



# **DÁIL ÉIREANN**

*Dé Céadaoin, 30 Aibreán, 2025*

*Wednesday, 30th April, 2025*

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**CEISTEANNA  
QUESTIONS**



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**CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREADRAÍ SCRÍOFA**  
**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER**

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

\*1. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the reason Ireland is not making an oral submission to the International Court of Justice for the case regarding Obligations of Israel in relation to the Presence and Activities of the United Nations, Other International Organizations and Third States in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory (Request for Advisory Opinion), in light of his Department's active role in supporting the work of UNRWA and developments in the Israeli Knesset which will limit UNRWA's activities in the West Bank, Gaza, and Occupied East Jerusalem; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sinéad Gibney. [21312/25]

\*2. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if he plans to invite his Dutch counterpart to Dublin for a bilateral meeting,. — Darren O'Rourke. [21319/25]

\*3. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if he can assist in expediting a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [21386/25]

\*4. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if he will provide an update of the work of the Irish Embassy based in Rabat, Morocco. — Alan Kelly. [21439/25]

\*5. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the level of engagement between his Department and the Government of Indonesia in 2024 and to-date in 2025. — Aidan Farrelly. [21506/25]

\*6. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade for an update on Ireland's position in relation to operations conducted by the Pakistani state in Balochistan, and the alleged human rights violations being carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [21691/25]

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

\*7. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the amount allocated to the business energy upgrade scheme grant support, administered by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, in 2025; the amount drawn down to date; the number of businesses this is benefitting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21362/25]

\*8. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications when his Department intends to hold an effective public consultation on the development of Ireland's Social Climate Plan; if he will ensure that this consultation takes place with sufficient time to allow meaningful public input before the plan is submitted to the European Commission by 30 June 2025; if the consultation will be accompanied by a detailed environmental impact assessment report, plain-English summaries, multilingual versions, and accessible formats to facilitate broad public and expert engagement; and if he will confirm that the plan will include targeted, sufficient, and long-term structural measures to mitigate the impacts of rising fuel and energy costs on householders as a result of the introduction of the second emissions trading system. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21364/25]

\*9. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if his Department holds any contract with a company (details supplied), in the years of 2024 and to-date in 2025; if so, the nature of services this company provided to the Department in the years in question, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21448/25]

\*10. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the steps being taken to address the situation in certain areas of Ireland where no waste collection companies are providing services, particularly in cases where elderly and disabled individuals are left without any viable means of disposing of household waste, the supports or interventions being considered to ensure these vulnerable groups are not left behind. — Barry Heneghan. [21658/25]

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

\*11. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of Defence Forces personnel, by rank currently in Defence Forces School of Music. — Darren O’Rourke. [21333/25]

\*12. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the number of promotions from the rank of lieutenant to captain that occurred in the Army in 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Darren O’Rourke. [21334/25]

\*13. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence his views on the Parliamentary Budget Office Report on the Naval Service personnel tax credit; whether he agrees with its conclusion that the credit has failed to achieve its stated policy objectives since being introduced; whether he agrees with its recommendation that instead there should be further increases to the Naval Service’s patrol duty allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21360/25]

\*14. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence the bilateral meetings he has had with his counterparts to date in 2025. — Aidan Farrelly. [21504/25]

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

\*15. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will increase funding to the CIS scheme substantially; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Lawless. [21100/25]

\*16. To ask the Minister for Transport if people over the age of 70 are exempt from completing the driver certificate of professional competence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [21308/25]

\*17. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of WTE staff, by job title currently within air accident investigation unit of his Department; the number of vacant WTE staff, by job title currently within this unit; and when each of those vacancies be filled, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [21320/25]

\*18. To ask the Minister for Transport how the estimated time to car test invite statistics are compiled by the RSA; whether his attention has been drawn to significant disparities in the times reported on the CSO website and the waiting period in reality (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Holly Cairns. [21406/25]

\*19. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of NCT tests carried out at centres (details provided) from 2020 to date in 2025, by year, per centre, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [21424/25]

\*20. To ask the Minister for Transport if he would consider compelling the NCT to notify motorists when their NCT is due, to give motorists a reasonable period of time to arrange a test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [21425/25]

\*21. To ask the Minister for Transport if a second NCT testing centre is planned for County Clare; the measures he will enact to reduce the unacceptable waiting times for a test in the absence of a second centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Donna McGettigan. [21426/25]

\*22. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will examine the existing structure of the application of penalty points and fines to determine if there is a more progressive way to penalise motorists that speed by a mix of fines and penalty points; if systems in other EU Countries have been examined with a view to improving ours; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [21430/25]

\*23. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will state the progress on the DART+ West project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [21431/25]

\*24. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the progress to date in relation to the N/M20 Limerick to Cork motorway project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21436/25]

\*25. To ask the Minister for Transport the budget allocated to the programme for roads and repairs and maintenance specifically including rural roads; in each local electoral area in County Clare in each of the last five years; the amount of the budget that has been spent in each of those years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Lawless. [21449/25]

\*26. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of WTE ship surveyors employed by his Department in the years of 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21450/25]

\*27. To ask the Minister for Transport the level of capital investment undertaken at each coast guard station nationwide in the years of 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21451/25]

\*28. To ask the Minister for Transport the funding allocated to the N2-Clontibret-to-the-Border road project to date; the amount allocated in 2025; the amount required to complete the

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upgrades; the earliest potential construction start and completion dates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21594/25]

\*29. To ask the Minister for Transport the funding allocated to the N2-Ardee to Castleblayney road project to date; the amount allocated in 2025; the amount required to complete the upgrades; the earliest potential construction start and completion dates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21595/25]

\*30. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the reinstallation of the shelter on the southbound platform at Killester DART station; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [21657/25]

\*31. To ask the Minister for Transport for a timeline on the rolling out of free public transport for those under nine years old, as committed to in Budget 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoghan Kenny. [21678/25]

\*32. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to invest in Waterford Airport as a key piece of infrastructure for the south east region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [21705/25]

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

\*33. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide a list of all properties his Department have rented from 2015 to date in 2025, including the length of tenancy; and the amount spent on rent on each property over this time period. — Holly Cairns. [20345/25]

\*34. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of vehicles seized by Revenue Commissioners under section 141 of the Finance Act 2001 in 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Darren O’Rourke. [21336/25]

\*35. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on the report undertaken by his Department’s Committee sub-group into the replacement of the disabled drivers and disabled passengers scheme. — Cian O’Callaghan. [21338/25]

\*36. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the Parliamentary Budget Office Report on the Naval Service personnel tax credit; whether he agrees with its conclusion that the credit has failed to achieve its stated policy objectives since being introduced; whether he agrees with its recommendation that instead there should be further increases to the Naval Service’s patrol duty allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21361/25]

\*37. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider reviewing and amending the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund for companies that operate in illegal Israeli settlements. — Ruth Coppinger. [21413/25]

\*38. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on engagement he has had with the central bank in relation to identifying the gaps in available data on the investment funds sector and the steps being taken to address the lack of information available to the regulator making specific reference to unregulated funds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21466/25]

\*39. To ask the Minister for Finance when the Central Bank will begin providing regular relevant datasets on the investment funds domiciled and or administered in Ireland making specific reference to unregulated funds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21467/25]

\*40. To ask the Minister for Finance to provide an update on the development of a dormant funds scheme for the investment funds sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21468/25]

\*41. To ask the Minister for Finance the average annual rate of interest paid on the national debt; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21469/25]

\*42. To ask the Minister for Finance the average annual rate of interest paid on debt issued in the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21470/25]

\*43. To ask the Minister for Finance the total amount of ten-year national solidarity bonds, five-year saving certificates, three-year savings bonds and prize bonds in circulation each year since 2015; the total value of year each year; the annual interest repayment for each category of bond each year, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21471/25]

\*44. To ask the Minister for Finance the rationale for allowing less transparency for passively traded exchange traded funds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21472/25]

\*45. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 357 of 8 April 2025, of the 500 complaints currently active with the FSPO that were received 7 April 2020 the number that were placed on hold at some stage; the average duration of the hold; the number of the 500 were closed and reopened; the average duration between closing and reopening; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21473/25]

\*46. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 64 to 66 of 9 April 2025, if he was presented evidence by the Revenue Commissioners that the amendment introduced into the PRSA pension schemes in the Finance Act 2022 was being used in a manner not in keeping with the policy intention; the estimated scale in value terms and in number of people involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21474/25]

\*47. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 64 to 66 of 9 April 2025, to provide further detail on the reason General Anti-Avoidance Regulations can not be used to recoup unpaid tax if people rearranged their affairs for the sole purpose of gaining a tax benefit given that tax avoidance is defined as transactions which are undertaken primarily to claim a tax advantage and not for genuine business reasons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21492/25]

\*48. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount if any of the Future Ireland Fund and the Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund are invested In Irish sovereign or quasi sovereign debt; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21493/25]

