



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 7 Márta, 2024
Thursday, 7th March, 2024

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will urgently set a date on which Ireland will officially recognise the state of Palestine. — Matt Carthy. [11047/24]

2. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he supports the call of the UN Secretary General for an independent investigation into the death of more than 100 Palestinians as they sought aid in Gaza; the action he has taken to avoid mass starvation in Gaza; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [11215/24]

3. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his position regarding the proposed re-appointment of Ursula von der Leyen as President of the European Commission considering her interventions in respect of Israel's aggression against the people of Palestine. — Matt Carthy. [11048/24]

4. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the reason the Israeli Ambassador has not been summoned by his Department after the killing of a person (details supplied) despite the Russian Ambassador rightfully being summoned in the wake of another death in Russia; and the reason the same standards are not applied to both. — Gary Gannon. [11135/24]

5. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the proposed new embassies and consulates that will be opened in 2024; if he will ensure that a new Irish consulate is opened in Australia considering the growing Irish population and the strengthening links between Ireland and Australia. — Matt Carthy. [11049/24]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

6. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will work with like-minded countries in the EU, or elsewhere, to organise an airdrop of emergency food and medical supplies to the people of Gaza who are being bombed, shelled, starved and besieged by Israel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [10892/24]

7. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if the Government has made a decision on if and when Ireland will support South Africa's case against Israel in the ICJ, which alleges the latter is committing genocide in Palestine. — Gary Gannon. [11134/24]

8. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the case of a political prisoner (details supplied) in Russia; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [10849/24]

9. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has spoken to his European counterparts about placing sanctions on Israel for its bombardment of Gaza; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [10255/24]

10. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views of the establishment of an International Centre for the Prosecution of the Crime of Aggression in Ukraine by Eurojust; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [10861/24]

11. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update on the action he is taking in relation to diplomatic outreach efforts and cooperation with Ukraine and other countries to ensure the widest possible international support for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace on the basis of the key principles and objectives of Ukraine's Peace Formula; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [10899/24]

12. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs in light of his statement of 30 January 2024, if he has received legal analysis of the Genocide Convention, the Court's provisional measures order and consultation with other contracting parties with regard to the case taken by South Africa against Israel; and if he has concluded his urgent consideration in relation to the filing of a declaration of intervention. — Matt Carthy. [10949/24]

13. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he could provide an update on the current situation in Gaza; outline what actions the Irish Government is taking at both EU and UN levels to contribute to a resolution of the ongoing issues in the region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11140/24]

14. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his response to the call by Yulia Navalnaya for European Union countries not to recognise the Russian Federation's presidential election in March; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [10800/24]

15. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what initiatives are being taken to support Ukraine's repair, recovery and reconstruction, in coordination with international partners, and specifically in relation to the demining process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [10900/24]

16. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to report on his recent meeting of the foreign affairs ministers in Brussels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [10957/24]

17. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update on passport applications and processing times presently; how many applications were processed to date this year; how many are outstanding and currently in waiting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [10959/24]

18. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if Ireland has encountered any difficulties with EU partners by virtue of taking the most pro-Palestinian stance in the Union; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [11136/24]

19. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 61 of 24 January 2024, the details of Ireland's financial and in-kind assistance to Ukraine since February 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11186/24]

20. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his response to the recent developments in the cases of political prisoners in Russia; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [10799/24]

21. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how Ireland will continue to support Ukraine following the brutal invasion by Russia two years ago; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [10891/24]

22. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to provide details on the interactions between the State and the Polisario Front of Western Sahara, and if his Department intends on recognising Western Sahara as a sovereign state. — Gary Gannon. [11133/24]

23. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for a status update on Ireland's plans to support South Africa's case against Israel under the Genocide Convention at the International Court of Justice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11057/24]

24. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his attendance at the Munich Security Conference 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [10890/24]

25. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his assessment of the consequences for all of Europe if Russia is allowed to prevail in Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [10846/24]

26. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views that the security of the entire European continent depends on Russia not winning its war on Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [10854/24]

27. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how Ireland has taken the lead in Europe in supporting Arab peace initiative resolutions at the UN; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [11137/24]

28. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the number of passport applications on hand more than one, three and six months; and his proposals to ensure that all applications are processed as efficiently as possible ahead of summer 2024. — Matt Carthy. [10951/24]

29. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his proposals for further discussions with the British foreign secretary and the secretary of state for Northern Ireland on the need for the British government to respond positively and without further delay to the unanimous requests of Dáil Éireann regarding the Monaghan and Dublin bombings of May 1974; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [11117/24]

30. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his efforts to secure a review of Israel's adherence to human rights clauses within the EU Israel Association agreement; and if Ireland will demand a suspension of this agreement until such stage as Israel adheres to its obligations under international law. — Matt Carthy. [10948/24]

31. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if Ireland, in light of Belgium's move to support South Africa's case against Israel in the International Court of Justice, has plans to shift its position to one of support; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [3821/24]

32. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will provide an update on the legislative programme. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [3497/24]

33. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to provide an update on the situation concerning the case of an Irish citizen (details supplied) detained in Iraq and his Department's work in providing consular assistance for this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [10256/24]

34. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what political and/or diplomatic actions Ireland is taking at EU level, in the matter of Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's high-profile and unilateral support for Israel, and particularly, given the recent remarks of the High Representative of EU and Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Mr Josep Borrell, on how those actions have had "a high geo-political cost for the EU"; what mechanisms are in place, or will be put in place in the interest of the union, its values and credibility, to censure such actions already taken, and to ensure they are not repeated by the Commission president or any other senior EU office holder in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [10893/24]

35. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if there has been any recent substantive response from the British authorities in relation to the unanimous motions passed by Dáil Éireann concerning the Dublin and Monaghan bombings of 1974; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [11118/24]

36. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what action he is taking alongside EU partners in relation to third-country actors who materially support Russia's war on Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [10853/24]

37. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if Ireland can help provide more effective humanitarian aid for Gaza; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [11106/24]

38. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his engagement to date with his UK counterparts on the recent court decision in Northern Ireland on the Northern Ireland legacy issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [11108/24]

39. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what discussions he has had recently with relevant British Ministers in relation to developments in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11066/24]

40. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will outline the discussions within Europe on the level of hostile online activity by foreign states, and the effectiveness of defences; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [11130/24]

41. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs whether he was asked for advice ahead of the Minister for Justice declaring additional safe countries of origin in immigration terms recently, and if so, what that advice was based on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10801/24]

42. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his assessment of the outcome of the Iranian parliamentary election; if he anticipates the outcome will lead to any improvement in the human rights situation there; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [11146/24]

43. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if, in light of new evidence emerging regarding the 1973 killing of a person (details supplied), he will make the family's desire for a public inquiry clear to the British government; what steps the Irish Government is taking to aid the family in their quest for justice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [11095/24]

44. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his assessment of the Register of Damage, which aims to serve as a record of evidence and information on claims of damage, loss or injury caused by Russia's actions in or against Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [10862/24]

45. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if an Israeli attack on Rafah would have implications to Ireland's St. Patrick's Day arrangements and engagements in the United States; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [10253/24]

46. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if his Department can provide an update on a case (details supplied); his plans to assist the family in this case; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [10958/24]

47. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how Ireland is working with the EU partners to stop battlefield goods and technology reaching Russia and to combat the circumvention of sanctions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [10847/24]

48. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update on the current situation in relation to Russia's invasion of Ukraine; if any further measures against Russia are anticipated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11141/24]

49. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to indicate, arising from the discussions he has had with various political leaders in Northern Ireland and the UK prime minister, the degree to which new channels of communication or the enhancement of existing channels have become operational in the development of the necessary supports and contacts with the institutions in Northern Ireland at various levels in order to maximise cooperation as envisaged in the Good Friday Agreement. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8111/24]

50. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if the Government will consider contributing to the aid drop currently being undertaken by Jordan to bypass the Israeli blockade

of humanitarian aid to Gaza, which is in contravention of one of the six provisional measures ordered by the International Court of Justice on 26 January 2024 to allow humanitarian assistance into the Gaza Strip; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [11138/24]

51. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what action his Department is taking to improve processing times of paper based renewal and first-time passport applications, in view that the current processing time is eight weeks, and in particular the efforts being made to fast-track applications where queries have been raised as this can often lead to extended delays in processing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [10956/24]

52. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will outline Ireland and the EU's position with regard to the current situation in Iran; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [10914/24]

53. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he agrees with the warning by the leaders of five political groupings in the European Parliament against 'Ukraine fatigue'; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [10855/24]

54. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the action he is taking to promote accountability for violations of international law, including international crimes, arising out of Russia's invasion of Ukraine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [10851/24]

55. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on his discussions on Ukraine at the recent Munich Security Conference; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [11147/24]

56. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update on his and his Department's recent interactions with European states and with the United States of America about Gaza; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [11114/24]

57. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for an update on a case (details supplied), whose two sons are being held in Egypt by their father without her consent; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [11139/24]

58. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs for a report on his Department's meeting with the Russian Ambassador following the death of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [10817/24]

59. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the funding committed under the Shared Island Fund to date on each side of the border; the amount of this committed to cultural projects across all communities; the details of the cultural projects supported; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11067/24]

60. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to report on the preparatory work within his Department in advance of Ireland assuming the presidency of the European Council in 2026. — Matt Carthy. [10952/24]

61. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he is supportive of Ukrainian President Zelensky's 'peace formula'; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [10852/24]

62. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs further to Parliamentary Question No. 30 of 25 January 2024, his plans to formally recognise the state of Palestine, as per the commitment in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11056/24]

63. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if frozen Russian assets in Ireland will now be seized and utilised for war reparation purposes to compensate citizens of this State for the numerous additional costs and losses incurred by households and businesses over the last two years, and to provide further aid to Ukraine to assist that country to retain its sovereignty; if he will provide an estimated value of these assets and an estimated timeframe for the liquidation process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [11105/24]

64. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what additional supports have been authorised to the UNWRA since the Israeli's most recent attempt to undermine its work led to the withdrawal or pause of funding from many of the prime donors; what additional steps can be taken to encourage donor countries to re-engage, or new donors to take up the significant shortfall; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10802/24]

65. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs Ireland's position on the situation in the Western Sahara; if he has discussed this situation with his counterparts in the European Union; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [10254/24]

66. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will report on the discussions with Yulia Navalnaya at the recent EU Foreign Affairs Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [10818/24]

67. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to outline any engagement he or his Department has had with EU High Representative Josep Borrell Fontelles, or his office, on the potential suspension of the EU-Israel trade association agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [11145/24]

68. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his views on the case of a political prisoner (details supplied) in Russia; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [10848/24]

69. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his engagement to date with his EU counterparts and members of the UN Security Council on the potential Israeli attack on Rafah; his views on the statements by the Secretary General of the UN regarding "An all-out Israeli offensive on the city" (Rafah); what Ireland's response to such an attack would be; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gino Kenny. [10252/24]

70. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his position on maintaining the requirement for unanimity on European Council Foreign Policy decisions. — Matt Carthy. [10950/24]

71. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the details of his engagement at EU level following the recent letter signed by the Taoiseach and the Spanish Prime Minister for a review of whether Israel is complying with its human rights obligations under the EU/Israel Association Agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11187/24]

72. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the details of his engagement to date both at bilateral level with his Israeli counterpart, and at EU level, with regard to the designation in October 2021 of six Palestinian human rights organisations as terrorist groups; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11188/24]

73. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which he, unilaterally or in conjunction with other heads of government throughout the EU, can make further positive intervention with a view to the establishment of peace initiatives in the Middle East. — Bernard J. Durkan. [8110/24]

74. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs how Ireland is providing support to Ukraine through the European Peace Facility; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [10850/24]

75. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he considers that the Iranian government has committed crimes against humanity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [10915/24]

76. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to report on his engagement with UK Prime Minister with regard to power-sharing in Northern Ireland. — Alan Farrell. [5298/24]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

77. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to report on the European Commission's assessment of the draft updated National Energy and Climate Plan of Ireland (details supplied); what measures he is taking to respond to the assessments recommendations; what changes he plans to make to avoid the Commission's assessment that Ireland's NECP is not sufficient to meet 2030 targets; how he plans to ensure that Ireland's share of renewable energy is sufficient to meet the 2030 target; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [11411/24]

78. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps which he is taking to enhance the domestic sourcing and production of HVO as a replacement for diesel and kerosene; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11325/24]

79. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications about the deposit return scheme; to provide an update of his Department's work to assess the operation of the scheme since its inception; to report on the work on the consultative group to ensure that concerns of those with accessibility issues are heard; to provide an update on the review of the schemes infrastructure by disability organisations; to report on how his Department will monitor how unredeemed deposits are used; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [11412/24]

80. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what additional resources will be given to local authorities to better enforce illegal dumping, following the introduction of legislation clearing the way for the use of drones, CCTV and other technologies in detecting offenders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [11050/24]

**CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS**

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

81. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of homes that had their retrofitting application refused in 2022 and 2023 respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10135/24]

82. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps he is taking to address fuel poverty in homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10134/24]

83. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the role his Department takes in monitoring air quality; the number of air quality testing stations in Cork; if he will provide an overview of their results for 2022, 2023, and to date in 2024; if there will be additional funding provided for more air testing stations in Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [11148/24]

84. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide details of the increase in 2023 in the amount of electricity being generated from onshore wind, offshore wind, solar and other renewables respectively; the research being carried out in the State in relation to the harnessing of wave and tidal energy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11069/24]

85. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what action his Department is taking to ensure Ireland achieves its goal of 8 Gigawatts of solar connections by 2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [10954/24]

86. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications further to Parliamentary Question No. 122 of 25 January 2024, the date on which the export tariff phase of the small-scale renewable energy support scheme will be launched; the status of the work by economic consultants for his Department regarding the revision of the levelised cost of energy estimates required for small scale and community based generation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11059/24]

87. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to report on the latest meeting of the Interdepartmental Steering Group on Energy Poverty; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [7855/24]

88. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if there are proposals to expand the range of services available through the post office network; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [11122/24]

89. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if consideration has been given to the creation of a funding mechanism to assist with the conversation of fossil fuel run community/district heating systems (details supplied) into more sustainable fuel run systems; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [11190/24]

90. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when he will publish the draft designated maritime area plans, strategic environmental assessment, and

draft appropriate assessment for ORESS 2 off the south coast of Ireland; if he will outline the latest timeline for this plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [9449/24]

91. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures in place for the deposit return scheme for housebound or disabled persons who shop for groceries online and are unable to physically access the deposit return scheme in shops; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [11151/24]

92. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications his views that it is still possible for Ireland to remain within the first carbon budget; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [11041/24]

93. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the measures he has taken to rectify the deposit return scheme, which is inaccessible in its current format for disabled people; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [11127/24]

94. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the reason he approved the extension of the Europa Oil and Gas exploration licence. — Paul Murphy. [11040/24]

95. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when he expects the final ORE Future Framework Policy Statement to be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [10953/24]

96. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the up to date position on the operation of the deposit return scheme; if he has an early indication of the percentage of eligible units being returned; the feedback from consumers and businesses; if any snags or abuses have surfaced; if he plans to expand the scheme to cover other packaging types; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [11125/24]

97. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will oppose any form of LNG terminal in Ireland as unnecessary and environmentally damaging; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [11039/24]

98. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to detail the consultation that has taken place with people with disabilities and their disabled persons representative organisations in relation to the Climate Action Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [10457/24]

99. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of local authority climate action plans that have been completed to-date; the details of any engagement his Department has had with Galway City and County Councils in 2024 with regard to the development of their respective local authority climate action plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11058/24]

100. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is aware of the recent negative impact surrounding reverse vending machines at retail locations not accepting some plastic bottles under the deposit return scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [11111/24]

101. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide an update on the implementation of the LGMA guidelines on the use of CCTV to tackle illegal dumping and litter. — Paul McAuliffe. [7022/24]

102. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he is concerned with reported abuses of the deposit return scheme through the use of photocopied labels; if he can clarify if this is a widespread practice, and if it can be deterred or prevented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [11126/24]

103. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress to date in overcoming barriers to the deployment of 100% population 5G coverage by 2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [3828/24]

104. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps he is taking to make sure that people with defective concrete blocks and are engaging with the Government defective concrete block scheme can avail of SEAI funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [11144/24]

105. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will indicate the sectors for which a circular economy strategy is being prepared; if the values on key targets specified in the Circular Economy Act have been decided; and if he will indicate when each is likely to be published. — Richard Bruton. [11129/24]

106. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the improvement in air quality since he introduced the Statewide ban on selling smoky fuels in retail outlets etc.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11068/24]

107. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which broadband provision throughout the country is progressing as intended; if efforts continue to bridge communication gaps that have become obvious; if he can see a means whereby the provision of broadband throughout all the regions can be maximised in early date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11061/24]

108. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the progress to date with the roll out of the National Broadband Plan throughout County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [11121/24]

109. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for an update on the roll-out of smart metres in Ireland; if it is a requirement now to have one in order to install solar panels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [10960/24]

110. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has had discussions with small businesses who are encountering difficulties with the deposit return scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [11116/24]

111. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if a school in the Connemara Gaeltacht (details supplied) will be placed on the spring roll-out worklist for fibre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [10131/24]

112. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the degree to which he continues to ensure the meeting of emission targets while protecting the agri-food industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11062/24]

113. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will report on the progress on the establishment of a centre of excellence for district heating as recommended in the district heating steering group's report of 2023; if any pilot district heating developments have been identified outside of Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [11055/24]

114. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications for an update on the progress of broadband roll-out by commercial providers in urban areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [10856/24]

115. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how he intends to implement a just transition and mixed technology approach for existing gas and oil home-heating systems; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11143/24]

116. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has had discussions with the ESB on opening up grid access to more households and businesses with microgeneration capacity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [10859/24]

117. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will report on his engagements with Eirgrid at which he has raised the North-South Interconnector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [10436/24]

118. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how he is supporting the Just Transition process; the funding being allocated for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [11124/24]

119. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the meetings he has had and the briefings he has received in respect of the North South Interconnector; and if he has had any meetings in this regard with local communities or landowners that are directly affected by this project. — Matt Carthy. [11120/24]

120. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he plans to contact all local authorities to ensure their involvement in installing reverse vending machines at civic amenity sites or equivalent sites nationally in the next planned phase of the deposit return scheme development and roll out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [11112/24]

121. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will outline the prospective generation capacity needs under each category of generation and storage over the next two years to achieve 2025 targets; if he has identified the critical barriers to be overcome; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [11128/24]

122. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will provide an update on the first month of the operation of the deposit return scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [11189/24]

123. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has had discussions with the ESB on the rollout of three-phase smart metres for wind turbines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [10860/24]

124. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to address the challenges that rural communities are facing in relation to increased costs with household energy and fuel. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [10553/24]

125. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the plans that are in place to reduce waiting times for the SEAI's warmer homes scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11142/24]

126. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he supports holding a referendum on the rights of the nature; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [11042/24]

127. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department is investigating the use of new technology which has been developed for energy storage capacity on farms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [10858/24]

128. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if farms producing wind-powered microgeneration can sell on to the grid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [11115/24]

129. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if any efforts are being made to commission an independent or third-party assessment of Sellafield's operations as a response to media reports, in order to avoid bias or investigative limitations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [11113/24]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*130. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to indicate whether against the background of numerous wars, invasions, aggressions, in the course of any recent discussions he has had with other prime ministers/heads of state at European or the wider level, the possibility was explored as to how these situations might be diffused in the early stages rather than ongoing possibilities for warfare. — Bernard J. Durkan. [4297/24]

*131. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which ongoing discussions with the parties in Northern Ireland are afoot, with particular reference to the need to ensure the ongoing workability of the Good Friday Agreement. — Bernard J. Durkan. [7790/24]

*132. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will set out his views on the escalating security crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo; the reason for the withdrawal after a 25-year presence of UN Peacekeepers (MONUSCO) from the DRC; if adequate protection

will remain in place for the civilian population of the region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [11214/24]

*133. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he supports the campaign by more than 50 journalists calling on Israel and Egypt to provide free and unfettered access to Gaza for all foreign media; the steps he will take to achieve this important objective; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [11216/24]

*134. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to set out the actions he has taken to protest to Russia on foot of the death in custody of Alexei Navalny; if he believes that the number of persons accredited to the Russian Embassy in Dublin are appropriate for a country of Ireland's size; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [11217/24]

*135. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs when funding applications under the global Irish festival series will be made available to local authorities and other relevant bodies (details supplied). — Frankie Feighan. [11242/24]

*136. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will support that an allegation made by a person (details supplied), the Attorney-General of the Irish State, in his presentation to the International Criminal Court in the Hague, is withdrawn or a statement of correction issued; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [11252/24]

*137. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will outline his recent engagement with the British government in relation to the re-establishment of the Northern Ireland Executive. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [5277/24]

*138. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which positive steps continue to be taken to influence the future of Europe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11507/24]

*139. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the degree to which the international community continues to monitor the activities of Boko Haram and Al-Shabaab with reference to the areas they continue to be most active; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11508/24]

*140. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which Ireland's overseas aid continues to respond to the needs of the most serious situations globally whether by bilateral or multilateral provisions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11509/24]

*141. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the degree to which ongoing efforts continue to establish a peace process in the Middle East, with particular reference to the need for a legally recognised centre to investigate complaints; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11510/24]

*142. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which Irish trade missions abroad continue to make successful conclusion in respect of the promotion of Irish exports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11511/24]

*143. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which the European Union continues to address threats to the rule of law in all European member states; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11512/24]

*144. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the degree to which Ireland, directly or through the aegis of the EU or UN, can promote the prosecution of those engaged in war crimes with a view to referral to the European criminal courts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11513/24]

*145. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the extent to which Ireland encourages a greater more rapid response to emerging global emergencies arising from starvation, crop failure, war, ethnic cleansing arising from deliberations at the United Nations Security Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11514/24]

*146. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the degree to which Irish aid goes directly to those for whom it was intended in a smooth and seamless transition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11515/24]

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

*147. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps he is taking to address curtailment of renewable energy on the grid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10137/24]

*148. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when the eligibility rules will be published for the home energy upgrade loan scheme, and the expected timeline from submitting the application to drawing down the grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11196/24]

*149. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will review the terms of the DRS given its effects on small and medium businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [5731/24]

*150. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when a person will receive an appointment for a BER assessment (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11267/24]

*151. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will address a matter regarding the remediation of the weir in Fermoy (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [11451/24]

*152. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if private waste providers are permitted to charge a lifting fee for picking up compost bins from householders and his views that such a fee is justifiable in trying to encourage households to dispose of waste in the correct manner. — Robert Troy. [11452/24]

*153. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which he has studied the basis on which other EU countries and non-EU countries propose to meet their carbon reduction targets while minimising the impact on industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11494/24]

*154. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which his Department continues to evaluate the potential negative impact of meeting carbon reduction targets; the degree to which amelioration measures can be utilised to assist in meeting such targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11495/24]

*155. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which projects that fall within the aegis of his Department and are within the revised National Development Plan are at an advanced stage at present or are in course thereof; the extent to which preliminary work has taken place or on-site works are in hand or proposed; the expected delivery date of each; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11496/24]

*156. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which progress is being made towards achieving climate action targets as set out; the degree to which efforts continue to be made to encourage full participation in achieving such targets while at the same time ensuring the continuation of the agri-food sector which in the past has proven to be the main stay of the economy; if efforts continue to be made to ensure that hedgerows, boglands and Ireland's existing natural sequesters of carbons are fully included in climate change alleviation calculations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11497/24]

*157. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the percentage of Ireland's electricity produced from renewable sources; if this is in line with expectations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11498/24]

*158. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which the quality of mobile telephone services can be improved nationwide in both urban and rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11499/24]

*159. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which the provision of broadband throughout the country can attain the speed necessary to meet the added requirements of the country's population, with particular reference to changes to working habits post-Covid-19; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11500/24]

*160. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which the provision of broadband is progressing, and in such a way as to enhance the competitiveness of the economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11501/24]

*161. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the main areas of environmental protection requirements deemed at present to be urgent; the action to date in hand or proposed to deal with any such issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11502/24]

*162. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent of the shift away from fossil fuels for the generation of electricity; if this is in line with targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11503/24]

*163. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the number of broadband connection points installed in County Kildare to date in 2024; the number of points

expected to be installed over the next 12 months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11504/24]

*164. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the extent to which the national grid currently relies and draws on renewable energy as a percentage of total requirement; if he has in mind specific proposals in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11505/24]

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

*165. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of individuals in the last five years who have purchased their way out of the Defence Forces, in tabular form; the cost of this by individual, presented in bands of €5,000; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11202/24]

*166. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of individuals in the past five years who have purchased their way out of the Defence Forces, by rank, in tabular form. — Patrick Costello. [11205/24]

*167. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of individuals in the past five years who began training with the Defence Forces but left prior to completing it, and the amount paid by them, in bands of €5,000. — Patrick Costello. [11206/24]

*168. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the plans to make a full-back catalogue of the official Defence Forces magazine, *An Cosantóir*, from 1940, available online; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [11266/24]

*169. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if a risk assessment has been carried out on the impact to Irish peacekeeping troops serving in Lebanon on their monitoring of the blue line between Lebanon and Israel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [11109/24]

*170. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide an update on the rationale, timeline of meetings and decisions in the lead up to and current withdrawal plan for the Irish Defence Forces contingent of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11335/24]

*171. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence his views on the withdrawal plan for the Irish Defence Forces contingent of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force given the increasing tension and potential for conflict in this area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11336/24]

*172. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide an update on the Defence Forces Reserves recruitment competition; the number of recruitment liaison officers currently working on the reserve recruitment competition; the Defence Forces Reserves role in the future plans for the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11337/24]

*173. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to clarify whether personnel leaving the Permanent Defence Forces are able to join the Defence Force Reserves whilst retaining the rank

they previously held within the Permanent Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11338/24]

*174. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to comment on the medical resources currently assigned to the Defence Forces Reserves and the issues highlighted in the past with a lack of resourcing resulting in slow progression of applications; what measure he will take to ensure efficient progression of applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11339/24]

*175. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide an update on the work undertaken by the Office of Reserve Affairs to strengthen the Defence Forces Reserves; the number of staff currently working in the Office of Reserve Affairs; the number of vacancies currently within the Office of Reserve Affairs; to clarify whether the Office of Reserve Affairs will only be staffed by current and former Defence Forces personnel or also civilian staff; the timeline on the delivery of the Office of Reserve Affairs Regeneration Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11340/24]

