

DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 16 Iúil, 2025 Wednesday, 16th July, 2025

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 budget allocation to the Irish Embassies based in Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore and United Arab Emirates in 2024 and 2025, in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39754/25]
- *2. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade whether there remains an Israeli ambassador accredited in Ireland. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40080/25]

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

- *3. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the capital budget allocation to his Department in the years of 2024 and 2025 in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39750/25]
- *4. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to provide a breakdown of the average waiting time for the warmer homes scheme, by county, in each of the years 2020 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39888/25]
- *5. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the number of solid fuel homes retrofitted as part of the Government's retrofitting programme, by county and scheme, in each of the years 2020 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39889/25]
- *6. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the average cost to retrofit a home, by scheme, in each of the years 2020 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39890/25]
- *7. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the number of homes retrofitted as part of the Government's retrofitting programme, by county, in each of the years 2020 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39891/25]
- *8. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the number of homes retrofitted as part of the Government's retrofitting programme to a BER standard of B2 or higher in each of the years 2020 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form; the proportion of which this is over the 2030 target; and the proportion of these that were retrofitted under the warmer homes scheme. Pa Daly. [39892/25]
- *9. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the number of homes retrofitted with a heat pump as of the Government's retrofitting programme to a BER standard of

B2 or higher, by scheme, in each of the years 2020 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form.

— Pa Daly. [39893/25]

- *10. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an updates on the efforts to date to "support group retrofitting projects" as outlined in the Programme for Government; the number of homes to date that have been retrofitted as part of "group retrofitting projects"; the motivation for this policy measure; and the learnings derived to date. Pa Daly. [39894/25]
- *11. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the progress to date on the commitment in the Programme for Government to "Build on the pilot schemes and develop a mechanism to allow private homes in social housing estates to opt into retrofitting projects at an adjusted cost, creating a fair opportunity for all residents"; and to report on said pilot schemes, including when they began, the number of homes that have been retrofitted as part of these pilots, the learnings derived to date; and if a report will be published. Pa Daly. [39895/25]
- *12. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the number of households that have accessed the home energy upgrade loan scheme, by local authority and by county; the average award of each loan to date; the number of homes retrofitted using the home energy upgrade loan scheme; and their pre- and post-BER ratings, in each of the years since first it was introduced. Pa Daly. [39898/25]
- *13. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the commitment in the Programme for Government to "Consider the use of sustainable biofuels to reduce emissions from existing home boilers where deep retrofits are not possible in the short term"; to report on the progress on this; and the conclusions that have been drawn to date. Pa Daly. [39899/25]
- *14. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the commitment in the Programme for Government to "Improve traceability in HVO procurement to ensure the product is from sustainable sources"; the progress made to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39897/25]
- *15. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will outline the Government's position on commercial liquid natural gas facilities in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [39906/25]
- *16. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will develop a policy statement banning the development of any commercial liquid natural gas facilities in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [39907/25]
- *17. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he believes there would be a business case for a State-led liquid natural gas facility in the event that a commercial facility was also operating in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [39908/25]
- *18. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the plans in place to address the long delays in SEAI warmer homes grant processing times in the Wicklow, Wexford constituency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brian Brennan. [39952/25]