\*49. To ask the Minister for Finance the list of all houses and gardens that are available to the public for viewing as a condition of their exemption from capital acquisitions tax; the list of all property other than houses or gardens that are available to the public for viewing as a condition of

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their exemption from capital acquisitions tax, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21494/25]

\*50. To ask the Minister for Finance the information and documentation required to apply for an exemption to the capital acquisitions tax on the basis of heritage; the total number of times a capital acquisitions tax on the basis of heritage was withdrawn due to failure to provide reasonable viewing facilities to the public; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21495/25]

\*51. To ask the Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 184 of 27 March 2025, the way in which the obligation to maintain taxpayer confidentiality is compatible in the case of heritage based exemptions given requirement for the public to be aware of and able to view the heritage item to avail of the tax exemption; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21496/25]

*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.*

\*52. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the number of WTE qualified horticulturists, by grade employed by OPW as of 22 April 2025; and if he will provide same figures as of 31 December 2022, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [21318/25]

\*53. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the percentage of the capital budget of the OPW that has been spent in the first four months of 2025; If he will provide the same figures for the corresponding period in the years of 2023 and 2024, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21461/25]

\*54. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform to provide an update on the proposed walking and cycling bridge across the River Liffey from the War Memorial Gardens, Islandbridge to the Phoenix Park; the proposed timeline for works to commence; what funding is provided for this in 2025 and 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21669/25]

\*55. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform for an update on any plans to alter cycling facilities along Chesterfield Avenue in the Phoenix Park; the proposed timeline for any such works to commence; what funding is provided for this in 2025 and 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21670/25]

\*56. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the status of the Phoenix Park Transport and Mobility Options Study and his plans for its implementation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21671/25]



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

\*57. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the average wait time a work permit applicant must endure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [21400/25]

\*58. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a new mid-west regional enterprise plan will be published soon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [21428/25]

\*59. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of jobs in IDA supported companies in Limerick at the end of March 2025 and the number in Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [21429/25]

\*60. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to outline the strategies being pursued to protect and strengthen Ireland’s competitiveness, in light of escalating U.S. tariffs. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [20972/25]

\*61. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to outline any plans to remove sub minimum wages and any economic impact assessment that has been carried; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [21465/25]

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

\*62. To ask the Minister for Education whether or not there is currently a budgetary constraint or recruitment freeze affecting the allocation and deployment of SNAs for the 2024/2025 academic year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [21313/25]

\*63. To ask the Minister for Education to clarify the role and remit of special educational needs organisers in the allocation of SNA hours/posts to schools, particularly in relation to recommendations for reduced timetables in the absence of appropriate supports; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [21314/25]

\*64. To ask the Minister for Education if her attention has been drawn to the discrepancy between student/teacher ratio criteria in junior and senior primary schools with DEIS Band 1 status (details supplied); if her office has received correspondence from a school principal that highlights a specific case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [21315/25]

\*65. To ask the Minister for Education when her Department expects refurbishment works at a school (details supplied) to be completed. — Darren O’Rourke. [21324/25]

\*66. To ask the Minister for Education when her Department expects refurbishment works at a school (details supplied) to be completed. — Darren O’Rourke. [21325/25]

\*67. To ask the Minister for Education when her Department expects refurbishment works at a school (details supplied) to be completed. — Darren O’Rourke. [21326/25]

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\*68. To ask the Minister for Education when her Department expects refurbishment works at a school (details supplied) to be completed. — Darren O'Rourke. [21327/25]

\*69. To ask the Minister for Education to provide assurances that an individual (details supplied) will receive an offer of a school place for September 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [21340/25]

\*70. To ask the Minister for Education if a school (details supplied) has been provided with sufficient teaching resources to make transition year available for all students who wish to undertake it; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21363/25]

\*71. To ask the Minister for Education the frequency with which the school planning areas reviewed; when the most recent review took place; the alterations, if any were made during that review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [21384/25]

\*72. To ask the Minister for Education when a school project will be delivered (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [21393/25]

\*73. To ask the Minister for Education if she received correspondence (details supplied); when it is proposed to issue a response; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [21399/25]

\*74. To ask the Minister for Education her plans to increase the number of visiting teachers to children who have significant hearing loss in primary schools in County Cork (details supplied). — Séamus McGrath. [21407/25]

\*75. To ask the Minister for Education if she will apply some principle of proportionality so that the current cohort of Leaving Certificate students, to be examined in June 2025, are not unfairly disadvantaged due to the planned reduction in grade inflation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [21434/25]

\*76. To ask the Minister for Education the amount of funding that has been provided to schools within Tipperary under the emergency works scheme in the years of 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21458/25]

\*77. To ask the Minister for Education to clarify on reports that SENOs are approving an increase in allocations of SNAs in principle, but these supports cannot be put in place due to an insufficient budget; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jen Cummins. [21507/25]

\*78. To ask the Minister for Education for clarification on whether geographical areas have a quota in terms of SNA allocations in tabular form. — Jen Cummins. [21508/25]

\*79. To ask the Minister for Education when the implementation of the recommendations of the Report of the Scoping Inquiry into Historical Sexual Abuse in Day and Boarding Schools Run by Religious Orders will happen; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [21509/25]

\*80. To ask the Minister for Education the number of spaces for children with additional needs in Monaghan; the plans to increase such; the timeframe to do so; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21590/25]

\*81. To ask the Minister for Education to investigate the urgent concerns of a school with respect to the failure of her Department to provide it with an ancillary grant (details supplied); if she will direct her Department to answer the questions repeatedly put to it by the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [21616/25]

\*82. To ask the Minister for Education the financial supports that will be available to special needs assistants as part of the redeployment scheme for special needs assistants should their redeployment take place a distance away from their previous post. — Peadar Tóibín. [21625/25]

\*83. To ask the Minister for Education if a person (details supplied) is entitled to a refund under the PME fee refund scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [21643/25]

\*84. To ask the Minister for Education the status of the provision of a permanent school building for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [21656/25]

\*85. To ask the Minister for Education the consideration her Department is giving to the provision of a new co-educational secondary school in the Cabra/Phibsboro, D7 school planning area; if Census 2022 indicates there is a need for a new secondary school in this area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21673/25]

\*86. To ask the Minister for Education for an update on the Programme for Government commitment to create a national therapy service; this be located in the National Council for Special Education or in her Department; when it will start to hire staff; it will start to provide therapy services to children in special schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21674/25]

\*87. To ask the Minister for Education if, in view of the fact that the HSE has confirmed that it cannot provide a therapist allocation for the 12 new children who were due to start in (details supplied) and the existing 36 children do enjoy the services of allocated therapists, if she will consider asking either the NCSE or the proposed new national therapy service to intervene and provide equivalent therapy services to these 12 additional children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21675/25]

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

\*88. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if the recruitment campaign for a new CEO for Failte Ireland will be advertised outside of State; if so, where; and if not, if this campaign will just be advertised within the State. — Darren O’Rourke. [21335/25]

\*89. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the proposals to support the tourism sector due to a decrease in tourism in 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21593/25]

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

\*90. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding allocation given to Wicklow County Council for re-letting works of social housing stock from the years from the years 2020 to 2025 inclusive, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [21316/25]

\*91. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his role and responsibility in relation to Lady's Island Lake, County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [21371/25]

\*92. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of the Environmental Protection Agency's 2025 Coastal Lagoons Report outlining the significant degradation of Lady's Island Lake, County Wexford, which is a special protection area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [21372/25]

\*93. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will convene a stakeholder group including, but not limited to, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Wexford County Council, local landowners and the Environmental Protection Agency to develop a remediation plan for Lady's Island Lake, County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [21373/25]

\*94. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the actions his Department intends to take to address the widely reported decline of Lady's Island Lake, County Wexford; the way in which he intends to bring it back, in compliance with the EU Habitats Directive and the Water Framework Directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [21395/25]

\*95. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of WTE senior mapping managers and superintendent of mappings that are employed by his Department in 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21442/25]

\*96. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when people in Skerries will be able to access a scheme for remediation and compensation for homes built with defective blocks; if he is aware that they have been waiting a considerable number of years for this scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [21463/25]

\*97. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the Housing Agency plans to increase the thresholds in terms of the value of homes that can be considered for inclusion in the mortgage-to-rent scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [21703/25]

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

\*98. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a person (details supplied) can expect to receive a decision regarding their appeal submitted in July 2024 regarding domiciliary care allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [21392/25]

\*99. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the current projects under the remit of his Department that received EU funding in 2024 and to date in 2025; and the percentage of the

funding that was actually funded by the EU in each of those projects, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21456/25]

\*100. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of WTE staff, by grade based in Department's central debt recovery unit as of 23 April 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21457/25]

\*101. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of WTE community welfare officers employed by the Department as of 24 April 2025; and if he will provide same figures as of 30 April 2022, in tabular form. — Aidan Farrelly. [21500/25]

