



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 10 Aibreán, 2024

Wednesday, 10th April, 2024

**CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS**

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

1. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will cancel the increases in excise duty on petrol and diesel scheduled for August and October of this year, given the cost-of-living pressures facing households, and their impact on trade for businesses in the Border region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15273/24]

2. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has or will engage with fellow members of Economic and Financial Affairs Council in order to secure financial and economic sanctions against the State of Israel in response to flagrant violations of international law committed by the State of Israel in Gaza and the Occupied Territories of Palestine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15274/24]

3. To ask the Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to the serious implications of the recent increase in fuel prices on motorists, hauliers, commercial business, farmers and especially rural communities, where people do not have any alternative options but to use their cars. — Danny Healy-Rae. [15418/24]

4. To ask the Minister for Finance the value of money disbursed under the mortgage interest tax credit to date, together with the number of successful applicants; the number of applicants who have received a partial credit; the number of applicants who were rejected on the grounds that they had an insufficient income tax liability; and if he will consider amending the credit to ensure that struggling mortgage holders experiencing an increase in their mortgage costs can receive the full credit. — Pearse Doherty. [15275/24]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

5. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has considered how the tax system might make a better contribution towards adjustment to a longer and more fruitful retirement through supporting rightsizing, early release of pension savings in certain circumstances, more flexibility in continued working from employers, better recognition of family carers and in other ways; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [15262/24]

6. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider deferring the planned excise duty increase on petrol and diesel due for August; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [15013/24]

7. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update regarding the issue of mortgageability as it relates to homeowners affected by defective concrete blocks, including his Department's engagement with the Department of Finance and the proposal of a bridging finance products by the banking sector under the enhanced DCB scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15231/24]

8. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is concerned that the BIK exemption for employer contributions to PRSAs, legislated through Section 22 of Finance Act 2022, is facilitating aggressive tax planning; if his Department received recommendations from an organisation (details supplied) in June 2022 warning that such a risk would materialise; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15232/24]

9. To ask the Minister for Finance for an update on the review of the disabled drivers scheme; and the new criteria being considered line with international best practice. — Marian Harkin. [15225/24]

10. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the progress in reducing inflation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [15224/24]

11. To ask the Minister for Finance if, following the recent film industry stakeholder forum, he is planning any future changes to section 481 the film tax credit, to ensure greater security of employment and incomes for workers in the film industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [15245/24]

12. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the Future Ireland Fund and Instructure, Climate and Nature Fund Bill 2024; the reason for restricting access to the climate and nature fund until 2026; the process by which projects may apply for the fund; the expected timeline for decision-making and the intervals at which funds can be applied for or if they will be on a rolling basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [15183/24]

13. To ask the Minister for Finance the total tax take from fuel in 2023, broken down by category; how this figure compares with the estimated amount of total tax take from fuel as set out in Budget 2023 in October 2022; the total estimated tax take from fuel for 2024 as set out in Budget 2024 in October 2023, with a breakdown of each category; the estimated and actual figures for Quarter 1 2024; how much additional tax the planned excise increases in August are estimated to generate by year end; how much the recent excise increases on 1 April 2024 will generate by year end; if the planned August increase will be scrapped in light of the overall tax take performance and the negative impact of excise increases on individual motorists and the wider economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15213/24]

14. To ask the Minister for Finance if the projection for corporate tax revenue in 2024 and 2025 is €24.5 billion and €25.8 billion (details supplied) respectively; the estimated gross trading profit before taxation in 2024 and 2025; to provide a monetary breakdown of projected total capital allowances and deductions before taxation in 2024 and 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15248/24]

15. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on consideration of changes to legislation to address the inability of consumers to make complaints to the Financial and Services Pensions Ombudsman with respect to vulture funds as a result of gaps in their regulation. — Pearse Doherty. [15234/24]

16. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on whether tax policy on luxury emissions can play a more active role in incentivising climate action; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [15184/24]

17. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on the work of the Office for the Promotion of Competition in the Insurance Market, particularly in relation to reducing the cost of public liability insurance; to outline his Department's recent engagement with insurance companies, including new insurance companies, about the high cost of public liability insurance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15158/24]

18. To ask the Minister for Finance when the new primary medical certificate criteria will be introduced; if he can provide any update on the process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [15285/24]

19. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of people who claimed mortgage interest tax relief last year; and the average payment. — Thomas Gould. [15219/24]

20. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has considered the extent of unclaimed tax allowances and other benefits; if he would consider establishing a cross-Government initiative to promote better take-up of such benefits; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [15263/24]

21. To ask the Minister for Finance the measures he is putting in place so that future banking changes are managed in a controlled, fair and transparent manner for consumers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [14273/24]

22. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of the National Payments Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [14271/24]

23. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to extend the powers of the Central Bank in relation to the regulation of ATMs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [14267/24]

24. To ask the Minister for Finance how many rent tax credit claims have been made as of 31 March 2024, or the latest date available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [14272/24]

25. To ask the Minister for Finance if he is planning any further taxation measures to address the problem of vacant and derelict properties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15246/24]

26. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department has undertaken any study on the fluctuation in the price of petrol and diesel in each of the past ten years. — Peadar Tóibín. [15071/24]

27. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has plans for a range of supports to help the hospitality industry, including VAT reductions, to help businesses in difficulties and incentivise customers to support local outlets; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [15243/24]