*176. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if he will consider changing the application for former Defence Forces members to join First Line Reserve and extending the window of opportunity in which former members could apply rather than only being asked during their retirement process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11341/24]

*177. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the reason he believes the number of former officers who were members of the Defence Force First Line Reserve dropped sharply since 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11342/24]

*178. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to provide an update on the plans to assign Irish Defence Forces representatives to Irish embassies around the world; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11343/24]

*179. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence for a breakdown, in tabular form, of the number of personnel and their rank assigned to the Defence Forces Medical Corps annually over the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11344/24]

*180. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence for a breakdown, in tabular form, of the number of vacancies and, at what rank, there were in the Defence Forces Medical Corps annually over the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11345/24]

*181. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence for a breakdown, in tabular form, of the number of applications made to join either the general service or cadet ranks of the Army, Naval Service or Air Corps in 2023 and up to the present date in 2024; how many of these applicants were invited to take part in training; how many of these trainees completed their training; the rank at which they were commissioned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11346/24]

*182. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence for a breakdown, in tabular form, of the number of people currently employed within his Department highlighting their grade; how many vacancies there were currently are within his Department highlighting their grade; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11347/24]

*183. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence given the recent increase of the age limit entry requirement for An Garda Síochána, if he will consider increasing the age limit entry requirements to join the Defence Forces, for both general service and cadetships; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11348/24]

*184. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to outline the responsibilities that Minister of State at the Department of Defence currently has within the Defence remit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11349/24]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*185. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration will be given to a situation regarding road safety issues in an area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [11276/24]

*186. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason councils are being forced to adhere exactly to the safe routes to school programme manual and if local council engineers can be empowered to use discretion on a case-by-case basis. — Sean Sherlock. [11428/24]

*187. To ask the Minister for Transport the rationale presented to him by Transport Infrastructure Ireland for the use of a private operator for the Luas, unlike all other rail infrastructure in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [11219/24]

*188. To ask the Minister for Transport if it is the policy of Dublin Bus, the NTA or any TFI bus operators to record bus drivers' bathroom breaks alongside identifying information; given the lack of bathroom facilities at some bus termini and the length of some bus routes, if he thinks such a policy is appropriate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [11244/24]

*189. To ask the Minister for Transport given the duty of care that bus operators have towards their employees, if he or the bus operators have considered the potential impact of any policy to record bus drivers' bathroom breaks alongside identifying information on the mental health of bus drivers on account of compromised privacy; if he or the bus operators have considered the potential impact on the physical health of bus drivers who may be putting off taking necessary bathroom breaks as a result of any policy to record bus drivers' bathroom breaks alongside identifying information; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [11245/24]

*190. To ask the Minister for Transport which persons would have access to any identifiable records of bathroom breaks taken by bus drivers; what measures are in place to ensure that this access policy is adhered to; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [11246/24]

*191. To ask the Minister for Transport the plans in place to make bathroom facilities available for drivers at all bus termini; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [11247/24]

*192. To ask the Minister for Transport if private car owners will have to avail of Motor Third Party Liability; the impact this will have on them; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [11250/24]

*193. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration will be given to extending the maximum age of 2015 registered small public service vehicles; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [11275/24]

*194. To ask the Minister for Transport to confirm when works will begin in respect of each of the new rail stations of Blarney/Stoneview, Monard, Blackpool/Kilbarry, Tivoli, Dunkettle, Carrigtwohill West, Water-Rock, Ballynoe under the Cork Area Commuter Rail Programme; when each will be opened and operational, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11421/24]

*195. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will expand the capacity of the 350 bus service to Galway due to the increased demands at peak times for those travelling to and from university; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11434/24]

*196. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide details on any applications received by a local authority to fund a project in the past ten years (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11437/24]

*197. To ask the Minister for Transport the funding streams that a local authority can avail of for a project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11438/24]

*198. To ask the Minister for Transport if the Macroom Town/Millstreet Road entrance to the N22 Macroom Bypass (Kerry-bound carriageways) meets modern safety standards; if the requirement to stop is visible enough to motorists; if further measures to reinforce awareness of this requirement will be considered; if any collisions have been recorded at this location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [11469/24]

*199. To ask the Minister for Transport the likely opening date for the new Shannon crossing. — Alan Kelly. [11525/24]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*200. To ask the Minister for Finance to list, in tabular form, by each local authority area, the number of vacant homes tax (VHT) returns received by the Revenue Commissioners during the first chargeable period of 1 November 2022 to 31 October 2023; the number of exemptions to the VHT applied for and the number of these applications allowed; the amount collected in respect of each local authority area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [11212/24]

*201. To ask the Minister for Finance with regard to the vacant property tax (VPT), the number of times that the Revenue Commissioners have requested property owners who have assessed that VPT does not apply to their property, to confirm the status of their property or to submit a VHT return on their property; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [11213/24]

*202. To ask the Minister for Finance to examine tax a collection query (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11231/24]

*203. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider introducing measures with regard to tax relief for certain professions (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [11269/24]

*204. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 144 and 145 of 27 February 2024, it is stated that it is “the responsibility of the employer to ensure that all payments made to the individual are processed through the payroll system with PAYE, PRSI and USC deducted from the payments and remitted to the Revenue Commissioners; Currently the PRSI liability is being “reviewed” by the employment status investigation unit; at what stage will (details supplied) be assessed for commensurate tax liabilities and the reason this has not already happened with the employees already reclassified by (details supplied) and the Scope Section. — Mairéad Farrell. [11385/24]

*205. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount of the pension levy collected in respect of the An Post Superannuation Scheme between 2011 to 2015, inclusive, under Section 125B of the Stamp Duties Consolidation Act 1999; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [11387/24]

*206. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a VAT refund scheme on the purchase of a car for owners who provide respite services for people with a disability who use their car to transport the service users; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [11408/24]

*207. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 160 on 27 February 2024, and the reply given, if he could provide in tabular form a county breakdown of the 333, 309 taxpayer units that had made rent tax credit claims as of 22 February 2024. — Michael Moynihan. [11456/24]

*208. To ask the Minister for Finance what restrictions if any, are in place for bringing vegetables from the UK into Ireland for showcasing at a competition (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [11471/24]

*209. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider a case (details supplied) whereby a person has been refused the mortgage interest tax relief; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [11473/24]

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.

*210. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform how Section 17(1) of the Pensions (Increase) Act 1964, the Regulations made thereunder, and the Explanatory Note attached to S.I. No. 55/1977 impact the exercise of discretion by him, and if his discretion is absolute or fettered by these statutory provisions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [11388/24]

*211. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the number of visitors to the Phoenix Park Visitor Centre, in tabular form, in each month since January 2022 to date. — Neasa Hourigan. [11464/24]

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

*212. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the actions he is taking to protect workers' rights in the technology sector who are currently experiencing mass layoffs, specifically silent layoffs; the way in which he will ensure that companies are not able to circumvent collective redundancy laws by continuously dismissing employees to avoid consultation period with the workers and the Minister (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [11230/24]

*213. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when the increased cost of business grant will be paid out to eligible businesses; how the scheme will be administered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [11243/24]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*214. To ask the Minister for Education if he will instruct Bus Éireann to abolish its rule not to allow private bus operators who are contracted to Bus Éireann not to have drivers over 70 years of driving business on the contracted services in light of the scarcity of skilled drivers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [11403/24]

*215. To ask the Minister for Education the current status of the provision of a second modular classroom for a school (details supplied); when this second modular classroom will be completed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [11208/24]

*216. To ask the Minister for Education due to an expressed preference for a non-religious secondary school in the Dublin 8 area, if any discussions have taken place with existing schools regarding divestment. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [11220/24]

*217. To ask the Minister for Education what additional investment is planned for schools in the Dublin 8 area to facilitate more students and expand subject choice. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [11221/24]

*218. To ask the Minister for Education if her Department will conduct a review of school subject choice available to pupils in the Dublin 8 area, and what work can be done by her Department to ensure pupils have access to a full range of higher and ordinary subjects. — Aodhán Ó Ríordáin. [11222/24]

*219. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on a new school building (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [11277/24]

*220. To ask the Minister for Education the position regarding the new school building for (details supplied); if a timeline for its completion can be provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [11288/24]

*221. To ask the Minister for Education the date on which she last issued a circular to school principles and BOMs at primary and secondary school level in respect of group messaging services used by students to communicate regarding official school activities and non-school activities. — Catherine Murphy. [11359/24]

*222. To ask the Minister for Education how many ASD units there are in Tipperary primary and post primary schools; and if she will list their locations. — Alan Kelly. [11370/24]

*223. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on a number of requests by a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [11374/24]

*224. To ask the Minister for Education to address concerns with respect to parity of pay for providers of adult education; the work her Department plans to rectify this situation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [11386/24]

