds at West Kerry Community Hospital; if the recruitment of additional health care assistants is a feasible option in the event of additional nursing staff being unavailable for recruitment; if this option has been explored previously; if so, the outcome of any such exploration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9040/24]

\*561. To ask the Minister for Health if Glenwood House, Carrigaline has opened as a residential mental health service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [9061/24]

\*562. To ask the Minister for Health if Garnish House, Cork has ceased operating as a residential mental health service; the names of the services where residents are being or have been transferred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [9062/24]

\*563. To ask the Minister for Health the projected cost of building a set of residential mental health bungalows on the grounds of St. Stephen's Hospital, Glanmire, as set out in the HSE's current capital plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [9063/24]

\*564. To ask the Minister for Health the projected cost of building a new residential mental health service on the site of the Owenacurra Centre, Midleton, as set out in the HSE's current capital plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [9064/24]

\*565. To ask the Minister for Health if the position of his Department has changed since 2017 with respect to funding supports for post-mastectomy patients; the rationale for cutting the allowance for post-mastectomy products; and if he will review the decision to cut the allowance. — Ivana Bacik. [9066/24]

\*566. To ask the Minister for Health if the new Nenagh community nursing home will be open before June 2024. — Alan Kelly. [9071/24]

\*567. To ask the Minister for Health if he will reverse the recently announced cut to funding for post-mastectomy products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [9072/24]

\*568. To ask the Minister for Health to provide data regarding the number of retail outlets registered to sell tobacco on the National Register of Tobacco retailers in 2023 and to date in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9092/24]

\*569. To ask the Minister for Health if he has determined the annual fee to be set for retailers who wish to sell tobacco products or nicotine-inhaling products, as part of the recently enacted Public Health (Tobacco Products and Nicotine Inhaling Products) Act 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9093/24]

\*570. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an estimate of the revenue that would be raised annually if an annual €500 tobacco retailer licence fee per retail outlet was introduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9094/24]

\*571. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an estimate of the revenue that would be raised annually if an annual €200 electronic cigarette retailer licence fee per retail outlet was introduced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9095/24]

\*572. To ask the Minister for Health the level of funding provided for tobacco cessation services per year from 2013 to 2023, and to date in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9096/24]

\*573. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated annual cost of smoking to the State in terms of health spending; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9097/24]

\*574. To ask the Minister for Health if his Department will be commissioning an updated 2024 report assessing the economic cost of smoking, following on from the 2016 ICF international report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9098/24]



\*575. To ask the Minister for Health why funding for post-mastectomy products has been cut (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [9114/24]

\*576. To ask the Minister for Health the total amount paid to an out-of-hours GP service by his Department under a service-level agreement in each of the past ten years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [9120/24]

\*577. To ask the Minister for Health if he is satisfied with the current situation where 450,000+ people in the CHO3 can only avail of one emergency department at UHL Dooradoyle which is consistently the most overcrowded emergency department in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [9122/24]

\*578. To ask the Minister for Health the cost of transporting patients in CH03 to haemodialysis treatment by taxi for each of the past ten years and to date in 2024, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [9123/24]

\*579. To ask the Minister for Health if he will comment on the funding provided for treatment centres and specialist community services to support those with eating disorders in CHO3; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [9124/24]

\*580. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses and areas covered by each in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [9125/24]

\*581. To ask the Minister for Health the number of specialist dieticians, nutrition specialists and therapists specialising in eating disorders who work out of Ennis General Hospital through the CAMHS services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [9126/24]

\*582. To ask the Minister for Health if he will put in place a scheme for health care professionals suffering from ongoing complications from Covid-19 contracted in the course of their work during the pandemic to replace the special leave with pay scheme which is due to end on 31 March 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [9134/24]

\*583. To ask the Minister for Health when physiotherapy and occupational therapy services will be reinstated for patients and residents at a hospital (details supplied). — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9149/24]

\*584. To ask the Minister for Health to provide the number of patients, both long-term and short-term, who are resident in a hospital (details supplied), in tabular form. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9150/24]

\*585. To ask the Minister for Health when dental services will be reinstated for patients and residents at a hospital (details supplied). — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9151/24]

\*586. To ask the Minister for Health to clarify the current policy of step down/convalescent patients being transferred from a hospital (details supplied). — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9152/24]

\*587. To ask the Minister for Health when the day centre service will be reinstated to a hospital (details supplied). — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9153/24]

\*588. To ask the Minister for Health for a monthly breakdown of waiting list numbers for each discipline and care group across each geographical area of the Cork/Kerry primary care services from January until December 2023, in tabular form. — Holly Cairns. [9166/24]