28. To ask the Minister for Finance if he or his Department are considering increasing the rate of and threshold for the 10% stamp duty with respect to the bulk purchase of residential property; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15235/24]

29. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount taken in corporation tax in each of the past 18 months, in tabular form. — Peadar Tóibín. [15072/24]

30. To ask the Minister for Finance if he or his Department are considering increasing the rate of and threshold for the 10% stamp duty with respect to the bulk purchase of residential property; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [15242/24]

31. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will detail the estimated cost to the Exchequer of the reinstatement of fuel excise relief in April 2024; and the estimated cost of the reinstatement in August 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [15286/24]

32. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on his Department's latest assessment of public indebtedness in Ireland. — Seán Haughey. [14266/24]

33. To ask the Minister for Finance the changes that are being considered to the debt warehousing scheme to support private businesses availing of the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Shanahan. [5746/24]

34. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will report on the mortgage interest tax relief scheme and its operation to date in 2024. — Willie O'Dea. [14268/24]

35. To ask the Minister for Finance the total tax take from the restaurant sector in 2023, broken down by category; how this figure compares with the estimated amount of total tax take from the restaurant sector as set out in Budget 2023 in October 2022; the total estimated tax take from the restaurant sector for 2024, with a breakdown of each category; how much additional tax the increased VAT rate of 13.5% for the entire year is estimated to generate by year end; if he is concerned with the closure of restaurants nationwide; if estimated tax take figures need to be revised as a result; if he is reconsidering the reintroduction of the 9% VAT rate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15214/24]

36. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will commit to a review in 2024 of the remittance basis of tax and the domicile levy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [15014/24]

37. To ask the Minister for Finance for an overview of tax receipts to date in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [14270/24]

38. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on the survey that was carried out related to cross Border workers and the issues they face in relation to working from home, income tax and social protection; if his Department has had any recent engagement with the Assembly or the British Government on this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15157/24]

39. To ask the Minister for Finance how he proposes to protect the role of cash in our society and economy in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [14269/24]

40. To ask the Minister for Finance for a status update on his Department's work to develop a new scheme to replace the disabled drivers and disabled passenger's scheme with a modern, fit for purpose vehicle adaptation scheme as recommended by the National Disability Inclusion Strategy Transport Working Group; the number of meetings held by the senior officials group to-date, and the dates of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [14380/24]

41. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on the number of people who have claimed the renters tax credit, in 2023 and 2024 respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [15223/24]

42. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 110 of 01 February 2024, his plans for the phasing out of the help-to-buy scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [14379/24]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*43. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to expedite a passport application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [15516/24]

*44. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will support the efforts of Palestine to secure full membership of the United Nations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [15542/24]

*45. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs his assessment of the deteriorating situation in Haiti and if he will support the humanitarian efforts in Haiti through both the Irish Aid programme and pooled funds such as the UN Central Emergency Response Fund. — Pearse Doherty. [15544/24]

*46. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he has met formally with the Malaysian Ambassador to Ireland to date in 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [15565/24]

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

*47. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he has engaged with ComReg regarding the need to introduce additional retail price regulations in respect of electronic communications service providers in order to better protect consumers who are the subject of price increases on their contracts; if he is aware of complaints about alleged price gouging by mobile and broadband providers; if he is considering introducing legislation to deal with this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [15582/24]

*48. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide an update on the DCB scheme, specifically regarding the reimbursement of costs associated with SEAI; when is the proposal expected to be presented to Cabinet as homeowners affected by mica

and pyrite are seeking clarity on the Government's timelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [15637/24]

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

*49. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if he will outline, in light of the news that former members of the Defence Forces, operating as a company (details supplied) are training private militias, what actions are being taken by his Department to prevent such a situation reoccurring in future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [15715/24]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*50. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider making changes to payment methods for those issued with speeding fines in Ireland but live in a foreign country, including provision of an online payment option; if he will reassess the 56-day limit to allow for postage and potential errors on forms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15519/24]

*51. To ask the Minister for Transport when funding will be provided for the proposed flood relief scheme at Ballycar on the Limerick to Ennis railway line, where flooding has occurred on a number of occasions in recent years, including recently, resulting in the closure once again of the rail line. — Willie O'Dea. [15520/24]

*52. To ask the Minister for Transport the plans, if any, that TII has in respect of an advertisement campaign on both social media and national radio reminding drivers to ensure that they pay their tolls before 8pm the following day in order to avoid other fines and penalties that may issue. — Catherine Murphy. [15546/24]

*53. To ask the Minister for Transport the progression made by NTA regarding the installation of a bus shelter at a location (details supplied); and when these works will commence at this location. — Catherine Murphy. [15547/24]

*54. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of Revenue protection officers within Iarnród Éireann; and the amount collected in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024 in respect of fares recovered and fines. — Catherine Murphy. [15548/24]

*55. To ask the Minister for Transport if permission is required from a local authority to close a public right of way linking two public roads; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15661/24]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*56. To ask the Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to the recent fuel price increase and future planned increases in the cost of petrol and diesel, and the impact this will have on motorists and businesses. — Danny Healy-Rae. [15419/24]

*57. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will ensure that a response is provided to an email in relation to the disabled drivers scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15540/24]

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.