*225. To ask the Minister for Education to confirm the reason the course content and assessment brief for the Irish Junior Certificate has changed, with students no longer required to undertake the oral examination in junior cycle; if there are any plans for a review to be undertaken or feedback from practitioners in this subject area to be considered by her Education; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [11391/24]

*226. To ask the Minister for Education for any update regarding the Educate Together school that is planned for the site of the old fire station in Georges Place, Dún Laoghaire; and if there is a timeline for the proposed building. — Peadar Tóibín. [11398/24]

*227. To ask the Minister for Education if any consideration is being given to allowing adjustments for this years and next year's leaving certificate students who were impacted by covid-19 restrictions when they were pupils in first and second year post primary; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [11404/24]

*228. To ask the Minister for Education her timeline for the revision and expansion of the school transport service; if she will amend the distance travelled to the nearest pick up point as an interim measure, in light of the fact that this would not increase demand on capacity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11420/24]

*229. To ask the Minister for Education if she will ensure that there are no further delays to the tender process at Harold's Cross Educate Together school; and if she can give a precise date on when we can expect the construction to commence. — Sorca Clarke. [11458/24]

*230. To ask the Minister for Education the progress on the school building of a permanent school building at Harold's Cross Educate Together; the status of the tendering process; and the timeframe for the completion of the build. — Sorca Clarke. [11459/24]

*231. 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. [11465/24]

*232. To ask the Minister for Education if and when a suitable school place can be provided for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11480/24]

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

*233. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán an bhfuil sé i gceist aici líon na scoláireachtaí do dhaltai lasmuigh de na hOileáin a fhreastalaíonn

ar na scoileanna ar na trí cinn d'Oileáin Árann a mhéadú le nach mbeidh na scoileanna ag brath ar scoláirí a bheith i dteideal an “Deontas Ceantar Iargúlta” de chuid na Roinne Oideachais le bheith inmharthana; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11234/24]

*234. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the names of all Irish language colleges that have been supported by the Department in County Donegal over the past five years, in tabular form; the number of students that each college taught; the location of each college on a year by year basis; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [11237/24]

*235. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the number of submissions received by her Department as part of the public consultation on the development of a National Swimming Strategy; the findings of the public consultation process; when she expects to be in a position to publish the strategy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [11274/24]

*236. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the number of the estimated 10,700 short-term rentals expected to leave the tourism market upon the introduction of the short-term tourist letting register in each of the Gaeltacht areas; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [11321/24]

*237. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media for a county-by-county breakdown of where the estimated 10,700 short-term rentals expected to leave the tourism market upon the introduction of the short-term tourist letting register are located; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [11322/24]

*238. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media what measures she can take to assist female sports teams with issues such as pitch availability, sponsorship for team gear, team travel expenses, additional expenses due to nutritional requirements, and for inter-county players, the travel expenses incurred due to training and match travel distances; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [11475/24]

*239. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to supply up-to-date TV licence renewal figures. — Brendan Griffin. [11516/24]

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

*240. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to communities providing broadband connection points that are now being exposed to commercial rates evaluations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [11289/24]

*241. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to release the 2019 CRU-commissioned report by HR Wallingford into the eastern and midlands water supply project; and the reason this has not been published yet. — Niamh Smyth. [11410/24]

*242. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what engagement there has been with Glacier National Park in Montana since the sister park agreement. — Niamh Smyth. [11418/24]

*243. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the review of the housing adaptation grants for older people and people with a disability, and in particular, whether the income thresholds will be increased. — Paul Murphy. [11207/24]

*244. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a temporary increase in HAP payments is available to a person (details supplied) to prevent the tenant going into homelessness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [11226/24]

*245. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage given the current housing crisis and the prevalence of vacant and derelict properties in our country, if he would consider the introduction of a staged payment system for the Croí Cónaithe scheme to make it more accessible to potential homeowners and contribute significantly to addressing the issue of vacancy and dereliction; and if the matter will be taken into consideration during the review of the current scheme. — Alan Dillon. [11236/24]

*246. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 326 of 30 January 2024, if a person can avail of the vacant home refurbishment scheme for works not yet commenced on the property before the local authority carries out an inspection (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [11241/24]

*247. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps he will take to review the tenant-in-situ scheme, particularly in Fingal County Council, (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [11259/24]

*248. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what oversight the tenant-in-situ scheme has in place, in addition, if the tenant-in-situ scheme overseen by local authorities, under the “delegate sanction,” includes an appeals process; and if he will provide a breakdown of which local authorities offer an appeals process. — Paul Murphy. [11260/24]

*249. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the “delegate sanction” to local authorities under the tenant-in-situ scheme permits local authorities to purchase properties requiring repairs. — Paul Murphy. [11261/24]

*250. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will enquire as to the reasons properties are not being acquired under the tenant in-situ-scheme due to repairs or similar reasons, while they were deemed appropriate for occupancy with council inspections and HAP payments. — Paul Murphy. [11262/24]

*251. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if an application by persons (details supplied) will be reconsidered. — Paul Murphy. [11263/24]

*252. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the consideration of mental health impacts on children and families in the tenant-in-situ scheme, including assessing the potential impacts of homelessness and emergency accommodation on mental health; the effects of uprooting children from their lives, schools, and friends to enter precarious living conditions, when they consider “value for money”; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [11264/24]

*253. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage given the contradictory stances between local authorities such as SDCC and the guidance from his

Department and the Ombudsman (details supplied), if he will clarify the intended use and eligibility criteria of the housing adaptation grant for people with disabilities, especially regarding structural modifications like sensory rooms. — Paul Murphy. [11272/24]

*254. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to ensure that local authorities are aligned with the national and his Department's guidelines and interpretations of the housing adaptation grant to prevent discrepancies and confusion among applicants without referring this matter back as a decision for local authorities. — Paul Murphy. [11279/24]

*255. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the way in which properties are assessed and categorised by local authorities like SDCC for families with specific medical and accessibility needs; and the oversight that is in place to ensure these categorisations are accurately applied and communicated. — Paul Murphy. [11280/24]

*256. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in cases where discrepancies arise between initial assessments and subsequent communications from local authority personnel (details supplied), the mechanisms that are in place for families to seek review or appeal these decisions to ensure their homes are made suitable for their needs without undue delay or confusion. — Paul Murphy. [11281/24]

*257. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide clarification on the responsibilities and accountability within local authorities for ensuring that properties allocated as medical relets meet the requisite standards and adaptations as promised to families with disabled members. — Paul Murphy. [11282/24]

*258. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the proposals to proceed with the provision of a second bridge over the River Liffey at Celbridge, County Kildare will occur due to the increasing issue of traffic congestion in the town; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [11283/24]

*259. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 218 of 29 February 2024, if he will provide an update on the conservation advice pilot grant scheme (details supplied). — Frankie Feighan. [11372/24]

*260. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason that there must be a minimum of 25 houses seeking water to be eligible for a "Community Connection" to an existing Uisce Éireann main as per the conditions of measure A7 Community Water Connections of the Water Framework; how it is intended to make mains water available where there are small pockets of houses dependent on individual wells and streams for supply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11376/24]

*261. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether, in view of the fact that 10% of houses are not connected to either the Uisce Éireann network or an approved group water scheme, he will consider introducing a national scheme to bring mains water to all the remaining houses in the State without such a supply to ensure that all houses in the State have a good supply of potable water; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11377/24]

*262. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will review the housing assistance payment scheme to increase the amount of supports to reflect the increase in private rental costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [11415/24]

*263. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to consider bringing forward an allowance for local authority members to assist with their expenses of running an office including rates, materials and utilities. — Niamh Smyth. [11416/24]

*264. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the drafting of the heads of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill; if he can outline what changes to housing legislation will be in the Bill and when he expects the general scheme to be published. — Louise O'Reilly. [11423/24]

*265. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of homeowners that have applied to have their septic tank registered, by county, in tabular form; the number that have applied for refurbishment grants under the new Domestic Waste Water Treatment Scheme; the number successful and unsuccessful by county, in tabular form, from 2023 to date in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [11453/24]

*266. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on a project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11460/24]

*267. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if projects (details supplied) have moved beyond the detailed project briefs and procurement strategies stage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11461/24]

*268. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a detailed timeline for the completion of projects (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11462/24]

*269. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide more information on sub-projects (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11463/24]

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

*270. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are any supports beyond HAP to assist struggling families pay their rent; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11436/24]

*271. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if former members of the Catholic clergy are entitled to a contributory pension if their bishops did not sign them up on the scheme. — Peadar Tóibín. [11232/24]

*272. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when applying domiciliary care allowance for a child if a diagnosis is required (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11278/24]

*273. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide the qualifying criteria for an applicant for domiciliary care allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11290/24]

*274. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the community ophthalmic services scheme standard eye examination contractors' fee is now to be equal to the eye test fee payable to contractors under her Department's optical benefit scheme; will the optical benefit scheme fee itself now be raised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11301/24]