\*102. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to report on the work his Department is taking alongside the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the Youth Homeless Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Liam Quaide. [21649/25]

\*103. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of young people aged 18 years to 25 years that have received an exceptional needs payment in each of the years 2021 to 2024, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Liam Quaide. [21650/25]

\*104. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if carer's benefit could be considered as a scheme to be transformed into a pay-related one; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Callaghan. [21652/25]

\*105. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to review the case of a person (details supplied); if matters will be clarified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [21704/25]

\*106. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an application by a person (details supplied) will be reviewed; the status of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [21706/25]

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

\*107. To ask the Minister for Justice the projected recruitment pipeline for prison officers in 2025 to 2027; the projected attrition rate; and the expected net staffing change. — Gary Gannon. [21490/25]

\*108. To ask the Minister for Justice the estimated annual cost of detaining one person in prison versus the cost of supervising one person on a community sanction, and the projected fiscal impact of achieving the Department of Justice's 1,500 additional prison place target versus equivalent investment in community measures. — Gary Gannon. [21491/25]

\*109. To ask the Minister for Justice the divisions currently without a crime prevention officer, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [21329/25]

\*110. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of marked and unmarked Garda cars and vans attached to Garda dog unit as of 22 April 2025; and if he will provide same figures as of 1 April 2021, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [21331/25]

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\*111. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of Garda asset profilers attached to each Garda division as of 22 April 2025. — Darren O'Rourke. [21332/25]

\*112. To ask the Minister for Justice whether international protection applicants who are experiencing faster processing times are at risk of not getting access to legal aid due to delays in the provision of legal aid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21355/25]

\*113. To ask the Minister for Justice if Ireland remains at risk of facing infringement proceedings from the EU regarding the Council Framework Decision on combating racism and xenophobia; the steps he will take to mitigate against this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21356/25]

\*114. To ask the Minister for Justice the measure that will be taken to curb the use of mobile phone while driving; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [21394/25]

\*115. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of driving offences relating to mobile phone usage in each of the years 2022 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [21397/25]

\*116. To ask the Minister for Justice his views on whether it is appropriate for staff of the Irish Prison Service to attend an event that includes a keynote address by a senior official in the Israeli prison service (details supplied); if he will ensure that members of staff of the Israeli prison service do not visit any prisons in this State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [21414/25]

\*117. To ask the Minister for Justice the action he is taking to address child trafficking; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [21437/25]

\*118. To ask the Minister for Justice if funding is available in 2025 to purchase replacement Garda prisoner transport vehicles. — Alan Kelly. [21443/25]

\*119. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 375 of 20 March 2025, if he has received the necessary information from the Garda Commissioner to answer this PQ. — Alan Kelly. [21444/25]

\*120. To ask the Minister for Justice for a complete breakdown of the number of young persons referred to the Garda Youth Diversion Programme by Garda district within Dublin region for the past three years, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21445/25]

\*121. To ask the Minister for Justice the amount spent by An Garda Síochána on purchasing new Garda CCTV cameras in 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21446/25]

\*122. To ask the Minister for Justice if he will allocate the necessary funding for anti-stab vests to be issued to each frontline prison officers. — Alan Kelly. [21447/25]

\*123. To ask the Minister for Justice the average daily prison population and the official bed capacity of each custodial institution for the months January to March 2025; the percentage occupancy for each; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [21475/25]



\*124. To ask the Minister for Justice whether he accepts that the State is in breach of its obligations under Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights owing to current overcrowding levels, and what immediate actions he will take. — Gary Gannon. [21476/25]

\*125. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of prisoners sleeping on mattresses on floors on each day since 1 January 2024, broken down by prison. — Gary Gannon. [21477/25]

\*126. To ask the Minister for Justice how overcrowding has affected rates of prisoner-on-prisoner and prisoner on staff assaults in 2023 and Q1 2025; and whether an independent safety audit will be commissioned. — Gary Gannon. [21478/25]

\*127. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of prisoners unable to access education, vocational workshops or drug treatment programmes due to capacity constraints in 2024; and the percentage shortfall relative to assessed need. — Gary Gannon. [21479/25]

\*128. To ask the Minister for Justice his response to the Prison Officers' Association statement that overcrowding has passed the point at which prisons can be safely operated; and what additional staffing or overtime resources will be provided in Budget 2026. — Gary Gannon. [21480/25]

\*129. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of confirmed drone related contraband drops detected in each prison in 2023 and to date in 2025; and the measures being taken to counter drone incursions. — Gary Gannon. [21481/25]

\*130. To ask the Minister for Justice if he will consider installing comprehensive drone defence systems and netting in exercise yards, as recommended by staff representatives; and the estimated cost. — Gary Gannon. [21482/25]

\*131. To ask the Minister for Justice the current utilisation rate of structured temporary release, broken down by offence category, compared with 2020 to 2024; and the re-offending rate for persons released under this scheme. — Gary Gannon. [21483/25]

\*132. To ask the Minister for Justice the timeline for introducing legislation to expand community sanctions and to implement electronic monitoring, as committed to in the Programme for Government. — Gary Gannon. [21484/25]

\*133. To ask the Minister for Justice the average daily number of people on community based restorative justice programmes in 2024; the target numbers for 2025; and the budget allocated. — Gary Gannon. [21485/25]

\*134. To ask the Minister for Justice the breakdown of the €53 million capital allocation for 2025 by project and prison; the projected number of additional bed spaces each project will deliver; and on what timeline. — Gary Gannon. [21486/25]

\*135. To ask the Minister for Justice when he last consulted the Inspector of Prisons and the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission regarding compliance with the UN Mandela Rules; and if he will publish any correspondence since January 2024 relating to overcrowding. — Gary Gannon. [21487/25]

\*136. To ask the Minister for Justice the steps being taken to address the 48% overcrowding in Limerick Women's Prison; and whether any female prisoners have been transferred abroad or to Garda stations due to lack of capacity. — Gary Gannon. [21488/25]

\*137. To ask the Minister for Justice whether his Department has benchmarked Irish prison population rates against comparable EU jurisdictions; to provide that data; and to outline any best practice models being considered to curb unsentenced and short sentence committals. — Gary Gannon. [21489/25]

\*138. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question No. 333 of 27 March 2025, with regard to the four vacancies in the driving training school in Garda College Templemore, the length of time each of these posts has been vacant; when these posts will be filled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ryan O'Meara. [21497/25]

\*139. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of Gardaí in County Monaghan, by quarter, for the years 2020 to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21588/25]

\*140. To ask the Minister for Justice the average processing time for Palestinian asylum seekers who hold a Palestinian passport and Israeli issued identity document; the average wait time for a decision for such persons following an IPO interview; and the average waiting time for such persons who have also presented a medical legal report and have already been deemed 'vulnerable' by IPAS. — Ivana Bacik. [21622/25]

\*141. To ask the Minister for Justice his plans to provide international protection to Palestinian protection applicants currently in Ireland through an expedited process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ivana Bacik. [21623/25]

\*142. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of bench warrants currently outstanding in each Garda division as of 25 April 2025; the number older than 6 months, older than 12 months, and the longest outstanding issue date; the total number of outstanding bench warrants that predate 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Kelly. [21626/25]

\*143. To ask the Minister for Justice what action is being taken by his Department to improve on the timeline for the processing of entry visa applications, in view that they are currently taking five or six months to process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21644/25]

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

\*144. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount paid by his Department to external HR specialists to carry out work on behalf of the Department in 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [21317/25]

\*145. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of the 3,088 2021-born pups with an 'active status' on RCETS on 21 February 2025, participated in an official trial or participated in an official race between the 10 January 2025 and the 21 February 2025 (42 days); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21351/25]



\*146. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of 2021-born pups, currently with an ‘active status’ on RCETS have participated in an Official Trial or participated in an official race within the last 42 days and if he will make a statement on same. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21352/25]

\*147. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when he expects to be able to provide an up-to-date figure for the economic value of the greyhound racing industry only to the economy of the Republic of Ireland, given that the figure currently being used is based on data which is six years old, and includes hare coursing greyhounds in the Republic of Ireland, as well as hare coursing and racing greyhounds in the six counties of Northern Ireland (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21353/25]

\*148. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the percentage of the capital budget that has been spent in the first four months of 2025; if he will provide same figures for the corresponding period in 2023 and 2024, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21460/25]

\*149. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount of food products seized by his Departmental officials at Dublin Port and Dublin Airport to date in 2025; and the penalties that apply to persons that fail to declare that they are bringing in commercial amounts of food products. — Aidan Farrelly. [21505/25]

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

\*150. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason a person (details supplied) is waiting three years for an assessment of need; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [21435/25]

\*151. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the duration of the lease on an IPAS centre (details supplied); if she intends to renew this lease once lapsed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [21309/25]

\*152. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if her attention has been drawn to an IPAS centre (details supplied) which is not fire-safety compliant; the actions she will take to address this; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [21310/25]