*58. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the names of external security/steward companies currently on the Office of Government Procurement Multi-Supplier Framework for the provision of Security/Steward Services for Public Bodies. — Catherine Murphy. [15564/24]

*59. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the total cost of the development of the National Children's Science Centre at Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2; and which Department will be providing the funding for this centre. — Chris Andrews. [15711/24]

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

*60. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of site visits hosted by the IDA in County Kildare in 2023 and for the first two months of 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [15560/24]

*61. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a second pay increase will be commenced under the Employment Regulation Order for workers in the security sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15666/24]

*62. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is aware of health and safety issues in the fishing sector (details supplied); the steps he is taking to ensure that the health and safety of fishers is prioritised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15687/24]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*63. To ask the Minister for Education if caretakers in schools will be recognised and receive benefits under her Department and statement (details supplied). — Brendan Griffin. [15521/24]

*64. To ask the Minister for Education if she will make contact with a school (details supplied) in relation to a funding matter; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [15577/24]

*65. To ask the Minister for Education if she is aware that the removal of the IT grant, the Covid grant, and the minor works grant has caused significant financial difficulties for a primary school (details supplied); if she will assist this school to overcome their current financial difficulties; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [15579/24]

*66. To ask the Minister for Education what assistance can be offered to child (details supplied); when the educational supports this child needs will be provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [15581/24]

*67. To ask the Minister for Education to provide an update on the Capital Appraisal in her Department for a school (details supplied); and if she will confirm if there is a viable solution to our immediate accommodation needs; what this consists of and when school patrons will

progress on this new facility; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [15638/24]

*68. To ask the Minister for Education the measures her Department has taken to determine the most suitable long-term location for the school for (details supplied); if she will clarify the outcome of the evaluation of a recent proposal received from the school patron; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [15639/24]

*69. To ask the Minister for Education following her visit to the location (details supplied) in September 2022, where a commitment was made to a new facility, but no progress has been observed since then, could she confirm her Department's intention to fulfil this promise and if she will provide a timeline for this commitment, given that it is simply unacceptable for the school to operate from three separate campuses; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [15640/24]

*70. To ask the Minister for Education to address a Bus Éireann matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [15650/24]

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

*71. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 656 of 20 March 2024, on leased units used by the State for social housing allocations, if the number supplied is the full amount of leased units being provided by the State at the moment; if the figure included units secured under the payment and availability agreements; and if not, if he will supply the lease unit figures for this also. — Peadar Tóibín. [15617/24]

*72. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of the recently released report; (details supplied); his views on the recommendation there was a need for increased funding for the energy renovation of social housing and AHBs; if he plans to increase funding for the retrofitting of social housing and AHBs; if he has plans to include AHBs in his Department's efforts to retrofit the social housing stock rather than the One Stop Shop scheme run by SEAI; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [15628/24]

*73. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to report on housing targets as they pertain to Meath and his plans to increase housing availability there; to report on the availability on social housing in Meath and progress to meet targets for social housing in Meath and if his plans to increase this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [15629/24]

*74. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he intends legislating for higher minimum BERs as part of minimum rental accommodation standards; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15689/24]

*75. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will extend the social housing retrofitting programme to Approved Housing Bodies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15690/24]

*76. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the monies set aside from the public purse annually for the past ten years per local authority in relation to the Traveller

accommodation programme; the amount drawn down by each of the local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [15698/24]

*77. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to list the local authority housing regeneration schemes his Department is working on with various city and county councils; the number of homes involved; what bedroom size; when the initial date was for the start of each such scheme; the current stage in the process; the likely completion date; the final expected home size; the number of homes, rental, affordable rental, and affordable purchase intended for each of these public sites; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [15699/24]

*78. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason not one applicant has received the defective concrete block scheme grant in Clare; when he expects the first grants to be issued; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15725/24]

*79. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will be conducting an inquiry into the offending parties in respect of the defective concrete blocks issue that has plagued homeowners across the State and destroyed people's homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15726/24]

*80. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the defective concrete block scheme with respect to homeowners who have mortgages that are worth zero; if he has considered the implications for them in respect of insurance and the liability to have any currently; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15727/24]

*81. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the significant delays homeowners affected by the defective concrete blocks scheme have been facing with the Housing Agency and the impact that this is having on the homeowners who are already dealing with issues with their property daily; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15728/24]

*82. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on significant delays that have been experienced by homeowners availing of the defective concrete blocks grant scheme with respect to ability to contact the Housing Agency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15729/24]

*83. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the point of a damage threshold in respect of the defective concrete blocks grant scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15730/24]

*84. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has any plans for ensuring that service users of emergency accommodation from local authorities will seek their feedback on their experiences; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15731/24]

*85. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the disagreement in respect of deleterious foundations in properties in Clare affected by the defective concrete blocks scheme; if he will address the matter that deleterious foundations also need to be

remediated as a matter of urgency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15732/24]

*86. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the appeals process for the defective concrete blocks scheme; when it will be fully operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15733/24]

*87. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on the fact that builders in Clare are saying that they will not build on defective foundations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15734/24]

*88. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has considered the trauma that owning a property with defective concrete blocks has been exacerbated by the poor administration of the DCB scheme; the effects on their health and advanced ageing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15735/24]

*89. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has considered issues of the potential conflict in respect of NSAI panel members in the DCB scheme as they will potentially be regulating their own industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15736/24]

*90. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will clarify that adult tenants in their parents' council house would be in a position to submit their own housing application to the local authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15744/24]

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

*91. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) can have an oral hearing for a carer's allowance appeal. — Kathleen Funchion. [15524/24]