*275. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are published national guidelines or SWA policy guidelines in relation to the operation of the supplementary welfare system and, in particular, in relation to additional needs payments and exceptional needs payments; if so, how can they be accessed by public representatives and the public; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11378/24]

*276. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the maximum percentage payment payable to a person living on jobseekers' allowance who has no savings under the exceptional needs payment supplementary welfare allowance; the reason for the maximum percentage if the applicant cannot borrow money or pay the difference; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11379/24]

*277. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a person will receive their pension (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [11455/24]

*278. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if the entitlement, if any, to rent a room in any way inhibited the entitlement to widow's pension in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11479/24]

*279. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether application for an exceptional needs payment can be reviewed in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11485/24]

*280. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether reconsideration can be given to the application for fuel allowance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11489/24]

*281. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) can continue in less than full-time or part-time employment along with reduced social welfare payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11493/24]

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

*282. To ask the Minister for Justice the extent to which he continues to influence the international community and European countries to ensure they play their part in resolving the refugee crisis throughout Europe; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11506/24]

*283. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will consider the plight of persons (details supplied) following the expiration of their visas in April; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [11258/24]

*284. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide an update on when she expects to publish the final evaluation report on the Local Community Safety Partnership Pilots; the timeline

for when recommendations identified in the report will be actioned; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [11270/24]

*285. To ask the Minister for Justice to detail the number of prosecutions for dangerous driving where the charges were dropped due to a technicality in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form. — Pauline Tully. [11324/24]

*286. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will consider changing a rule (details supplied) restricting elected representatives from sitting on multiple Joint Policing Committees. — Cathal Crowe. [11351/24]

*287. To ask the Minister for Justice how many gardaí were attested with full powers in the calendar year 2023. — Alan Kelly. [11371/24]

*288. To ask the Minister for Justice to review a case (details supplied) in assisting this person to regularise their status in Ireland once again. — Niamh Smyth. [11414/24]

*289. To ask the Minister for Justice to indicate in the case of a person (details supplied), notwithstanding previous replies in the matter, when replacement stamp 4 might issue given that he applied as advised one month before expiry of the previous permission but is now restricted from employment due to expiry of this previous permission on 15 December 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11486/24]

*290. To ask the Minister for Justice if it is likely to respond favourably or otherwise to the application for family reunification in the case of a person (details supplied); the current and/or expected position; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11487/24]

*291. To ask the Minister for Justice the entitlement to employment in the case of a person (details supplied), notwithstanding previous replies in the matter; whether his access to employment requires further authorisation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11488/24]

*292. To ask the Minister for Justice the current position in relation to the application for citizenship in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11490/24]

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

*293. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a foreshore licence will issue (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11197/24]

*294. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when TAMS applications will be processed; if he will expedite applications for time-sensitive measures such as replacement of silage slabs (need to be completed by May); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dara Calleary. [11198/24]

*295. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 265, 266 and 267 and 268 of 14 February 2024, to confirm registered ecologists

were not permitted to attend the in person training referred to in the answer; if his Department will be providing additional guidance via circulars, updated working documents or other text documents for the assessment of environmental constraints in afforestation (high nature farmland, farmland birds, breeding waders, hen harriers); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [11251/24]

*296. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No.520 of 13 February 2024, to detail the area of clearfell and thinning licensed per county for 2024, 2025, 2026, for the private sector, identifying broadleaf and conifer separately and the corresponding details for Coillte, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [11253/24]

*297. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 520 of 13 February 2024, to detail the area of clearfell and thinning that is the subject of a felling licence application to his Department that remains to be licensed per county for 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, for the private sector, identifying broadleaf and conifer separately and the corresponding details for Coillte, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [11254/24]

*298. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the area of clearfell and thinning licensed per county for 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034; the details that are available to him on the felling licence application provided by the applicants, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [11255/24]

*299. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when an ACRES-CP payment will be issued to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11297/24]

*300. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the proposals he has put forward to the European Commission in relation to the need to reduce the regulatory burden on farmers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [11375/24]

*301. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the consultation process for the mid-term review of the current forestry programme will commence, when it will end; when agreed changes will be implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [11383/24]

*302. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when he will introduce compensation for farmers whose forest have been affected by ash dieback; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [11402/24]

*303. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the findings of a report (details supplied) will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [11424/24]

*304. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 391 of 14 November 2023, to outline the number of TAMS 2 solar PV installations that were signed off by installers not listed on his Department's installers list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [11467/24]

*305. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to outline the number of TAMS 2 solar PV installations that were processed by his Department on forms that were not his Department's official S198 forms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [11468/24]

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

*306. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what action his Department is taking to expand and improve respite care services for individuals and families receiving home and community care support; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11309/24]

*307. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the total number of unique children enrolled in AIM for 2022, 2023 and 2024, in tabular form. — Kathleen Funchion. [11201/24]

*308. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of childminders that have responded to the public consultation on the draft childminding regulations; if he will list where this consultation has been advertised; the budget spent on public awareness to date; if he will outline the engagement to date in the drafting of the consultation document; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11203/24]

*309. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 260 of 29 February 2024, if he will provide the details on the following (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [11223/24]

*310. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in view of the fact that there are now over 1,000 asylum seekers without accommodation in Ireland, his plans for the provision of basic sanitation, including toilet facilities, in cities around the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11249/24]

*311. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the details of any interdepartmental engagement there has been to-date in 2024 with regard to the repurposing of state-owned buildings for emergency accommodation for asylum seekers, in view of the increasing number of asylum seekers with no accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11256/24]

*312. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the details of any engagement between his Department and the owners of religious institutions in the State with a view to providing emergency accommodation for asylum seekers, in view of the increasing number of asylum seekers with no accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11257/24]

*313. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will expand the redress scheme to include all those who spent time in a mother and baby institution or county home; if he will consider making an enhanced medical card available to all survivors, extend the scheme to anyone abused in a 'boarding out'/adoptive placement or abused through forced labour, vaccine trials, racial or disability-based discrimination or illegal expatriation

outside the State for adoption, by allowing affected people to swear their testimony in a non-adversarial way; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [11271/24]

*314. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the amount of funding given to the Finglas Youth Resource Centre for the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [11284/24]

*315. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the amount of funding given to the Den Youth project, Finglas, Dublin 11 for the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [11285/24]

*316. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to confirm if his Department is actively coordinating with disability advocacy organisations and community groups to gather feedback from service users, and to ensure that there is a continuity of improvement in quality of disability home support services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11315/24]

*317. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to outline in detail his Department's strategy for promoting inclusivity and reducing stigma associated with disability home support services, aiming for a more supportive and understanding community and for these services to be utilised more by those who require these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11316/24]

*318. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to set out in tabular form the current waiting times for disability home support services across the different regions nationally, and what action his Department is taking to reduce these waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11317/24]

*319. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to confirm what measures are in place to ensure that individuals with disabilities and their families are actively involved in the planning and delivery of home support services to promote person-centered care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11318/24]

*320. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if services will continue from the physical and sensory disability service in Letterkenny, County Donegal for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [11319/24]

*321. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if carers can be provided to a person in County Donegal (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [11320/24]

*322. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he can assist a group (details supplied) and address the matter raised in correspondence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [11350/24]

*323. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide the date, the location and the participants of meetings he has held with the providers of State care to children in the past four years. — Peadar Tóibín. [11352/24]

*324. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth whether those who were in “mother and baby homes” will be automatically entitled to dental, chiropody, homecare services and counselling as part of the compensation package for survivors of the homes; if they are, how will the services be delivered and how can they be accessed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11353/24]

*325. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when financial compensation will be paid to the survivors of the “mother and baby” homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [11354/24]

*326. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason funding is not being provided to the HSE for a supported living package of care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [11399/24]

*327. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the amount of prompt payment interest and compensation paid by his Department for the years 2023 and to date in 2024; and if he will include a schedule of the top 50 highest late interest payments and compensation recipients for this timeframe. — Catherine Murphy. [11406/24]

*328. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his Department will accept a child (details supplied) for the ECCE overage exemption for September 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [11422/24]

*329. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of private creches/playschools that have pulled out of the Government funding schemes and are now charging parents vastly increased sums for childcare. — Sean Sherlock. [11429/24]

*330. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if she will provide an update on the accommodation project for a school (details supplied); the current status of the project; when it is expected to proceed to construction; the reason a decision has not yet conveyed to the school authority to process to the procurement and construction phases; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11430/24]

*331. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if there are plans in his Department to launch a public awareness campaign of the mother and baby redress scheme opening; if there is to be a time limit on the application period given the urgency of the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [11454/24]

*332. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the action he is taking to provide appropriate accommodation for people who are seeking asylum who are currently living in rented accommodation outside the International Protection Office; what access to sanitation, food, clothing, etc. is being provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [11472/24]