\*153. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if she will provide an update on the action that has been undertaken in furtherance of the stated commitment in the Programme for Government to introduce an ‘earn and learn’ apprenticeship model enabling childcare staff to gain qualifications and advance their careers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [21337/25]

\*154. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if an autism assessment and assessment of needs for a child (details supplied) will be provided following applications for same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoghan Kenny. [21341/25]

\*155. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if she will commit to providing multi-year development funding which was available pre-2008, for

residential placements for adults with disabilities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoghan Kenny. [21354/25]

\*156. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when her Department will publish the new LGBTI+ inclusion strategy, as this received Government approval in 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21357/25]

\*157. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for an update on proposals for legislation to ban conversion practices; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21358/25]

\*158. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if there are plans in place to introduce Traveller-specific UBU funded youth projects in Cork; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoghan Kenny. [21374/25]

\*159. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when the application process will open, via TUSLA, for the provision of the previously announced five new family resource centres; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ryan O’Meara. [21387/25]

\*160. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of respite hours provided to disabled adults within Tipperary in 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21440/25]

\*161. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of WTE psychiatrists based in north Tipperary children’s disability network team in 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21441/25]

\*162. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of WTE behaviour therapists and early intervention specialists employed in North Kildare Children’s Disability Network Teams in the years of 2023, 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Aidan Farrelly. [21498/25]

\*163. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children on disability service waiting lists for children’s disability networks teams, by CHO/CDNT at the end of quarter 1 of each year 2019, 2024, and 2025, in tabular form; the average length of wait; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21546/25]

\*164. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of people on disability service waiting lists for each service type, excluding children’s disability network teams, at the end of quarter 1 of each year 2019, 2024, and 2025 in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21547/25]

\*165. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children on waiting lists for an assessment of need at the end of quarter 1 of each year 2019, 2024, and 2025 in tabular form; the number overdue for completion; the number of estimated PTAs waiting for a complete AON, in tabular form as reported in the Roadmap for Service Improvement 2023-2026: Disability Services for Children and Young People. — David Cullinane. [21548/25]

\*166. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children on disability service waiting lists for children's disability networks teams, by CHO/CDNT at the end of March each year 2019, 2024, and 2025, in tabular form; the average length of wait; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21549/25]

\*167. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children on waiting lists for an assessment of need at the end of March each year 2019, 2024, and 2025 in tabular form; the number overdue for completion; the number of estimated PTAs waiting for a complete AON, in tabular form as reported in the Roadmap for Service Improvement 2023-2026: Disability Services for Children and Young People. — David Cullinane. [21551/25]

\*168. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the plans to ensure that everyone requiring an assessment of needs receives one within an adequate timeframe; the timeframe in which such will be delivered; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21589/25]

\*169. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children currently awaiting respite with Enable Ireland in Kilkenny and Carlow at present. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [21609/25]

\*170. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the average waiting time for children awaiting respite with Enable Ireland in Kilkenny and Carlow at present. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [21611/25]

\*171. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if plans are in place to reduce the waiting time families are experiencing for respite services with Enable Ireland in Kilkenny and Carlow at present. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [21612/25]

\*172. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth her views on the role of institutions run by Protestant denominations run institutions here; and her plans to examine legacy issues and issues of redress relating to same. — Ivana Bacik. [21624/25]

\*173. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the service pathway for children referred to speech and language therapy in in HSE Dublin north west: the waiting time for children in this area to access speech and language therapy; if there is prioritization system for children on the waiting list; if children who are non-verbal given prioritisation; the pathway for young children under five years; the evidence for providing services in blocks of therapy, regardless of severity of communication issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21672/25]

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

\*174. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children currently awaiting autism assessment through primary care in Kilkenny and Carlow at present. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [21613/25]

\*175. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for children awaiting autism assessment through primary care in Kilkenny and Carlow at present. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [21614/25]

\*176. To ask the Minister for Health if plans are in place to reduce the waiting time families are experiencing for children awaiting autism assessment through primary care in Kilkenny and Carlow at present. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [21615/25]

\*177. To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide an update on the case of a child (details supplied) who, having been referred to CAMHS Limerick, has yet to receive an appointment and due to behavioural issues has had their school hours cut; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [21306/25]

\*178. To ask the Minister for Health if she will review the case of an elderly person (details supplied) who was recently removed from the public health nurse (PHN) service, and a nurse had been providing essential vitamin B12 injections on a three-week cycle; if, in view of these circumstances, she will confirm that the decision to remove this patient from the PHN service will be reviewed as a matter of urgency; her views on the broader implications of such decisions for vulnerable elderly patients who rely on community-based services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [21307/25]

\*179. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant cardiologists based at St. James’s Hospital in 2023, 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Darren O’Rourke. [21321/25]

\*180. To ask the Minister for Health the number of hip and knee replacement surgeries carried out at the National Orthopaedic Hospital in 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Darren O’Rourke. [21322/25]

\*181. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant neonatologists based at the Coombe Maternity Hospital in 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Darren O’Rourke. [21323/25]

\*182. To ask the Minister for Health the rationale on the restriction on the types of MRIs offered under GP access to community diagnostics; the reason below-the-knee MRI is no longer available under this type of diagnostics; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [21339/25]

\*183. To ask the Minister for Health if a person (details supplied) will be provided with an appointment for a scan; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoghan Kenny. [21343/25]

\*184. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who attended a prostate rapid access clinics and the proportion who were offered an appointment in the Mater Hospital within 20 working days of the date of receipt of a letter of referral in the cancer office in each quarter from 2022 to date in 2025 in tabular form. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21344/25]

\*185. To ask the Minister for Health if she has spoken with the UK Health Secretary since her appointment. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21345/25]

\*186. To ask the Minister for Health the full year costs of providing three additional 24-7 HSE critical care ambulances. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21346/25]

\*187. To ask the Minister for Health when the project for a new critical care unit at Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown will move to the next stage of works. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21347/25]

\*188. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant ENT surgeons based at Beaumont Hospital in 2023, 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21348/25]

\*189. To ask the Minister for Health if she will consider the provision of additional funding to appoint clinical psychologists dedicated to supporting adults with epidermolysis bullosa. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21349/25]

\*190. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the expansion of IVF support to include secondary infertility as announced in Budget 2025; if a timeline for this can be shared; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21350/25]

\*191. To ask the Minister for Health the current audiology waiting lists for both adults and children in each CHO area, by age and length of time waiting; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [21383/25]

\*192. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE will respond to the extensive correspondence from a person (details supplied); if an unreserved apology and refund of fees will be issued by the HSE to the person; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [21398/25]

\*193. To ask the Minister for Health if she will review correspondence (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James O’Connor. [21408/25]

\*194. To ask the Minister for Health if she will outline any reimbursement or subsidy scheme available for the payment of hearing aid batteries (details supplied). — Séamus McGrath. [21412/25]

\*195. To ask the Minister for Health if she intends to index medical card income thresholds to annual social welfare increases to prevent the loss of medical card access for low-income individuals with disabilities. — David Cullinane. [21418/25]

\*196. To ask the Minister for Health the status her promised inquiries into the lack of insulin pump treatment for adults in the mid-west HSE area; when she will be able to provide an update; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donna McGettigan. [21427/25]

\*197. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant ophthalmic surgeons based at University Hospital Limerick in 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21452/25]

\*198. To ask the Minister for Health if there are plans to roll out dialectical behaviour therapy in Tipperary. — Alan Kelly. [21453/25]

\*199. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE physiotherapists by grade working in Nenagh General Hospital in 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21454/25]

\*200. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE paediatric cardiologist registrars based at Cork University Hospital in 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21455/25]

\*201. To ask the Minister for Health the level of overall funding provided by her Department to the HSE South Cork and Kerry for distribution to Section 39 agencies, taking into account inflation costs and statutory sick pay entitlements in which Section 39 organisations have had to endure over recent years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O'Shea. [21464/25]

\*202. To ask the Minister for Health the primary care centres within CHO7 that currently have vision testing services. — Aidan Farrelly. [21501/25]

\*203. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant urologists based at St. Vincent's University Hospital in the years of 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Aidan Farrelly. [21502/25]

\*204. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the waiting list for the Centre of Obesity Management; and the average waiting time for access services once a referral has been made. — Aidan Farrelly. [21503/25]

\*205. To ask the Minister for Health the average patient experience time to admission via an emergency department for all patients for each March of each year 2019-2024, inclusive, nationwide and for each location, in tabular form; and the average for all patients and for patients aged 75 or older. — David Cullinane. [21510/25]

\*206. To ask the Minister for Health the number and percentage of patients who were waiting 0-6 hours, 0-9 hours, 9-24 hours, and 24+ hours for admission an emergency department for each March of each year 2019-2024, inclusive, nationwide and, by location, in tabular form; and the number and percentage for all patients and patients aged over 75. — David Cullinane. [21511/25]