*92. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of people in receipt of payments (details supplied) as of 31 December 2023, in tabular form. — Pauline Tully. [15535/24]

*93. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost of extending parental leave and benefit by four weeks for mothers and by six weeks for fathers. — Catherine Murphy. [15566/24]

*94. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person (details supplied) was never advised to apply for a pension (non-contributory) when awarded a reduced rate contributory pension on turning 66 years. — Robert Troy. [15576/24]

*95. To ask the Minister for Social Protection why the free travel pass is only assigned to those in receipt of the carers allowance and cannot be assigned to both the recipient of the carers allowance and the other parent/guardian, where the second parent/guardian can prove they contribute to the care of the child whose care needs gives rise to the eligibility for the payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [15643/24]

*96. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to consider expanding the names assigned to a free travel pass, where a person qualifies for carers allowance, in order to be able to share the

caring responsibilities with other family members; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Sherlock. [15644/24]

*97. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will bring forward amending legislation to address the anomaly whereby retrospective payment to pension claimants is limited to six months, even though her Department has been in possession of all the facts relating to the claimants' eligibility from the date of pension application; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [15712/24]

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

*98. To ask the Minister for Justice to respond to concerns raised by an organisation (details supplied) in respect of the Gambling Regulation Bill, 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [15523/24]

*99. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will provide clarification on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15533/24]

*100. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of WTE civilian Garda staff working in the Garda national cyber crime unit as of 3 April 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [15549/24]

*101. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of WTE civilian Garda staff working in the Garda national drugs and organised crime unit as of 3 April 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [15550/24]

*102. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of unmarked Garda cars and unmarked Garda vans attached to the Garda national immigration bureau as of 3 April 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [15551/24]

*103. To ask the Minister for Justice the percentage of the Garda roads policing unit fleet that are aged between 0-2 years old, between 3-6 years old, between 7-10 years old and over 10 years old, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [15552/24]

*104. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of knives seized by gardaí in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [15553/24]

*105. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of WTE civilian forensic photographers employed by An Garda Síochána in 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [15568/24]

*106. To ask the Minister for Justice if all divisions within DMR are covered by crime prevention officers; if not, the divisions currently without a crime prevention officer in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [15569/24]

*107. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of competitions held for sworn gardaí to apply to join the Garda band in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [15570/24]

*108. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of gardaí, by rank, attached to DMR north central divisional drugs unit as of 4 April 2024; if she will provide the same figures as of 31

March 2022, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [15571/24]

*109. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of Garda mountain bikes allocated to DMR north division as of 4 April 2024; if she will provide the same figures as of 1 April 2021, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [15572/24]

*110. To ask the Minister for Justice the projected cost of every twenty five additional community gardai; the cost of an additional two dedicated community sergeants; the estimated cost of a 25% increase overall; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [15573/24]

*111. To ask the Minister for Justice the contracts that have been granted without having to go to public tender; the companies that were granted these contracts and nature of the work involved; the qualifying criteria that was applied to any company awarded such a contract in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [15574/24]

*112. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will report on Garda operation Irene; the number of persons arrested and charged under this operation during 2023, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [15575/24]

*113. To ask the Minister for Justice if she will suspend the processing of the Gambling Regulation Bill 2022 until an examination of its potential impact on fundraising income for charities can be undertaken; if she is aware of concerns from charitable organisations (details supplied) that the Bill, in its current format, will impact their ability to fundraise and this potential loss of fundraising will increase the funding needed from several Government Departments that currently fund charitable organisations; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [15595/24]

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

*114. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his views on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15541/24]

*115. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. reference 1188 of 17 January 2024, the reason the accounts still have not been published for HRI and IHRB; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15543/24]

*116. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a food-related trade mission to Vietnam will occur in Quarter 2 of 2024. — Catherine Murphy. [15558/24]

*117. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount of funding his Department received under the EU Adjustment Reserve in 2023; and how that funding was spent, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [15559/24]

*118. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for clarification on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15567/24]

*119. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if mink farmers received compensation for the closure of mink farms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15584/24]

*120. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when a payment will issue to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [15585/24]

*121. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide an update on his Department's performance for Q1 versus its licencing plan for Q1 2024, per licence and scheme type; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15618/24]

*122. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to the fodder crisis that farmers are enduring; if urgent financial aid can be provided to help them purchase fodder during this period; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard O'Donoghue. [15619/24]

*123. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will introduce a financial support package for farmers given the prolonged period of bad weather; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15660/24]

*124. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if planning permission in the business name of a sole trader farmer in County Kerry (details supplied) will be accepted for a TAMS grant application for a new shed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15694/24]

*125. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if confirmation that all 2023 direct farm payments were made to a person in County Kerry (details supplied) will issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15710/24]

*126. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if force majeure will be accepted for a late 2023 Brexit inshore business model adjustment scheme application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15722/24]

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

*127. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 531 of 13 February 2024, on what dates the inspection of Baggot Street Hospital was carried out; and by whom in his Department. — Alan Kelly. [15515/24]

*128. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the cost of the five largest refurbishments to date of public buildings carried out by his Department to cater for either/or Ukrainian refugees and/or international protection applicants, by location, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [15517/24]

*129. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to provide a list of all buildings that have asbestos that are providing accommodation for either/or Ukrainian refugees and/or international protection applicants, by location, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [15518/24]

*130. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of high support disability residential placements available in County Wicklow in 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [15561/24]