\*589. To ask the Minister for Health for monthly details of the longest wait-time for each discipline and care group across each geographical area of the Cork/Kerry primary care services from January until December 2023, in tabular form. — Holly Cairns. [9167/24]

\*590. To ask the Minister for Health for monthly details of staffing levels and recruitment for each discipline and within each care group across each geographical area of the Cork/Kerry primary care services from January until December 2023, in tabular form. — Holly Cairns. [9168/24]

\*591. To ask the Minister for Health if any former CEO's, senior management or HR staff from Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services received exit payments on leaving the organisation since January 2019; if the organisation informed him or other Government bodies of such packages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [9177/24]

\*592. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a foot clinic is no longer held in Tallaght University Hospital; and if there are plans to resume this vital service. — Cathal Crowe. [9181/24]

\*593. To ask the Minister for Health when a person can expect an appointment (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [9182/24]

\*594. To ask the Minister for Health if the new drug veeza which will be available in Ireland on the drugs payment scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [9188/24]

\*595. To ask the Minister for Health if a process is underway to replace a GP who is leaving an area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [9196/24]

\*596. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) can expect to receive an appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [9200/24]

\*597. To ask the Minister for Health when the HSE will reinstate the five day a week doctor/GP service at the Churchill Health Centre, County Donegal. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9203/24]

\*598. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of the HSE changes to financial supports to cancer patients for prosthesis costs and mastectomy bra costs; what engagement his Department had with the HSE as regards these changes; if the Minister will seek an immediate reversal of these changes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Verona Murphy. [9209/24]

\*599. To ask the Minister for Health whether the recent decision in the parity claim of medical scientists with biochemists, which has put both categories on the same payscales from January 2024, will also apply to recent retiree medical scientists; and whether their pensions will also be brought to parity, particularly, given the attempts to secure parity have been ongoing since 2002. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [9212/24]

\*600. To ask the Minister for Health further to a previous Parliamentary Question, if he will provide a comprehensive update on the need for an immediate appointment with CAMHS for a child (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [9213/24]

\*601. To ask the Minister for Health when nursing and midwife staff will be excluded from the employment embargo in the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [9215/24]

\*602. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE recruitment embargo applies to an organisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [9220/24]

\*603. To ask the Minister for Health the number of individuals who received an invitation to take part in BowelScreen on a quarterly basis from Q1 2016 to the end of 2023; and the absolute number and percentage of individuals who accepted an invitation and subsequently attended a screening appointment in each of the specified months, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [9225/24]

\*604. To ask the Minister for Health the number of individuals who received an invitation to take part in CervicalCheck on a quarterly basis from Q1 2016 to the end of 2023; and the absolute number and percentage of individuals who accepted an invitation and subsequently attended a screening appointment in each of the specified months, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [9226/24]

\*605. To ask the Minister for Health the number of individuals who received an invitation to take part in BreastCheck on a quarterly basis from Q1 2016 to the end of 2023; and the absolute number and percentage of individuals who accepted an invitation and subsequently attended a screening appointment in each of the specified months, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [9227/24]

\*606. To ask the Minister for Health the reasons the BowelScreen programme has yet to be expanded to all people aged 55-74 years; and the measures taken to date to expand the screening age; and timeframe by which the programme will be expanded to these age groups. — Róisín Shortall. [9228/24]

\*607. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people who received a diagnosis of breast cancer on a national basis after referral to the “urgent” symptomatic breast disease clinic cancer in each quarter from 2016 to 2023, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [9229/24]

\*608. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people who received a diagnosis of breast cancer on a national basis after referral to the “non-urgent” symptomatic breast disease clinic cancer in each quarter from 2016 to 2023, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [9230/24]

\*609. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people who received a diagnosis of lung cancer on a national basis after referral to the lung rapid access clinic cancer in each quarter from 2016 to 2023, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [9231/24]

\*610. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people who received a diagnosis of prostate cancer on a national basis after referral to the prostate rapid access clinic cancer in each quarter from 2016 to 2023 in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [9232/24]

\*611. To ask the Minister for Health when a bed for further testing and procedures can be facilitated in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9236/24]

\*612. To ask the Minister for Health if he will ask the HSE/ Saolta Hospital Group to commence the process of identifying a site in Letterkenny, County Donegal for a two-theatre elective surgery hospital to support the team of surgeons at Letterkenny University Hospital and to reduce waiting list for patients in Donegal. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9239/24]