\*207. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who left an emergency department without being seen for each March of each year 2019-2024, inclusive, by hospital, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21512/25]

\*208. To ask the Minister for Health the average patient experience time to admission via an emergency department for all patients for Quarter 1 of each year 2019-2024, inclusive, nationwide and for each location, in tabular form; and the average for all patients and for patients aged 75 or older. — David Cullinane. [21513/25]

\*209. To ask the Minister for Health the number and percentage of patients who were waiting 0-6 hours, 0-9 hours, 9-24 hours, and 24+ hours for admission an emergency department for Quarter 1 of each year 2019-2024, inclusive, nationwide and, by location, in tabular form; and the number and percentage for all patients and patients aged over 75. — David Cullinane. [21514/25]

\*210. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who left an emergency department without being seen for Quarter 1 of each year 2019-2024, inclusive, by hospital, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21515/25]



\*211. To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital-initiated scheduled care cancellations, by appointment type, for each March of each year 2022-2024, inclusive by hospital group and hospital, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21516/25]

\*212. To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital-initiated scheduled care cancellations, by appointment type, for Quarter 1 of each year 2022-2024, inclusive, by hospital group and hospital, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21517/25]

\*213. To ask the Minister for Health the number of delayed transfers of care for each March for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, at each location, in tabular form; the number of delayed discharges and the number as a percentage of all discharges; and the number of bed days lost and the number as a percentage of all bed days available for the period. — David Cullinane. [21518/25]

\*214. To ask the Minister for Health the number of delayed transfers of care for Quarter 1 for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, at each location in tabular form; the number of delayed discharges and the number as a percentage of all discharges; the number of bed days lost; and the number as a percentage of all bed days available for the period. — David Cullinane. [21519/25]

\*215. To ask the Minister for Health the percentage of clinical status 1 ECHO and clinical status 1 DELTA incidents responded to by a patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less for each March for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, nationally and by ambulance region, in tabular form; the average length of such response times nationally and by region; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21520/25]

\*216. To ask the Minister for Health the percentage of clinical status 1 ECHO and clinical status 1 DELTA incidents responded to by a patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less for Quarter 1 for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, nationally and by ambulance region in a direct comparison, in tabular form; the average length of such response times nationally and by region; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21521/25]

\*217. To ask the Minister for Health the percentage of ambulance crews who are ready and mobile to receive another call within 20 minutes of patient handover for each emergency department and each hospital for each month in 2024 and in 2025 to date, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21522/25]

\*218. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on primary care and community healthcare waiting lists, for each care service, for March of each year 2019, 2024 and 2025, in tabular form; the breakdown by length of wait and by age; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21523/25]

\*219. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on primary care and community healthcare waiting lists, for each care service, for Quarter 1 of each year 2019, 2024 and 2025, in tabular form; the breakdown by length of wait and by age; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21524/25]

\*220. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on home support waiting lists for a carer for Quarter 1 of each year 2019, 2024 and 2025, in tabular form; and the breakdown, by length of wait. — David Cullinane. [21525/25]

\*221. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who are receiving less than their full allocation of home support hours at the end of Quarter 1 of each year 2019, 2024 and 2025. — David Cullinane. [21526/25]

\*222. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on home support waiting lists for a carer for March of each year 2019, 2024 and 2025 in tabular form; and the breakdown by length of wait. — David Cullinane. [21527/25]

\*223. To ask the Minister for Health the bed occupancy rates of each public and public voluntary hospital, by hospital group, for each March for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, in tabular form; the national average; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21552/25]

\*224. To ask the Minister for Health for each model 3 and model 4 hospital, the number of days that full capacity protocols have been active, for each March for each year 2019-2024 to date, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21553/25]

\*225. To ask the Minister for Health the bed occupancy rates of each public and public voluntary hospital, by hospital group, for quarter 1 for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, in tabular form; the national average; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21554/25]

\*226. To ask the Minister for Health for each model 3 and model 4 hospital, the number of days that full capacity protocols have been active, for quarter 1 for each year 2019-2024 to date, inclusive, in tabular form.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21555/25]

\*227. To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against patients at HSE facilities for each March for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21556/25]

\*228. To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against staff at HSE facilities for each March for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21557/25]

\*229. To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against patients at HSE facilities for quarter 1 for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21558/25]

\*230. To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against staff at HSE facilities for quarter 1 for each year 2019-2024, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21559/25]

\*231. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on CAMHS waiting lists by CHO and length of wait at the end of March each year 2019, 2024, and 2025, in a direct comparison, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21560/25]

\*232. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on waiting lists for Jigsaw by CHO and length of wait at the end of March each year 2019, 2024, and 2025, in a direct comparison, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21561/25]



\*233. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on CAMHS waiting lists by CHO and length of wait at the end of quarter 1 of each year 2019, 2024, and 2025, in a direct comparison, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21563/25]

\*234. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on waiting lists for Jigsaw by CHO and length of wait at the end of quarter 1 of each year 2019, 2024, and 2025, in a direct comparison, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21564/25]

\*235. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on diagnostic waiting lists at the end of quarter 1 for each year 2022-2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21562/25]

\*236. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists on the dental treatment services scheme at the end of quarter 1 for each year 2019-2024, by LHO, in tabular form; the number of dentists who submitted claims and the total number of claims in quarter 1 of each year and each full year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [21572/25]

\*237. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults and children on HSE dental and orthodontic waiting lists at the end of quarter 1 for each year 2019-2024, broken down by standard waiting times, by area, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21573/25]

\*238. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults and children, and separately the number of special care patients, adult and children, who are on dental surgery waiting lists at the end of March 2019, 2023, 2024, and 2025, in tabular form; the breakdown by waiting timeband and by county; the number on waiting lists for dental surgery under general anaesthesia; and the median waiting time for each. — David Cullinane. [21577/25]

\*239. To ask the Minister for Health the spend by the HSE on agency staffing and on private recruitment firms for quarter 1 of each year, 2019-2025, both nationally/statewide and broken down for each HSE location, by direct comparison, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21578/25]

\*240. To ask the Minister for Health the spend by the HSE, both nationally/statewide and broken down for each HSE location, on agency staffing and on private recruitment firms paid to each individual firm and the time period for payments to each firm, for quarter 1 of each year, 2019-2025, by direct comparison, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [21579/25]

\*241. To ask the Minister for Health the spend by the HSE on management consultants and external professional services, by type, for quarter 1 of each year, 2019-2025, in direct comparison, in tabular form; the amount paid to each individual firm; and the time period for payments to each firm. — David Cullinane. [21580/25]

\*242. To ask the Minister for Health the spend by the each of the section 38 voluntary hospitals on agency staffing and on private recruitment firms for quarter 1 of each year, 2019-2025, by direct comparison, in tabular form (details supplied). — David Cullinane. [21581/25]

\*243. To ask the Minister for Health the spend by the each of the section 38 voluntary hospitals on agency staffing and on private recruitment firms paid to each individual firm and the time period for payments to each firm, for quarter 1 of each year, 2019-2025, by direct comparison, in tabular form (details supplied). — David Cullinane. [21582/25]

\*244. To ask the Minister for Health the spend by each of the section 38 voluntary hospitals on management consultants and external professional services, by type, for quarter 1 of each year, 2019-2025, by direct comparison in tabular form; the amount paid to each individual firm and the time period for payments to each firm (details supplied). — David Cullinane. [21583/25]

\*245. To ask the Minister for Health the number of beds and occupancy rate in Monaghan hospital, by category and by month, in each of the years 2023 and to date in 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21591/25]

\*246. To ask the Minister for Health the basis upon which the free contraception scheme excludes those aged over 35; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21598/25]

\*247. To ask the Minister for Health the drug rehabilitation services available in County Monaghan; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21599/25]

\*248. To ask the Minister for Health the CAMHS psychology waiting-list numbers and exact wait-times in months and years for young people in each integrated health area of the South West Regional Health Area, in tabular form; the number of years waiting for young people waiting more than twelve months; and the longest wait-time in years and months, as of 1 April 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21631/25]

\*249. To ask the Minister for Health the current CAMHS psychology staffing levels by grade of psychologist and per population size served in each integrated health area of the Dublin and Midlands Regional Health Area, as of 1 April 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21633/25]

\*250. To ask the Minister for Health the CAMHS psychology waiting-list numbers and exact wait-times in months and years for young people in each integrated health area of the West and North West Regional Health Area, in tabular form; the number of years waiting for young people waiting more than twelve months; and the longest wait-time in years and months as of 1 March 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21634/25]

\*251. To ask the Minister for Health the CAMHS psychology waiting-list numbers and exact wait-times in months and years for young people in each integrated health area of the West and North West Regional Health Area, in tabular form; the number of years waiting for young people waiting more than twelve months; and the longest wait-time in years and months as of 1 March 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21635/25]

\*252. To ask the Minister for Health the current CAMHS psychology staffing levels by grade of psychologist and per population size served in each integrated health area of the Dublin and North East Regional Health Area as of 1 March 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21636/25]