*131. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the funding streams and training options available to assist parents in caring for children with disabilities who require tube feeding. — Catherine Murphy. [15562/24]

*132. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the WTE vacancies, by job title, currently within the community neuro-rehabilitation team within CHO7; and when each of those vacancies will be filled, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [15563/24]

*133. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth what assistance can be offered to a child (details supplied) who urgently requires access to services offered through North Tipperary CDNT; when it is envisaged that the CDNT will be able to offer their family an appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [15599/24]

*134. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will overturn a decision to refuse permission to travel to two children (details supplied) who need to sit an exam; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [15614/24]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*135. To ask the Minister for Health to resolve the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [15525/24]

*136. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1462 of 20 March 2024, if his attention has been drawn to a recent response from the HSE that indicates there are no current plans to expand the provision of local neurology services including access to a consultant neurologist in Wexford General Hospital (details supplied); if he is concerned about the gap in service provision this has for this region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [15526/24]

*137. To ask the Minister for Health the amount generated through sales at the public restaurants at the Mater Hospital in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [15554/24]

*138. To ask the Minister for Health if funding will be approved for the recruitment of two additional WTE clinical nurse specialists for children with Down's syndrome to be based at CHI Tallaght. — Catherine Murphy. [15555/24]

*139. To ask the Minister for Health the number of day and night shift leaders in the ICU departments of St. James's Hospital and Tallaght Hospital. — Catherine Murphy. [15556/24]

*140. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant otolaryngologists attached to Naas General Hospital in 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form. — Catherine Murphy. [15557/24]

*141. To ask the Minister for Health for clarification on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15578/24]

*142. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to increasing the income threshold for qualification for a medical card for under 70s; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [15583/24]

*143. To ask the Minister for Health if clinical posts are vacant in the cancer genetics department of St. James's Hospital; the optimum staffing allocation levels for each position; the length of time that these posts have been vacant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15586/24]

*144. To ask the Minister for Health if clinical posts are vacant in the cancer genetics department of CHI at Crumlin; the optimum staffing allocation levels for each position; the length of time that these posts have been vacant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15587/24]

*145. To ask the Minister for Health the number of filled genetic counsellor posts in the cancer genetics department in St. James's Hospital; how this compares to international standards; whether there are recruitment plans; if any recruitment challenges exist; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15588/24]

*146. To ask the Minister for Health the number of filled genetic counsellor posts in the cancer genetics department in CHI at Crumlin; how this compares to international standards; whether there are recruitment plans; if any recruitment challenges exist; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15589/24]

*147. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who have attended cancer genetics counselling services in St. James's Hospital for each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [15590/24]

*148. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who have attended cancer genetics counselling services in Children's Health Ireland at Crumlin for each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [15591/24]

*149. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people currently waiting to attend cancer genetics services in CHI at Crumlin Hospital by waiting time period 0-6 months, 6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18+ months, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [15592/24]

*150. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people currently waiting to attend cancer genetics services in St James's Hospital by waiting time period 0-6 months, 6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18+ months, in tabular form. — Duncan Smith. [15593/24]

*151. To ask the Minister for Health how much funding has been allocated to the Hereditary Cancer Model of Care to date to implement its recommendations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15594/24]

*152. To ask the Minister for Health the number of long- and short-stay nursing home beds in counties Tipperary, Clare, and Limerick, in tabular form; and whether they are from public or private providers. — Alan Kelly. [15596/24]

*153. To ask the Minister for Health if he directed the HSE to open the medical assessment units in Nenagh, Ennis and St. John's hospitals on a 24-hour basis. — Alan Kelly. [15597/24]

*154. To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline, given his decision to repurpose the new 50-bed community nursing home unit in Nenagh, what he is proposing the HSE does now to substitute for this and to provide long- and short-term nursing home care to the people of Nenagh and north Tipperary. — Alan Kelly. [15598/24]

*155. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1427 of 20 March 2024, in which month of 2023 the security contract for a location (details supplied) was terminated; the reasons for doing so at that particular time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [15600/24]

*156. To ask the Minister for Health what current process is in place in salons, and other relevant establishments, to ensure those under the age of eighteen are prohibited from using sunbeds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [15601/24]

*157. To ask the Minister for Health what enforcement measures are currently in place to ensure relevant traders comply with the Sunbed Notification Regulations 2015; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [15602/24]

*158. To ask the Minister for Health the number of enforcement officers working to ensure compliance with the Public Health (Sunbeds) Act 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [15603/24]

*159. To ask the Minister for Health to outline any plans to review and evaluate the Public Health (Sunbeds) Act 2014, ten years on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [15604/24]

*160. To ask the Minister for Health the number of violations of the Public Health (Sunbeds) Act 2014 to date, by year, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [15605/24]

*161. To ask the Minister for Health what independent testing or maintenance checks take place on publicly available sunbeds (in salons, or other relevant establishments); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Johnny Guirke. [15606/24]

*162. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to add vascular physiologists to the list of regulated professions regulated by CORU; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15612/24]

*163. To ask the Minister for Health when the register for opting out of organ donation will be up and running. — Marian Harkin. [15613/24]

*164. To ask the Minister for Health on what date he was notified by the HSE that it was not opening the new community nursing home in Nenagh in 2024. — Alan Kelly. [15621/24]

*165. To ask the Minister for Health the expected final cost of the full construction of the new Nenagh community nursing home (including land costs); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [15622/24]