\*613. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant orthopaedic surgeons attached to Croom Orthopaedic Hospital in 2022, 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [9252/24]

\*614. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that availed of HSE anti-smoking courses within CHO3 and 5 in 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [9253/24]

\*615. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE vacancies by job title in the HSE national antimicrobial resistant team; the full year cost of filling each of the vacancies; and when each of those vacancies will be filled, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [9254/24]

\*616. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE secretaries working in the neurology department of Cork University Hospital in 2022, 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [9255/24]

\*617. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE emergency medicine registrars based in the Cashel minor injuries unit in 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [9256/24]

\*618. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE will deliver a minor injury unit to be based at Carndonagh Community Hospital as part of the plan to reduce attendances at the crisis laden emergency department at Letterkenny University Hospital. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9274/24]

\*619. To ask the Minister for Health the reason an ANP for adult diabetes services has not been agreed and appointed at Letterkenny University Hospital, considering the long waiting lists for diabetes patients at the hospital. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9275/24]

\*620. To ask the Minister for Health when the HSE will sanction and appoint all the requested podiatrist posts, as requested by Letterkenny University Hospital, considering the long waiting lists for diabetes patients at the hospital. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9276/24]

\*621. To ask the Minister for Health the status of standardising post-mastectomy supports; if any areas will see a decrease in supports; the reason why the HSE does not directly provide post-mastectomy support from approved vendors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [9278/24]

\*622. To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether it is acceptable that ten years since the major flood at Letterkenny University Hospital, the onsite outpatient clinic has not been reinstated at the hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9279/24]

\*623. To ask the Minister for Health to review correspondence regarding the proposed changes to the provision of post-mastectomy products (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [9285/24]

\*624. To ask the Minister for Health when he intends launching the national strategy on diabetes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [9287/24]

\*625. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an outline of the treatment available for dementia patients in County Mayo, including investments in services and strategic plans to improve these services further; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [9289/24]

\*626. To ask the Minister for Health the reason Letterkenny University Hospital was not allocated advanced nurse practitioner posts in the recent allocation made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe McHugh. [9290/24]

\*627. To ask the Minister for Health the current status of the HSE survey to measure the prevalence of long-Covid in the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [9298/24]

\*628. To ask the Minister for Health the reason why the HSE has not appointed a child psychologist to work with children living with diabetes in Donegal as would be normal practice across the State. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [9306/24]

\*629. To ask the Minister for Health the cost of medicines dispensed with a breakdown of those which are still under patent and those off patent for each of the years ending December 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [9307/24]

\*630. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a hospital appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [9323/24]

\*631. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update for people in receipt of the special leave with pay scheme who are not able to return to work; if the scheme will be replaced with an alternative scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [9327/24]

\*632. To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter (details supplied) in relation to cancer patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [9345/24]

\*633. To ask the Minister for Health the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9388/24]

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

\*634. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of professional added years for a person (details supplied). — Denise Mitchell. [8678/24]

\*635. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 581 of 7 February 2024, the breakdown, by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [8834/24]

\*636. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the proposal to increase the number of places on first year veterinary medicine and dentistry for Irish students for the 2024-2025 academic year. — Paul Donnelly. [8875/24]

\*637. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the capital works projects that received EU funding in each of the years of 2022, 2023 and to-date in 2024; and the amount of EU funding that was received for each of the capital works projects in each of the years in question, in tabular form. — Paul Donnelly. [8876/24]

\*638. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if grants are available for students who attend modern foreign language courses through ETB's; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8887/24]

\*639. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a student (details supplied) can transfer their college course from Letterkenny to Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [8979/24]

\*640. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais, Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta an ndéanfaidh sé cur síos ar na hathruithe reachtúla atá tarlaithe maidir le stádas na Gaeilge nó riachtanais a bhaineann leis an nGaeilge in Ollscoil na Gaillimhe ó bunaíodh an Stát, agus cén cur chuige atá ag an Roinn maidir le ról na hOllscoile i gcur chun cinn na Gaeilge ag an ardleibhéal faoi láthair. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [9050/24]

\*641. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the details of the newly released scheme to support children leaving State care with free accommodation when going into third level education; the procedure for applying; and the rules of the scheme. — Peadar Tóibín. [9069/24]

\*642. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which efforts continue to be made to ensure the availability of adequate qualified staffing levels to meet the requirements of the workplace; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [5676/24]

\*643. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what financial supports are available for undergraduate students who study in Britain; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [9235/24]

\*644. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the estimated cost of increasing the number of undergraduate new entrants in pharmacy by 20%, broken down by the number of additional new entrants a 20% increase would achieve. — Alan Kelly. [9258/24]