\*253. To ask the Minister for Health the total cost to the HSE of management consultancy services for 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 by CHO regional health area, in tabular form. — Liam Quaide. [21638/25]

\*254. To ask the Minister for Health if funding will be made available immediately to acquire a second CT scanner for St. Luke's Hospital in Kilkenny; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [21641/25]

\*255. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1598 of 19 March 2025, if she will provide an update on a timeline for legislation that would add HHC as a Schedule 1 controlled drug to the misuse of drugs legislative framework; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Liam Quaide. [21642/25]

\*256. To ask the Minister for Health the CAMHS psychology waiting list numbers and exact wait times in months and years for young people in each integrated health area of the Mid West Regional Health Area, in tabular form; the number of years waiting for young people waiting more than twelve months; and the longest wait-time in years and months, as of 1 April 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21645/25]

\*257. To ask the Minister for Health the CAMHS psychology waiting-list numbers and exact wait-times in months and years for young people in each integrated health area of the Dublin and South East Regional Health Area, in tabular form; the number of years waiting for young people waiting more than twelve months; and the longest wait-time in years and months, as of 1 April 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21646/25]

\*258. To ask the Minister for Health the current CAMHS psychology staffing levels by grade of psychologist and per population size served in each integrated health area of the Mid West Regional Health Area, as of 1 April 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21647/25]

\*259. To ask the Minister for Health the current CAMHS psychology staffing levels by grade of psychologist and per population size served in each integrated health area of the Dublin and South East Regional Health Area, as of 1 April 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21648/25]

\*260. To ask the Minister for Health the current CAMHS psychology staffing levels, by grade of psychologist and per population size served in each integrated health area of the Dublin and Midlands Regional Health Area, as of 1 April 2025. — Liam Quaide. [21655/25]

\*261. To ask the Minister for Health the way in which she plans to address the shortcomings in oversight and monitoring of foster care placements for individuals with disabilities, as highlighted by the prolonged neglect experienced by Grace as outlined in the Farrelly Commission report; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [21660/25]

\*262. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department has conducted a review of the effectiveness and availability of community-based services for adults with eating disorders; and if so, to provide the findings and planned follow-up actions. — Barry Heneghan. [21661/25]

\*263. To ask the Minister for Health the number and location of inpatient beds currently available for adults with eating disorders; the average occupancy rate of each facility over the past 12 months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [21662/25]

\*264. To ask the Minister for Health the level of funding allocated to adult eating disorder services in each of the past five years; the amount of funding drawn down and spent in each year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [21663/25]

\*265. To ask the Minister for Health her plans to expand adult-specific eating disorder treatment centres in regional areas outside of Dublin; the proposed timeline for such developments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [21664/25]

\*266. To ask the Minister for Health her plans to increase medical card income limits; and if she will consider adjusting the thresholds in line with increases in social welfare rates to prevent those with long-term chronic conditions from losing eligibility. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [21665/25]

\*267. To ask the Minister for Health her plans to introduce a nationwide scheme to allow people return unused or out of date medication to pharmacies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Liam Quaide. [21684/25]

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

\*268. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the role of adult educator in Youthreach as outlined in his speech at the recent conference in Wexford (details supplied); if the adult educator grade proposed is to replace the established grade of Youthreach resource person, who have their pre-existing terms and conditions (CL12/03); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [21342/25]

\*269. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware that anyone applying for the SUSI over the age of 23, still residing with their parents is automatically classed as a mature dependent student and means-tested according to the household income; if he is aware that the assumption of family support for adults living in their parental home who are not, themselves, legal dependents for the purpose of the SUSI grant means-test, leads to hardship and creates significant barriers to upskilling through third and higher level education; if he will consider abolishing the SUSI Grant's household means test for adults living in their parental home who are not legal dependents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [21415/25]

\*270. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware that adults over 23 applying for the SUSI grant who are living in the parental home but are not, themselves, legal adult dependents, are classed as mature dependent students and subject to a means-test of the entire household income; if he is aware of the hardship that results from the assumption of family support for adults living in their parental home who are not legal adult dependents; if he is aware of the barriers to upskilling through third- and higher-level education this means-test and category of 'mature dependent student' creates for adults who are not legal adult dependents living in the parental home; if he will abolish the household means-test for adults over 23 who are living in the parental home but are not legal adult dependents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [21438/25]

\*271. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the percentage of the capital budget allocation for his Department that was spent in the first four months of 2025; If he will provide the same figures for the corresponding period in the years of 2024 and 2023, in tabular form. — Alan Kelly. [21462/25]

\*272. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of clinical psychologist courses and places that are currently in the third level educational system; and what plans are in place to increase this number. — Aidan Farrelly. [21499/25]

\*273. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when the second annual Impact 2030 progress report will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21668/25]

\*274. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will meet with higher and further education institutions that are not defined as a designated institution under the Higher Education Authority Act 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [21711/25]

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

\*275. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the projects in County Meath that received funding under the CLAR Programme; and the amount of funding received for the years 2023, 2024 and to-date in 2025, in tabular form. — Darren O'Rourke. [21328/25]

\*276. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the amount of funding allocated to the LIS scheme each year over the past ten years. — Paul Lawless. [21098/25]

\*277. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the amount of funding allocated to each Local Authority each year over the past ten years, in tabular form. — Paul Lawless. [21099/25]

\*278. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development if he will increase funding to the LIS scheme substantially; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Lawless. [21100/25]

\*279. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development the amount of LEADER funding that has been allocated to rural tourism in 2024. — Alan Kelly. [21459/25]

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**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH TOSAÍOCHT DÓIBH, I  
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 1 BEALTAINE, 2025**  
**QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL  
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 1 MAY, 2025**

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

1. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on the cost of business forum, which was announced in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [21680/25]

2. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the interactions he or his Department has had with the owner of a business (details supplied) since taking office; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [21247/25]

3. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to detail jobs supported by Enterprise Ireland between 2020 and 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [21587/25]

4. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps his Department is taking to promote the participation of Irish SMEs in EU Important Projects of Common European

Interest, and whether a new outreach strategy is planned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [21736/25]

5. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his attention has been drawn to cases whereby businesses that qualify for the increased cost of business grant and power up grant were misclassified in the wrong category; if an appeals system has been established to ensure they can draw this funding down; if this appeal system has been communicated to all local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [21733/25]

6. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to provide an update on the process being put in place to fulfil the Programme for Government commitment to “Examine ways to facilitate people who are on work permits to move jobs more easily and legally, while protecting the integrity of the immigration system”; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [21619/25]

7. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his views on the recently launched business energy upgrade scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Grace Boland. [21239/25]

8. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the primary operational difficulties that have arisen due to failures in the IT system at the Companies Registration Office (CRO) related to the strike-off process; how these difficulties have affected the CRO’s management of their obligations to monitor and enforce compliance with statutory filing obligations under the Companies Act 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [21290/25]

9. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the position regarding the establishment of a small business unit in his Department, as set out in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [21738/25]

10. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department is considering the reintroduction of the increased cost of business and power up grant schemes for small business rate payers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel McCarthy. [21610/25]

11. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the implementation plan 2025-2026 of the White Paper on Enterprise has been published; the progress made to support indigenous enterprises since the publication of the white paper; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [20529/25]

12. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps his Department is taking to strengthen the right to collective bargaining in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sinéad Gibney. [21700/25]

13. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on the status of IDA land bank acquisitions in County Offaly, particularly in light of his recent visit to the county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McCormack. [21571/25]

14. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to outline the number of applicants for the power up grant who were disqualified because they did not indicate an eligible



category of business; the number of applicants that appealed the disqualification decision in total; the number that appealed on the basis of mistakenly indicating the incorrect business category; and if he is still reviewing these appeals and when will they be finally addressed. — Séamus McGrath. [20773/25]

15. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the decision to delay the introduction of a living wage will be reconsidered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louis O'Hara. [20784/25]

16. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on his recent engagement with a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Ó Feargháil. [21535/25]

17. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of jobs in IDA supported companies in Meath at the end of March 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aisling Dempsey. [21403/25]

18. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update regarding the implementation of an appeals system for the power up scheme; when it is likely that businesses will be able to lodge appeals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21730/25]

19. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the total expenditure to date in 2025 on resolving IT system failures for the Companies Registration Office, including the operational and staffing costs of carrying out the company strike-off process manually since the issue was identified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21291/25]

20. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the schemes in place to encourage businesses to set up in our towns and villages; and if he has plans to introduce more schemes to ensure the longevity of towns and villages. — Joe Neville. [20751/25]

21. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on the creation of an extreme weather event assistance scheme relevant to the business sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [21630/25]

22. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 6 of 20 February 2025, if the action plan on business and human rights has now been published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [20528/25]

23. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when persons (details supplied) wishing to work for a Cork haulage company will receive their work permits; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [21401/25]

24. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps his Department is taking to review and strengthen the effectiveness of the joint labour committees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sinéad Gibney. [21702/25]

25. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a new western regional enterprise plan will be published soon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Daly. [21734/25]

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26. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has considered setting up a rainy day fund which may be used in the event of a trade war to support struggling businesses. — Peadar Tóibín. [20965/25]

27. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the measures he is taking to minimise the damage of potential US tariffs. — Mattie McGrath. [16672/25]

28. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his view on the provision of statutory sick leave in Ireland compared with other European countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Micheál Carrigy. [21529/25]

29. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the legislative priorities for his Department for 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [21754/25]

30. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will review the criteria for the power up scheme given that some applicants were excluded on minor technicalities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ryan O'Meara. [21569/25]

31. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the input his Department had in the development of the business energy upgrade scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Grace Boland. [21240/25]

32. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how his Department and relevant State agencies continue to partner with a company (details supplied) in areas of research and innovation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Ó Fearghail. [21545/25]

33. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when it is envisaged that a new whole-of-Government action plan on competitiveness and productivity will be finalised in line with the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Neville. [21741/25]

34. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps his Department is taking to strengthen protections for employees from victimisation due to trade union activity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sinéad Gibney. [21701/25]

35. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the lobbying that has taken place from business interests regarding delaying the introduction of a living wage and additional sick leave; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [21248/25]

36. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to outline the current regulation and enforcement regime in place to ensure that major event ticket selling platforms operate in full compliance with Irish consumer protection law, particularly in relation to the transparency of dynamic pricing practices and the justification for service fees charged to consumers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21294/25]

37. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on the expected commencement of the Knights and Conquests Project in Granard, County Longford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Micheál Carrigy. [21530/25]



38. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment for an update on any new all island enterprise initiatives; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [21681/25]

39. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a new mid west regional enterprise plan will be published soon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [21533/25]

40. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the actions he is taking to address commercial vacancy. — Thomas Gould. [21367/25]

41. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what current supports are available to SMEs with the ongoing threat of increased tariffs when trading with the US; what additional supports are also being considered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [21695/25]

42. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment whether his Department has undertaken any assessment of how electricity costs are impacting SMEs across the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [20964/25]

43. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on the roll out of the power up and increased cost of business grant schemes, including the level of uptake by businesses in County Offaly; any plans to expand or adapt these supports to meet local enterprise needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McCormack. [21570/25]

44. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to outline the supports being provided by his Department to aid small and medium-sized businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel McCarthy. [21617/25]

45. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of hospitality businesses that have closed in the past 12 months. — Thomas Gould. [21368/25]

46. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if there is a backlog in compliance checks being carried out by the Companies Registration Office; any assessment that the Department has made of the potential reputational risk this poses to Ireland's standing as a jurisdiction with low corruption, robust corporate oversight, and a secure regulatory environment for doing business internationally; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21293/25]

47. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he has examined with other Government colleagues the possible assistance that Irish SMEs would require given the impact on tariffs and other measures by other countries; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — William Aird. [15188/25]

48. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of jobs in IDA supported companies in Kerry at the end of March 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [21417/25]

49. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment in light of the United Arab Emirates using artificial intelligence to assist in writing legislation, if his Department would

consider a similar move; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Malcolm Byrne. [21541/25]

50. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if supports such as the online retail scheme and the trading online scheme will be subject to review given the increased pressures on small and medium enterprises arising from international uncertainty; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [21203/25]

51. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a new mid-east regional enterprise plan will be published soon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aisling Dempsey. [21402/25]

52. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will outline the steps he is taking to cultivate investment in artificial intelligence, in the context of his Action Plan for Competitiveness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [21722/25]

53. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will outline the measures his Department is taking to position Ireland as a leader in artificial intelligence (AI), as committed to in the Programme for Government; if this includes targeted supports for SMEs with adopting AI tools, and whether a specific funding stream is being considered to support AI deployment and skills training. — Paul McAuliffe. [21737/25]

54. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to report on his Department's work with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications to develop a CCUS taskforce (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [21586/25]

55. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment how he is supporting Irish exporters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [21585/25]

56. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a new north east regional enterprise plan will be published soon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Erin McGreehan. [21719/25]

57. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is aware if any of the contractors or subcontractors engaged in resolving the failures in the Companies Registration Office IT system have previously been involved in other public sector ICT projects in Ireland where significant project delays, failures, or cost overruns occurred; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [21292/25]

58. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an overview of measures he is undertaking to ensure that Irish people with critical skills who are domiciled overseas can be enticed to return home; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [21389/25]

59. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will enact legislation to enforce paying of royalties for musical artists whose compositions are used for training on artificial intelligence systems; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert O'Donoghue. [10142/25]

60. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a new south east regional enterprise plan will be published soon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [21405/25]

61. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if his Department will roll out additional resources to support entrepreneurial incubation and innovation in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O’Connor. [21755/25]

62. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the progress made to date by his Department in respect of streamlining the employment permit application process, whereby a single application process for employment permits and entry visa applications would be established; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21731/25]

63. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to consider including supports for businesses to undertake research and development, to enhance innovation and competitiveness, in his Action Plan on Competitiveness and Productivity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [21685/25]

64. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a new Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan will be published soon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Lahart. [21584/25]

65. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide an update on his Action Plan for Competitiveness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [21721/25]

66. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if, amid growing concerns from retailers around increased criminal activity on their premises as well as rising costs, he will outline the steps being taken by his Department to support these businesses which are the backbone of the economy and communities. — Michael Murphy. [19847/25]

67. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the engagement that has taken place between his Department, relevant Government agencies and companies, regarding the threat of trade tariffs and the economic instability created as a result; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [21629/25]

68. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment what new markets are being explored to negate any impact on trade to the US with the ongoing threat of increased tariffs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [21694/25]

69. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the amount of funding and the number of projects supported since the launch of the Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [21202/25]

70. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the number of jobs in IDA supported companies in Kilkenny at the end of March 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [21404/25]

71. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will report on the IDA’s plans to increase investment and employment in Louth; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Erin McGreehan. [21720/25]

72. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the steps he has taken to fulfil the Programme for Government's commitments to undertake a look-back exercise to identify regulations that are now redundant, to reduce unnecessary red tape and the cost of doing business; whether this will form part of the work of the action plan on productivity and competitiveness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [21607/25]

73. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he will provide targeted supports for workers impacted by job cuts at a company (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [21689/25]

74. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if a new south west regional enterprise plan will be published soon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [21416/25]

75. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment his response to the closure of the cooperative creamery in Monaghan town; his proposals to support job creation in the town; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathy Bennett. [21422/25]

76. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will remove inconsistencies and anomalies in the current jobseekers allowance scheme which discourages people from taking up employment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [21699/25]

77. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of enterprises in receipt of the wage subsidy scheme to support employment of those with disabilities; the number of individuals so supported; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Malcolm Byrne. [21537/25]

78. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the transitional supports being put in place for the 380 people whose one-parent family payment and half-rate carer's allowance are both due to end this year; and whether he accepts that the sudden loss of these payments risks plunging vulnerable families into financial hardship and uncertainty. — Paul Lawless. [21009/25]

79. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of employers currently availing of the wage subsidy scheme (WSS), the number of employees employed in companies for which companies avail of the WSS; the number of companies that avail of Strand 2 of the WSS; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [21677/25]

80. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the means test for carer's allowance will be abolished; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [20503/25]

81. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will consider amending the rules of the domiciliary care allowance so that the payment is extended for the care of children up to 18 years of age; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [21390/25]

82. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will outline the range of back-to-work supports available to jobseekers in County Offaly; the measures being taken to improve uptake and access to schemes such as the back to work enterprise allowance and the part-time job incentive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McCormack. [20774/25]

83. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of people who have applied for the jobseeker's pay-related benefit since its introduction, by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Cooney. [21744/25]

84. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to confirm that his Department will be the lead on the introduction of a permanent annual cost of disability support payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [21596/25]

85. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of schools in Meath that are now eligible to receive hot school meals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aisling Dempsey. [21639/25]

86. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an examination of improvements to key ancillary benefits such as the fuel allowance, household benefits package and living alone allowance to support vulnerable groups has occurred as per the Programme for Government; if not, when this examination is to occur; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21297/25]

87. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress against the national target for reducing the number of children experiencing consistent poverty; whether a new target has been set for the reduction in the numbers of children living in poverty in the period to the end of 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [21676/25]

88. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to provide increased flexibility in the rural social scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [21421/25]

89. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the means test for disability allowance will be abolished; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [20504/25]

90. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will report on the review of nutritional standards in the hot school meals programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Daly. [21728/25]

91. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of people who have qualified for the full amount of the jobseeker's pay-related benefit; the proportion of the total number of recipients this is, by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Cooney. [21745/25]

92. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of people that have been added to the family carer register under the long-term carers contributions scheme; the number awarded the full-rate State pension under the scheme; the number of which have been awarded a reduce rate, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [21715/25]

93. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for details on the review into the hot school meals programme. — Thomas Gould. [21369/25]

94. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on plans to introduce a permanent annual cost of disability support payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Liam Quaide. [21566/25]

95. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will explore the possibility of reducing the minimum hours of the wage subsidy scheme from 15 hours to ten hours (details supplied). — Michael Murphy. [19846/25]

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96. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the financial or in-work incentives currently available to support individuals in County Offaly transitioning from welfare into employment, particularly in low-income or part-time roles; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McCormack. [20775/25]

97. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if carer's benefit could be considered as a scheme to be transformed into a pay-related one; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Callaghan. [21765/25]

98. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of schools in Kerry that are now eligible to receive hot school meals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [21420/25]

99. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the Programme for Government commitment to allow parents aged over 66 receiving the State pension, who are caring for a child with a lifelong disability, retain a full-rate carer's allowance discriminates against other carers, such as those caring for a spouse; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [21714/25]

100. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will consider removing the means test for the fuel allowance for individuals aged 70 and over, this will also make them eligible for free home energy upgrades (warmer homes scheme), from which they are currently excluded, allowing all elderly citizens to live more comfortably in their own homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Ardagh. [21604/25]

101. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons who have appealed the Department's decision to refuse them the humanitarian assistance payment in light of storm Éowyn; the number of these appeals which have been successful; if his attention has been drawn to any cases where there were two applicants with identical applications and circumstances but one was refused assistance while the other was granted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [20966/25]

102. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he plans any changes to the qualifying criteria for the domiciliary care allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [21540/25]

103. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will provide an update on the operation of the funding schemes operated by his Department that offer 'reasonable accommodation' for employers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [21653/25]

104. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to provide increased flexibility to local community employment schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [21380/25]

105. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what engagement his Department had with the Department of Education in relation to additional expenses being incurred by island schools in the delivery of the school meals programme, whereby island schools are required to fund the transport of meals to the island and from the quay to the school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [14534/25]



*106.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his Department has plans to alter, abolish or change the means test on the carer's allowance; and if so, the date upon which these changes will come into effect. — Peadar Tóibín. [20967/25]

*107.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection his view on the recent Central Statistics Office statistics which show an increase in the poverty rates among children in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [21712/25]

*108.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will outline his plans to introduce targeted employment supports to groups facing additional challenges accessing work, such as disabilities, lone parents and minority groups including travellers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Liam Quaide. [21567/25]

*109.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection to outline the specific timeline for the removal of the means test for carer's allowance as committed to in the Programme for Government; if he intends to significantly increase the income disregard in Budget 2026, as an important first step. — Séamus McGrath. [20776/25]

*110.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the review of the rural social scheme, and when the remaining recommendations of the report will be implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [14518/25]

*111.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection to outline if he is considering any revisions to the humanitarian assistance scheme at present, or the possible introduction of additional support measures for flood affected households, given the increasing regularity of severe weather events; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel McCarthy. [21628/25]

*112.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of organisations that have availed of the workplace adaptation and equipment grant when employing a person with a disability, in each of the past five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [21597/25]

*113.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he has plans to increase the levels of hourly payment made under the wage subsidy scheme which helps enterprises employ those with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Malcolm Byrne. [21538/25]

*114.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection his progress to date in the planned modifications or changes to support women who currently fall outside the existing schemes to qualify for a State pension, as committed to in the Programme for Government. — Paul McAuliffe. [21725/25]

*115.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection if recipients of carer's allowance will be notified prior to the new household increase in income thresholds provided for in Budget 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [21692/25]

*116.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will report on the proposed permanent annual cost of disability support payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Erin McGreehan. [21718/25]

117. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of violent incidents and threats reported by social protection staff in 2022, 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [21419/25]

118. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No 160 of 9 April 2025, when the report on benchmarking and indexing working age social protection rates will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [20505/25]

119. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to comment on the number of domiciliary care allowance applications that have been rejected from 2023; to outline the appeal process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [21377/25]

120. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he is aware that ongoing pension reviews of the over 80’s are causing great anxiety and distress; if he will act to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Erin McGreehan. [21717/25]

121. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the current average processing time for a decision by the Social Welfare Appeals Office; the number of appeals currently being considered by the office; the efforts being made to reduce the processing time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel McCarthy. [21627/25]

122. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps he is taking to fulfil the Programme for Governments commitment to examine improvements to key ancillary benefits, such as the fuel allowance, household benefits package and living alone allowance, to support vulnerable groups. — Emer Currie. [21603/25]

123. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of schools in Limerick and the total number of schools in Clare that are now eligible to receive hot school meals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [21539/25]

124. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of schools in Kilkenny, and Carlow, that are now eligible to receive hot school meals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [21379/25]

125. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will review whether current core social welfare rates are meeting people’s basic needs, particularly in areas like Dublin Bay north where the cost of living continues to rise and many families are struggling with rent, energy bills, and food costs; to consider targeted increases for those on the lowest incomes as part of Budget 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [21620/25]

126. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will outline his Department’s supports and schemes for employing people with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [21697/25]

127. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to clarify how the new pay-linked job seekers benefit will be applied to someone who is working in the North of Ireland and is made redundant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [21654/25]

128. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to reform the disability allowance payment to remove the current means test for the payment, in line with Programme for



Government commitments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [21687/25]

129. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the average waiting times for disability allowance appeals and the steps being taken to expedite this process for applicants. — Paul Lawless. [21008/25]

130. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will act to ensure that there will be no unnecessary reviews undertaken of payments to people with acute disabilities or of payments to people aged over 80; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Ó Fearghail. [21696/25]

131. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the means test for the carers allowance will be abolished; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louis O'Hara. [20783/25]

132. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress that has been made in removing the means test for carer's allowance; if a timeline will be outlined for the removal of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [21296/25]

133. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to clarify the simplified processes and specified response times under the new appeals regulations effective from April 2025; how these new regulations will reduce current lengthy processing times for appeals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [21693/25]

134. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will address the significant delays in processing disability allowance, carer's allowance, and domiciliary care allowance applications for residents in Dublin Bay north, with many constituents waiting in excess of 14 weeks for decisions; the actions being taken to recruit additional staff, streamline the assessment process, and ensure timely support for those in urgent need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [21621/25]

135. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to outline his plans to introduce a targeted child benefit payment during the lifetime of this Government; the work his Department has carried out on developing such a payment to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [21716/25]

136. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason the processing of applications in the case of a person (details supplied), and others, for disability allowances is taking so long; and the reason the appeals process is taking so long. — Edward Timmins. [21605/25]

137. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the average processing time of an additional needs payment in Cork city. — Thomas Gould. [21370/25]

138. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the position regarding the review of the nutritional requirements and quality of food provided under the hot school meal programme; if there is a timeline for these standards to be put in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [21729/25]

139. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he is aware that qualified surviving cohabitants bereaved before January 22nd 2024 are not entitled to receive retrospective bereaved partner's pension payments from before that date; if the Minister is aware of the number of

qualified surviving cohabitants in this situation; if he is aware of the hardship endured by qualified surviving cohabitants over the years due to lack of access to a bereaved partner's pension; if he will consider backdating payments to all qualified surviving cohabitants who apply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [21760/25]

140. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he is considering the use of artificial intelligence to improve the processing of claims and payments by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [21723/25]

141. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of schools in county Kildare that are now eligible to receive hot school meals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [21686/25]

142. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his Department has carried out any research or analysis on implementing a child poverty reduction Act, similar to the Act introduced in Scotland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [21713/25]

143. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will give an update on the pension auto-enrolment scheme; when it will be rolled out; the cause for recent delays; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [21762/25]

144. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he is aware of the hardship endured by adults aged 18-24 who are denied access to the full rate of jobseeker's allowance; if he is aware of the impact this has on poverty rates among youth jobseeker's allowance recipients; if he will consider abolishing the reduced rate for people aged 18-24 in light of this impact; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [21764/25]

145. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of people between the ages of eighteen and sixty six in casual or part-time work in receipt of social welfare payment in 2022, 2023, 2024, and to date in 2025, by payment type, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [21433/25]

146. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will outline his plans for the Programme for Government commitment to introduce a new working age payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [21724/25]

147. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the means by which he will ensure that the social protection system is work-friendly; that welfare traps which inhibit people from taking up work are removed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aisling Dempsey. [21640/25]

148. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps that could be taken to increase the uptake of disability, equality and inclusion awareness training to help make the transition to employment for a person with a disability easier; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Grace Boland. [21382/25]

149. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the position regarding the commitment in the Programme for Government to examine how the social protection system can better support people fleeing domestic violence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [21742/25]

*150.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will report on the number of people engaged in work and skills week 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [21698/25]

*151.* To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of island schools receiving the school meals programme; if he is satisfied with the way in which the programme is operating on island schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [17120/25]