*333. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in relation to the Protecting Against Predators report by the Sexual Exploitation Research Programme, what action he has taken to address the highly concerning findings in the report; if an investigation by the Health Information and Quality Authority has been carried out on foot of this report; if other recommendations from the report have been implemented, or are in the process of being implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [11474/24]

*334. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the progress to date in meeting the needs of a person (details supplied) who has ongoing special needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11482/24]

*335. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when speech and language therapy can be restored in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11484/24]

*336. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if appropriate health and multi-disciplinary assistance including occupational therapy, speech and language therapy is available in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11492/24]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*337. To ask the Minister for Health to set out in tabular form the current waiting times for elderly home support services across the different regions nationally, and what action his Department is taking to reduce these waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11317/24]

*338. To ask the Minister for Health to report on the reports of deaths in Cherry Orchard hospital; if he will initiate a full investigation into the matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [11200/24]

*339. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of children on a waiting list for their first appointment to CAMHS in the CHO7 area; and the number of those waiting more than six months. — Seán Crowe. [11209/24]

*340. To ask the Minister for Health the average length of treatment an individual receives in the CAMHS system. — Seán Crowe. [11210/24]

*341. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the referral pathway to the ADHD clinic in the CHO7 area. — Seán Crowe. [11211/24]

*342. To ask the Minister for Health if he has investigated the potential misuse of ambulances for personal use within the NBS; and the number of ambulance vehicles parked outside offices during the day or being used to drive to and from work by staff. — Peadar Tóibín. [11218/24]

*343. To ask the Minister for Health the plans in place for a unit for older persons in Clonmel following the transfer of residents to a new residential care services unit (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [11227/24]

*344. To ask the Minister for Health if there are any specific factors that would restrict the allocation of palliative care support beds to an existing unit (details supplied) once the current residents have been transferred to the new residential care services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [11228/24]

*345. To ask the Minister for Health if he will request HSE Estates to supply a copy of the report in relation to the status of the roof in a care centre (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [11229/24]

*346. To ask the Minister for Health to quantify the amount of money spent on the treatment purchase fund in each of the last five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [11233/24]

*347. To ask the Minister for Health if he has the statutory powers under Section 34 of the Mental Health Act 2001 to regulate CAMHS; if he will do so as it is the primary recommendation made by the Mental Health Commission in its report on CAMHS; why he has not done so to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11235/24]

*348. To ask the Minister for Health the number of individuals that have been seen by the national clinical care programme for self-harm and suicide related ideation by year since it was established; the number of individuals that received a follow up appointment after being discharged for the same time period; the services offered to these individuals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11238/24]

*349. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people that were on the waiting list for homecare packages in County Meath, at the end of each year from 2015 to 2023, in tabular form. — Johnny Guirke. [11239/24]

*350. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people that were on the waiting list for homecare packages in County Westmeath, at the end of each year from 2015 to 2023, in tabular form. — Johnny Guirke. [11240/24]

*351. To ask the Minister for Health the countries where treatment was delivered under the treatment purchase fund in each of the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [11248/24]

*352. To ask the Minister for Health in relation to the funding crisis facing the Understanding and Managing Adult ADHD Programme (UMAAP) currently delivered via ADHD Ireland and the recent decision by the HSE to withdraw funding for UMAAP in 2024; and if he will instruct the HSE to reverse this decision and ensure the continuation of this vital programme?. — Paul Murphy. [11268/24]

*353. To ask the Minister for Health for a timeframe for the fully domestic provision of gender and sexual health services which are in line with international best practice and based on informed consent; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11273/24]

*354. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the decision to discontinue HSE funding for a programme (details supplied); when the decision was made; the details of the analysis on which the decision was based; the details of any analysis carried out into the expected impact of the withdrawal of funding; the details of any engagement he or his Department has had with adult ADHD advocacy and representative groups in relation to the withdrawal of funding to this programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [11286/24]

*355. To ask the Minister for Health when a person will get an appointment in University Hospital Kerry (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [11287/24]

*356. To ask the Minister for Health the average cost of an addiction nurse per year. — Thomas Gould. [11291/24]

*357. To ask the Minister for Health the average cost of an outreach worker per year. — Thomas Gould. [11292/24]

*358. To ask the Minister for Health the average cost of an addiction case worker per year. — Thomas Gould. [11293/24]

*359. To ask the Minister for Health the funding provided to a service (details supplied) in 2023 broken down by funding purpose, in tabular form. — Thomas Gould. [11294/24]

*360. To ask the Minister for Health the average cost of an addiction counsellor per year. — Thomas Gould. [11295/24]

*361. To ask the Minister for Health if an assessment for a person (details supplied) will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [11296/24]

*362. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration is being given to the establishment of a dedicated Intestinal Failure Unit in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [11298/24]

*363. To ask the Minister for Health the proposed start date for the implementation of the proposals in the National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology, and in particular the transfer of care of children aged 8+ years to local private optometrists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11299/24]

*364. To ask the Minister for Health when the commitment to increase the fees payable to contractors for a standard eye examination under the Community Ophthalmic Services Scheme will occur; to clarify if this fee will now be equal to the eye test fee payable to contractors under the Department of Social Protection's optical benefit scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11300/24]

*365. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm what steps are being taken to ensure that home and community care services are responsive to the evolving healthcare needs of the aging population and the high waiting lists in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11302/24]

*366. To ask the Minister for Health to clarify why the statutory scheme, which is essential for developing a homecare sector that is accessible, sustainable and accountable, has been delayed and the impact this delay has on society; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11303/24]

*367. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm what action his Department is taking in conjunction with local authorities and community organizations to strengthen the overall support system for individuals receiving home and community care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11304/24]

*368. To ask the Minister for Health what action his Department is taking to ensure that the authorisation scheme 2023 is enough of an incentive to persuade more individuals to become homecare providers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11305/24]

*369. To ask the Minister for Health what action his Department is taking to ensure that the authorisation scheme 2023 continues to provide the necessary support to homecare workers in

view that the scheme is successful in the sense that it funds the homecare workers travel time, however it fails to fund the necessary mileage that is completed by the homecare worker; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11306/24]

*370. To ask the Minister for Health to provide details on any ongoing efforts being made by his Department to incorporate technology and innovation into home and community care services to improve efficiency and effectiveness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11307/24]

*371. To ask the Minister for Health what action his Department is taking to ensure a standardised rate of pay for the different types of home and community care providers, in view that disability home support is not operated under an authorisation scheme, which indicates that providers of disability support are paid less than those who are providers of elderly home support, wherein these providers are not guaranteed the living wage or travel time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11308/24]

*372. To ask the Minister for Health what initiatives are in place to enhance the coordination and integration of home and community care services with other healthcare providers to create a seamless patient experience; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11310/24]

*373. To ask the Minister for Health what action his Department is taking to recruit new home support providers, in view that the authorisation scheme has been proven to increase staff retention for home support providers but it has had no impact on the recruitment of new home support providers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11311/24]

*374. To ask the Minister for Health what action his Department is taking to address recruitment and retention challenges within the home and community care workforce to ensure a consistent and qualified staff; and if due consideration would be given to increasing the wages of homecare supporters in order to increase the number of individuals in this position; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11312/24]

*375. To ask the Minister for Health to outline in detail the steps being taken by his Department to prioritise and support informal caregivers who play a crucial role in home and community care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11313/24]

*376. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm what impact if any the Independent Commission which is due to be formally established early this year will have on policy changes to the role of home and community care providers, in view that this Commission will examine the provision of health and social care services and supports for older people and make recommendations to the Government for their strategic development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [11314/24]

*377. To ask the Minister for Health in relation to the current status of Parliamentary Questions within the Health Service Executive; if the HSE can quantify the accumulated backlog of unanswered Parliamentary Questions; the anticipated processing time for addressing outstanding responses; when the HSE expects to resume normal representative activities; and the expected waiting period for a Deputy to receive a response to their query. — Alan Dillon. [11323/24]

*378. To ask the Minister for Health if he will meet with the families of those affected by the Cherry Orchard Hospital move; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11327/24]

*379. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the scope and significance of the structural problems identified by HIQA within Cherry Orchard Hospital; and to outline timeline on when and how they will be addressed. — Patrick Costello. [11328/24]

*380. To ask the Minister for Health if residents were afforded the opportunity to avail of the Assisted Decision Making Act, which became law in April 2023; if not, the reason this did not happen; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11329/24]

*381. To ask the Minister for Health how many vacant units there are within the Cherry Orchard Hospital facility; how many of these could have been used to house residents whilst works were ongoing; what is the current state of repair of any vacant units onsite; how long have these units been vacant; how much would it cost to bring these units back into use and whether this is being considered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11330/24]

*382. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the other plans considered by the HSE to address the works required which would have allowed residents to remain on-site during completion of works in the Sycamore and Willow Units at Cherry Orchard Hospital; why these plans were deemed to be unworkable; when these decisions were made; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11331/24]

*383. To ask the Minister for Health to outline what will happen to the staff members assigned to the Sycamore and Willow Units at Cherry Orchard Hospital for the duration of the move; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11332/24]