\*645. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the employer-led national apprenticeship programme in respect of the local government sector. — Ivana Bacik. [9316/24]

\*646. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the current rates of pay for all craft apprentices, by the different phases; the dates on which the rates were last increased, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [9332/24]

\*647. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the pay scales for craft apprentice education tutors under the current Public Service Pay Agreement; the pay scales under the previous agreement, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [9333/24]

\*648. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is satisfied the number of places for students wishing to pursue courses of an academic or technical nature is adequate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9354/24]

\*649. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he expects the number of training/apprenticeship places to be sufficient to meet the demand in each of the next five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9355/24]

\*650. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which his Department is upgrading the research sector with a view to maximisation of benefit for Irish students and ultimately the economy in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9356/24]

\*651. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he expects the level of Irish technical and academic graduates to be sufficient to meet any demand arising from accelerated economic growth; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9357/24]

\*652. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the degree to which he foresees the use of innovation as a means of perfecting this country's education system as well as meeting the market-based challenges in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9358/24]

\*653. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he expects the sciences to play a major part in meeting the standards required in the workplace in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9359/24]

\*654. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which his Department has planned for the likely increased demand in fourth level education in the future, with particular reference to the need to stay the pace with or at least on par with international trends; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9360/24]

\*655. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the expected number of fourth level graduates in both technical and academic sectors in the future

in terms of the demand and the ability to meet that demand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9361/24]

\*656. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he sees research playing a major role in competitiveness in the future; the likelihood of meeting the demand in full; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9362/24]

\*657. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to set out the future ambitions of his Department in expanding the role of the sciences in the future; in particular the ability to meet opportunities likely to arise; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9363/24]

\*658. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the extent to which he sees the demand for innovation extending in the future in the field of job opportunities; whether he remains satisfied regarding the ability of the higher education system to meet the challenges in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9364/24]

\*659. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of places currently taken up by fourth level education students throughout the country; the extent to which these numbers incorporate the academic and technical sectors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [9365/24]

\*660. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the location of the data centre or centres used by his Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from his Department's offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under his Department's aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9394/24]

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

\*661. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when another round of community recognition fund applications will take place; if she will provide details of the organisations in Dublin south west that received funding under the community recognition scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [8633/24]

\*662. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail ar aontaigh a Roinn le leasú ar thearmaí an chonartha lastais chuig Inis Meáin atá á rith ag comhlucht (sonraí tugtha) faoi chonradh leis an Roinn nach mbeidh an comhlucht sin sásta níos mo baireallaí folamha a thabhairt ó Inis Meáin go dtí an mór-thír agus baireallaí lán d'ola a thabhairt ar ais chuig Inis Meáin; má d'aontaigh a Roinn cén fáth nach ndeachaigh siad i gcomhairle leis an bpobal faoin gceist roimh; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [8890/24]

\*663. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if a scheme to support the provision of sensory rooms within community centres will be developed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [8894/24]

\*664. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if the rules, terms and conditions of the community services scheme administered by Pobal explicitly exclude community organisations that operate as branches of a national body (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [8995/24]

\*665. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will consider a funding stream for community organisations to purchase land and/or buildings for development for sporting and community use; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [9041/24]

\*666. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she is undertaking a review of the controls on dangerous dogs; the terms of reference, and the date on which consultations close; and whether she will examine regimes for control and enforcement in other countries so that best practice models can be considered. — Richard Bruton. [9284/24]

\*667. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will provide an update on the outdoor recreation application by a group (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [9297/24]

\*668. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if the community services scheme will reopen for applications in 2024, and if so, when is it expected to open. — Cathal Crowe. [9308/24]

\*669. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development for an update on the work of the stakeholder group working on the control of dogs; when the group will next meet; whether additional recommendations have been put forward; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [9325/24]

\*670. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if she will allocate additional funding to Clare County Council to help clear the significant backlog for local improvement scheme applications (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [9351/24]

\*671. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the location of the data centre or centres used by her Department; the reason it was chosen; the distance it is from her Department’s offices; if he will identify the centres used by each agency under her Department’s aegis; and the distance these data centres are to their offices; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [9399/24]

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**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I  
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉ CÉADA OIN, 28 FEABHRA, 2024  
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL  
ANSWER ON WEDNESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY, 2024**

**Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.**

1. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Paul Murphy. [7878/24]

2. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [7881/24]

3. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Peadar Tóibín. [8793/24]

4. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Darren O'Rourke. [8949/24]

5. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Mick Barry. [9342/24]