*166. To ask the Minister for Health when a person in County Donegal (details supplied) can expect to receive an appointment in Beaumont Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15623/24]

*167. To ask the Minister for Health if the case of a service provided by a group (details supplied) will be examined; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [15649/24]

*168. To ask the Minister for Health if there are any plans to restore the chiropody visits for older medical card holders to four visits per year, as older people, especially diabetic patients, are experiencing mobility issues caused by the extended time between appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [15680/24]

*169. To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify whether there are any plans to provide community occupational therapy services to private nursing homes, as these visits cost a minimum of €500 per assessment and are often beyond the means of residents who would badly need them. — Patricia Ryan. [15681/24]

*170. To ask the Minister for Health to clarify the reason an organisation (details supplied) does not provide mental health services to private nursing homes in Kildare, but does provide that service in County Laois; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [15682/24]

*171. To ask the Minister for Health the steps that can be taken to address the issue where private nursing home residents do not have access to transport to attend out-patient appointments and/or small day-ward procedures, meaning they have to use taxis and/or ambulances (if necessary) at great personal expense (approximately €800 per case), such expenses are not covered by the Fair Deal Scheme funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [15683/24]

*172. To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify, with regard to HIQA and fire safety requirements in nursing homes/care facilities, which authority is authorised to give fire safety clearance certificates: the local fire services inspection officer or a HIQA-appointed fire safety officer; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [15684/24]

*173. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a HSE appointment for a child (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [15688/24]

*174. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the closure of elective surgeries in the mid-west region; how the increase in demand due to closures will impact on service delivery in 2024 and 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15737/24]

*175. To ask the Minister for Health to outline his plans in detailed timeline with respect to recent measures announced for the UL Hospitals Group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15738/24]

*176. To ask the Minister for Health if he has confidence in the CEO of the UL Hospitals Group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15739/24]

*177. To ask the Minister for Health if he has confidence in the Senior Leadership Team at the UL Hospitals Group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15740/24]

*178. To ask the Minister for Health if he has plans to reform the senior management structure at the UL Hospitals Group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15741/24]

*179. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the progress of an application submitted for the €9.95 million upgrade of the theatre complex and sterile services department at Ennis Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15742/24]

*180. To ask the Minister for Health the number of births that took place in County Clare in the years 2019 to 2024 to date inclusive, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15745/24]

*181. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 580 of 27 February 2024, what the ratio of public health nurse to population is in Clare; whether it is below the national average; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15746/24]

*182. To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider rolling out public health nurse clinics in areas not covered by a service (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15747/24]

*183. To ask the Minister for Health if he has the power to terminate the contract of a Hospital Group CEO; what steps he can take up to that point to discipline a Hospital Group CEO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15748/24]

*184. To ask the Minister for Health the number of attendances per month since 1 January 2023 to Ennis injury unit to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15749/24]

*185. To ask the Minister for Health the number of attendances per month since 1 January 2023 to the acute medical assessment unit at Ennis Hospital to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15750/24]

*186. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 401 of 15 February 2024, the conditions that the 319 Ministerial licences were granted to treat, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15751/24]

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

*187. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when he is next scheduled to meet the CEO of the Higher Education Authority. — Catherine Murphy. [15545/24]

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

*188. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development for an update on an expression of interest in the town and village renewal scheme (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [15645/24]

*189. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development when a grant will be processed in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15534/24]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 11 AIBREÁN, 2024
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 11 APRIL, 2024**

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

1. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is confident that all key housing indicators are continuing on a positive trajectory; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [15672/24]

2. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for a report on the initiatives being taken to bring vacant properties back into use; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [15708/24]

3. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he intends to publish the report from the Housing Commission on the right to housing. — Eoin Ó Broin. [15610/24]

4. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans in relation to the provision of one-off housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [15709/24]

5. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the issue of future mortgage ability affecting homeowners affected by defective concrete blocks who avail of the DCB scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15705/24]

6. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department has asked the SCSi to provide updated cost reports for the Expert Group to review in relation to the DCB scheme and when the recommended updated grant rates are expected to be presented to him and implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [15757/24]

7. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will support the establishment of a consultation forum for the future development of Columb Barracks, Mullingar by the Land Development Agency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [15700/24]

8. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on the progress being made by the Land Development Agency in providing affordable and social housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [15665/24]

9. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many social homes are either on site or at design and tender stage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [15667/24]

10. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the cost rental tenant-in-situ scheme and the Residential Tenancies (Right to Purchase) Bill. — Eoin Ó Broin. [15607/24]

11. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average length of time from initial inquiry regarding the tenant-in-situ scheme to completed purchase under the tenant-in-situ scheme in the Fingal County Council area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15029/24]

12. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he expects the review into the differential rent scheme for local authority housing support will conclude; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [15685/24]

13. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the social housing target for Cork city was missed by almost 30% in 2023. — Thomas Gould. [15678/24]

14. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will amend the enhanced defective concrete blocks grant scheme to ensure that it provides the same 100% redress that was made available to the 3,000 families who have had their homes remediated under the pyrite remediation scheme, in view of the attendance of over 1,000 homeowners at a public meeting in Buncrana, County Donegal on 26 March 2024, in support of genuine 100% redress for the victims of the defective concrete block scandal. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [15023/24]

15. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many new affordable homes were delivered in 2023 and how this compares to 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [15670/24]

16. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of the recent report to area committee from DLR that only 140 affordable Purchase and 406 Cost rental are planned up to 2026 and does he agree this is wholly inadequate and what measures does he intend to take to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [15656/24]

17. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he can provide a breakdown of the number of croí cónaithe grants (including the vacant property refurbishment grant) paid out across Sligo and Leitrim since the beginning of the scheme. — Martin Kenny. [15675/24]

18. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline plans to utilise State owned land and modular homes to address the homeless crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [15701/24]

19. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware that only 27 cost rental homes are in the pipeline for Cork city for delivery in 2024. — Thomas Gould. [15677/24]

20. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he can provide a breakdown of the number of units across Sligo and Leitrim available under the cost rental scheme and affordable purchase scheme; if he can outline any plans to add units in the coming 12 months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Kenny. [15676/24]

21. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of modular or rapid build homes constructed in 2023 in County Louth and East-Meath; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [15635/24]

22. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the results and plans for implementation of the review completed by his Department on local authority adaptation grants and when the new measures contained in the review will be implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15164/24]

23. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if staged payments will be introduced for the croí cónaithe home renovation grant scheme, given the difficulties being experienced by grant recipients in having to find the finance upfront before drawing back the grant; if the entire process will be streamlined to reduce red-tape and speed up processing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [15695/24]

24. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the delivery of affordable homes in Poolbeg west SDZ. — Eoin Ó Broin. [15608/24]

25. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he expects works, funded by his Department, to develop sewage schemes in the villages of Broadford and Cooraclare (both in County Clare) to commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [15641/24]

26. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans for the delivery of affordable housing in Carlow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [15703/24]

27. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when statistics for the vacant homes grant for Q4 of 2023 and Q1 of 2024 will be published; whether he is satisfied with the uptake of the grant to date, including the number of applications, the number of approvals and the number of grants paid; if he has any proposals to improve the terms of the scheme or its administration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [15306/24]

28. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta cén fáth nár foilsíodh na dréacht-treoirilinte pleanála don Ghaeltacht roimh an Cháisc, mar a gheall sé; agus an ndéanfaidh sé ráiteas ina thaobh. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [15538/24]

29. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he anticipates that legislation to support the remediation of apartments and duplexes with fire safety, structural safety and water ingress defects will be passed while he is still in office; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15693/24]

30. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his assessment of the number of commencement notices (residential construction starts) to date in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [15671/24]

31. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the progress his Department has made regarding Action 9.2 of the Action Plan for Disability Services to establish along with the HSE a dedicated project implementation team to work with residents, CHOs, service providers, local authorities and Approved Housing Bodies to accelerate decongregation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [15720/24]

32. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the current temporary waiver of development contributions and the refund scheme for Uisce Éireann water and wastewater connection charges will be extended; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [15719/24]

33. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of affordable houses, cost rental and cost purchase, homes planned for Cork City and County Council and on the targets he has set for same. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [15707/24]

34. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will examine the serious delays in the processing and approval of housing adaptation grants; the details of what measures if any can be taken to speed up the process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [15636/24]

35. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many first time-buyers have been successfully applied under the first home scheme since 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [14274/24]

36. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of the impending mandatory retirement of a retained firefighter in Louth (details supplied); if plans to raise the mandatory retirement age will be finalised in time to allow him to remain on working; if he will consider issuing a circular to local authorities about the raising of the retirement age; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15163/24]

37. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what measures he has put in place to support renters seeking accommodation who are not eligible for local authority housing in the north-West. — Marian Harkin. [15766/24]

38. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has considered the provision of incentives towards the creation of safe secure living in town centres suitable for those seeking to rightsize and to gain access to homes where assisted living within the community could be facilitated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [15265/24]

39. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 124 of 15 February 2024, the timeline for the publication of the draft planning guidelines for Gaeltacht areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [14384/24]

40. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an overview of the rollout of the 'Housing for All' strategy in County Clare to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [15642/24]

41. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the details of his and his Department's engagement with the Galway Social Housing Task Force to-date in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [14383/24]

42. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of simultaneous social and affordable housing projects currently underway in Mayo; if he can provide their locations, the projected number of social and affordable homes to be completed at each site in 2024 and 2025, and the current stage of each project in the four-step approval process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [15756/24]

43. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the legislation for the Celtic Tiger era defective home redress scheme. — Eoin Ó Broin. [15609/24]

44. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of homes that were completed in Cork in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [15653/24]

45. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline the way in which his Department assists local authorities to compulsorily acquired derelict properties; the amount, if any, that he has made available to each local authority to acquire derelict properties in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [15717/24]

46. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which extra methods and means can be employed to provide extra housing in sufficient volume to meet requirements to address homelessness, child homelessness and family homelessness, if he continues to identify extra measures likely to positively impact in this situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [15395/24]

47. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will comment on the provision of affordable housing in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15723/24]

48. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage that the tenant purchase scheme would be made available for Part V homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [15651/24]

49. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the Programme for Government commitment to embed ageing in place options for older people into the planning system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [15673/24]

50. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what is the legislative, statutory and regulatory framework for the provision of public green space in urban areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [15686/24]

51. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on social housing delivery in Carlow in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [15702/24]

52. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the income eligibility limits for social housing in areas such as Cavan and Monaghan will be increased; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [15718/24]

53. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on the 2023 Summary of Social Housing Assessments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [15663/24]

54. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether he would consider introducing a scheme to bring a public water supply to all houses and businesses in the country, similar to the national broadband scheme for broadband, in view of the fact that approximately 10% of all households depend on private supplies of water; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [15307/24]

55. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what steps his Department is taking to speed up the turn-around time for existing social housing which has been vacated by tenants. — Peadar Tóibín. [15527/24]

56. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider amending the vacant property refurbishment grant to allow applicants who are facing homelessness to move into the property prior to applying to the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [15721/24]

57. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of persons from each municipal district in County Louth and East-Meath that are currently in receipt of a HAP payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [15634/24]

58. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide details of his engagements with local authorities in counties Longford and Westmeath regarding provisions for older person's dwellings. — Sorca Clarke. [15022/24]

59. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on how the vacant property refurbishment grant is addressing vacancy and making bringing existing properties back into use more affordable; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [15662/24]

60. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many new social homes were delivered in 2023 and how this compares to 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [15669/24]

61. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he agrees that inadequate HAP rates and social housing income limits and the lack of three and four-bed social housing are contributing to long-term homelessness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [15659/24]

62. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what immediate and urgent actions will be taken to address the high levels of homelessness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [15624/24]

63. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage why the second meeting of the sub-group set up to examining issues relating the enhanced DCB scheme, which met on 11 January 2024, did not meet as planned on 21 February; why a meeting did not take place in March; if there has been further communication with homeowner representatives attending the sub-group since its first and only meeting; and if he will commit to convene a second meeting in a timely manner with meetings then scheduled on a monthly basis. — Pearse Doherty. [15704/24]

64. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he believes that considering the rapid increase in homelessness and the widespread unaffordability of rental and purchase property that the current Part V requirement for 10% social and 10% affordable are wholly inadequate and should be substantially increased; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [15658/24]

65. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will comment on the success or otherwise of the enhanced defective concrete blocks grant scheme in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [15724/24]

66. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline the guidance, if any, given by his Department to local authorities to assist them with compulsory purchases orders/compulsory purchase acquisitions of derelict properties in their respective areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [15716/24]

67. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total amount of money spent in Cork on housing adaption grants in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [15654/24]

68. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many first home scheme approvals have issued since its launch in July 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [15668/24]

69. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will use compulsory purchase vacant and derelict properties to address the worsening homelessness crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [15713/24]

70. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many affordable purchase homes were delivered in 2023 via the local authority affordable purchase scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [15664/24]

71. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of houses purchased by Fingal County Council under the tenant-in-situ-scheme since it was established; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O’Reilly. [15028/24]

72. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if consideration will be given to stage payments for paying out the croí cónaithe grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marian Harkin. [14385/24]

73. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if some consideration can be given to the development of a subsidised sites scheme on public or private lands with a view to making affordable or local authority housing more readily accessible; if any consideration has already been given to such a proposal and how it might meet current demands and as housing continues to be a most pressing issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [15396/24]

74. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline the ongoing schemes his Department are currently considering to provide additional housing supply to a location (details supplied); the current construction of housing schemes in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [15760/24]

75. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the action he will take to increase the delivery of affordable purchase and cost rental housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [15627/24]

76. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he intends to endorse the recommendations of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment and Climate Action for a referendum that would acknowledge the rights of nature; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [11150/24]

77. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage why Louth County Council was unable to acquire and allocate the five “surplus houses” not taken up within the affordable housing scheme for social housing, opting instead to return them to the developer for sale on the open market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [15633/24]

78. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to confirm that the review of housing targets currently underway between his Department and the ERSI will explicitly include consideration of existing unmet housing demand including existing unmet demand for social, cost rental and affordable purchase homes. — Eoin Ó Broin. [15611/24]

79. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in cases of complaints of unauthorised development or breaches of planning permissions if he believes the current enforcement legislation is adequately robust to prevent such breaches; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [15657/24]

80. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the average wait length for planning permission for individual houses in each of the past ten years, 2024 inclusive. — Peadar Tóibín. [15528/24]

81. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the up to date position of advancing The Gearagh, County Cork as a national park; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [15652/24]

82. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware that at the heart of the housing crisis is an affordability crisis; if he is aware that only half of the houses in Louth County Council's affordable housing scheme were claimed due to stringent eligibility criteria, whether this necessitates some changes in the terms of access for support in order that no one is excluded; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Fitzpatrick. [15632/24]

83. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider further funding to tackle dereliction and conversion of units for housing in Youghal urban centre considering it now has the highest vacancy rate for commercial premises in County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [15761/24]

84. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline the scale and costs associated with new housing schemes using modular building methods; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [15616/24]

85. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the progress of the regeneration of the Noonans Road and surrounding streets regeneration. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [15706/24]

86. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline the details on how he and his Department will simplify and enhance the application process and application timelines on the croí cónaithe scheme considering the very worrying figures reported in a paper (details supplied) on the number of applicants who have successfully drawn down funding on the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [15674/24]

87. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which the scheme for promoting the sale of apartments to owner-occupiers has been taken up; and if he would consider simplifying its terms so that higher take-up can be achieved. — Richard Bruton. [15264/24]

88. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what is the timeline for raising the mandatory retirement age for retained firefighters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15161/24]

89. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of the impending mandatory retirement of a retained firefighter in County Louth (details supplied); if plans to raise the mandatory retirement age will be finalised in time to allow him to remain on working; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15162/24]