*384. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the Covid outbreak in Cherry Orchard Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11333/24]

*385. To ask the Minister for Health how many of the residents from the Sycamore and Willow Units Cherry Orchard Hospital have passed away since residents were given notice of the move in November 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11334/24]

*386. To ask the Minister for Health when a child will be called for an appointment with a paediatrician (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11355/24]

*387. To ask the Minister for Health when a child will be called for an appointment to UHG paediatric Department (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11356/24]

*388. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive a response to her appeal of the fair deal nursing home means assessment; the reason for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11357/24]

*389. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be called for a BRAC2 gene test; the current waiting time for such tests; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11358/24]

*390. To ask the Minister for Health if he intends to provide specialist long-Covid services for children; the steps he is taking to ensure that children with long-Covid have access to appropriate treatment and care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [11360/24]

*391. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the HSE FADA survey regarding the prevalence of long-Covid; the timeline for completion; the type of data being collected and measured; the reason children are not included in this survey; if this survey has been extended beyond HSE Public Health Area B; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [11361/24]

*392. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for long-Covid and post-acute clinics, by clinic and time waiting, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [11362/24]

*393. To ask the Minister for Health the number of staff in each of the long-Covid and post-acute clinics, by clinic and grade, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [11363/24]

*394. To ask the Minister for Health if patient data is being collected and measured from long-Covid and post-acute clinics (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [11364/24]

*395. To ask the Minister for Health the operating hours for each of the long-Covid and post-acute clinics, by clinic. — Róisín Shortall. [11365/24]

*396. To ask the Minister for Health the criteria for discharging patients from long-Covid and post-acute clinics; if people can discharge themselves; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [11366/24]

*397. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the training and information provided to general practitioners and general practice nurses in respect of treating long-Covid and making referrals to specialist services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [11367/24]

*398. To ask the Minister for Health the engagements he had with trade union representatives regarding his decision to conclude the temporary scheme of special leave with pay for healthcare workers with long-Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [11368/24]

*399. To ask the Minister for Health what measures he is taking to address the overcrowding situation in the UHL hospital group. — Alan Kelly. [11369/24]

*400. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware of the widespread concern in the communities of south Inishowen, County Donegal, regarding the HSE plan to relocate the public health nurse from Fahan Health Centre to Buncrana; and if he plans to reverse this decision and maintain this important service in the local community. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [11380/24]

*401. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a back payment for a person (details supplied); when they will receive their same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [11382/24]

*402. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people in Galway who are without a GP and are currently on a waiting list for one; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [11384/24]

*403. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 331 of 30 March 2023 assuring Dáil Éireann of the adequacy of independent pre-admission assessments of nursing home residents, and in light of newspaper reports of the advice from his officials to enhance safeguarding checks in light of recent revisions to the means calculation of the fair deal scheme, if he can outline when such a recommendation was made on enhanced safeguarding checks; his timeline for the implementation of such enhanced checks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11389/24]

*404. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on negotiations between the HSE and our dentists, in light of the fact that no new medical card patients are seen by a dentist as there is a disagreement over the contract in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [11390/24]

*405. To ask the Minister for Health if assistance will be given to organisations (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [11381/24]

*406. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline his plans to extend the special scheme of paid leave for healthcare workers suffering from long Covid; if he intends to extend or replace this scheme before it is due to end in March 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11392/24]

*407. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 653 of 11 July 2023, if he will outline the planned revision of the model of care for long Covid; when the model of care was last reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11393/24]

*408. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 289 of 15 June 2023, the proportion of the €2.2 million allocated for the development of long Covid services in 2022 that was spent exclusively on long Covid services; the allocation drawn down by each clinic in 2022; the corresponding figures for 2023; the respective period of operation of each clinic; the number of new patients and recurring patients treated to date; the number of patients awaiting a first appointment in each clinic; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11394/24]

*409. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 290 of 15 June 2023, the number of full-time posts allocated to post-acute and long Covid clinics, by clinic and speciality; if the position has been filled; if an offer has been made; if a recruitment competition is ongoing; if the HSE recruitment process has commenced in view of the emerging evidence on long Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11395/24]

*410. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 291 of 15 June 2023, if he will outline the metrics at each clinic in 2022, including the number of new patients

seen and the number waiting at the end of the year; the corresponding figures for 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11396/24]

*411. To ask the Minister for Health the number of staff presently availing of the special scheme of paid leave in respect of long Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [11397/24]

*412. To ask the Minister for Health if he can provide full detail on the safety issues that currently make the establishment of a 24-hour accident and emergency unit in Ennis General Hospital unviable. — Cathal Crowe. [11405/24]

*413. To ask the Minister for Health the amount of prompt payment interest and compensation paid by the HSE for the years 2021, 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024; and if he will include a schedule of the top 20 highest late interest payments and compensation recipients for this timeframe. — Catherine Murphy. [11407/24]

*414. To ask the Minister for Health for a update on the cancelled surgery for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [11417/24]

*415. To ask the Minister for Health the reason Parliamentary Question No. 619 of 27 February 2024, was responded to by the Manager of Letterkenny University Hospital rather than the HSE officials who made the decision not to allocate the ANP; the reason for 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. [11419/24]

*416. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that his Department has cut funding for the Understanding and Managing Adult ADHD Programme course and monthly support to attendees upon completion; of the need to reinstate it urgently; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11432/24]

*417. To ask the Minister for Health the payments that were made in healthcare under the client indemnity scheme; the number of those that were from cases in UHL, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11433/24]

*418. To ask the Minister for Health if a product approved under the MCAP as listed on S.I. No. 5 of 2023 can be prescribed to the holder of a valid Ministerial licence and if the licence holder can purchase their prescribed products at a pharmacy in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11435/24]

*419. To ask the Minister for Health the current status of a project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11439/24]

*420. To ask the Minister for Health the current status of a project (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11440/24]

*421. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 586 of 13 February 2024, if he is satisfied that there is no private surge capacity available to the UL Hospitals Group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11441/24]

*422. To ask the Minister for Health the number of private beds, by unit, in tabular form, at University Hospital Limerick; if those private beds can be used by public patients as a surge capacity measure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11442/24]

*423. To ask the Minister for Health the full list of defined roles under the patient and client care heading of the HSE health service personnel census; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [11443/24]

*424. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses in the Lucan area; if developmental checks are being offered to newborns in the area for the appropriate month milestones; what options are available to parents if their children are not offered appointments due to staff shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11444/24]

*425. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses in the Clondalkin area; if developmental checks are being offered to newborns in the area for the appropriate month milestones; what options are available to parents if their children are not to be offered appointments due to staff shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11445/24]

*426. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses in the Rathcoole area; if developmental checks are being offered to newborns in the area for the appropriate month milestones; what options are available to parents if their children are not to be offered appointments due to staff shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11446/24]

*427. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses in the Newcastle area; if developmental checks are being offered to newborns in the area for the appropriate month milestones; what options are available to parents if their children are not to be offered appointments due to staff shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11447/24]

*428. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses in the Palmerstown area; if developmental checks are being offered to newborns in the area for the appropriate month milestones; what options are available to parents if their children are not to be offered appointments due to staff shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11448/24]

*429. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses in the Brittas area; if developmental checks are being offered to newborns in the area for the appropriate month milestones; what options are available to parents if their children are not to be offered appointments due to staff shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11449/24]

*430. To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses in the Saggart area; if developmental checks are being offered to newborns in the area for the appropriate month milestones; what options are available to parents if their children are not to be offered appointments due to staff shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [11450/24]

*431. To ask the Minister for Health what measures are being taken to increase the number of GPs around the country, and Kilkenny in particular; and whether current GPs use waiting list systems.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [11457/24]

*432. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the appointment of a new GP (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [11466/24]

*433. To ask the Minister for Health the reason naloxone, a lifesaving medication, is only available on prescription and if he has any plans to make it available over the counter to help save lives. — Paul Donnelly. [11470/24]

*434. To ask the Minister for Health when speech and language therapy can be restored in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11483/24]

*435. To ask the Minister for Health if appropriate health and multi-disciplinary assistance including occupational therapy, speech and language therapy is available in the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [11491/24]

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

*436. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason a Leitrim based apprentice (details supplied) who trained under SOLAS are not recognising the time he spent working at an accredited company from July 2020 to May 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Frankie Feighan. [11373/24]

*437. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his engagements with Irish institutes of higher education regarding their ongoing collaboration with counterparts in Israel; and if he has raised any concerns with University College Dublin related to their Israeli counterpart fundraising for student reservists that took part in the Israeli assault on Gaza; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [11400/24]

*438. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if, given the request of the Taoiseach that the European Commission urgently review whether Israel is complying with its obligations to respect human rights in Gaza under the EU-Israel Association Agreement, he has similarly sought review of Israel's participation in Horizon Europe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [11401/24]

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

*439. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when the Local Authority Control of Dogs Statistics Report 2023 will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [11225/24]