- *19. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to deliver actions to achieve a 51% reduction in emissions from 2018 to 2030 and net-zero emissions no later than 2050; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39953/25]
- *20. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the position as of July 2025 on the actions he has taken to continue efforts to raise air quality standards, especially in urban areas, ensuring healthier environments for all, as outlined in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39959/25]
- *21. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the position as of July 2025 on the programme for Programme for Government to increase penalties to deter littering and illegal dumping, ensuring those who harm our environment face significant consequences; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39960/25]
- *22. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to increase take-up of grants to support small businesses in adopting energy 1 efficient technologies, cutting costs, and reducing their environmental footprint; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39961/25]
- *23. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to work with farmers and rural communities to realise the transition opportunities from energy efficiency, renewable electricity and heat, efficient food production and nature-based solutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39962/25]
- *24. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the dates on which his Department received a request from EirGrid for an increase in the rate of a deferred personal pension for the Éirgrid pension increment for retired employees which is payable to former employees who have retained membership of the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Grace Boland. [40122/25]
- *25. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the dates on which EirGrid requested increases in payments under the Eirgrid pension increment for retired employees.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Grace Boland. [40123/25]
- *26. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will confirm the dates that the relevant Minister approved the deferred pensions rate increase the Eirgrid pension increment for retired employees with the consent of the Minister for Finance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Grace Boland. [40124/25]
- *27. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will confirm the dates that the relevant Minister approved the increases in pension payments for the Eirgrid pension increment for retired employees with the consent of the Minister for Finance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Grace Boland. [40125/25]

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

*28. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence to confirm who is responsible for the playing pitches at the Curragh military camp; if there is a plan for their restoration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [39884/25]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

- *29. To ask the Minister for Transport the estimated cost of purchasing 35 additional hydrogen buses for the Bus Éireann PSO fleet. Albert Dolan. [39743/25]
- *30. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of bus users on each individual bus route in Galway city and county in 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39744/25]
- *31. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of learner drivers who had their learner permit renewed by the RSA while their application for a driving test was pending in each of the years 2022 to 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Emer Currie. [39800/25]
- *32. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the development of a successor scheme to the disabled driver and passenger scheme; if there is a timeline for the introduction of this successor scheme; the engagement ha has had with advocacy groups regarding the scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Louis O'Hara. [39833/25]
- *33. To ask the Minister for Transport when additional bus services will be provided in Cavan (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [39885/25]
- *34. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to increase the supply of licensed taxi drivers and vehicles to support the needs of urban, rural, and night-time economies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Cearúil. [39938/25]
- *35. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress made on the review of the area knowledge module of the small public service vehicle (SPSV) driver entry test, including any recommendations arising from the review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Cearúil. [39939/25]
- *36. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure that urgent safety and speed reduction measures on the N4 at Ballinalack and Rathowen, County Westmeath are prioritised for funding by the NTA (details supplied).; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Robert Troy. [39990/25]
- *37. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to increase licensed taxi drivers and vehicle supply in order to support the urban, rural, and nighttime economies by at least 30% by 2027 given the significant shortage of taxis in the market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40022/25]
- *38. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to remove the current legislation that requires newly registered taxi vehicles to be wheelchair accessible vehicles in order to allow part-time drivers to enter the market, taking into account that there is a significant shortage of taxis in the market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40023/25]

- *39. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider increasing the wheelchair accessible vehicles SPSV grant scheme in order to financially support drivers to convert their vehicles into wheelchair accessible taxis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40024/25]
- *40. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider reforming the SPSV driver entry test in relation to specific geography-based knowledge, in view of the advancement in satellite navigation technology; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40025/25]
- *41. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to increase licensed taxi drivers and vehicle supply in order to support the urban, rural, and nighttime economies, in particular taking into account recent NTA figures which show a 4% decline in taxi driver numbers in Cork since 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40026/25]
- *42. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of driving test centres in operation in each county as of 10 July 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40043/25]
- *43. To ask the Minister for Transport the number people waiting on a driving test; the average waiting time, broken down by county and by test centre in each of the years 2020 to 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40044/25]
- *44. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide a breakdown of the average driving test waiting list times; the number of applicants waiting to sit their driving test; the number of driving testers employed; the number of testers on part-time versus full-time contracts, by driving test centre, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40086/25]
- *45. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware that the recent fare changes have resulted in increased costs for passengers living in Skerries and Balbriggan and that this increase in fares is serving to heap further costs on hard pressed commuters in the middle of a cost of living crisis; if he will review this decision and allow Skerries and Balbriggan into the same zone as the rest of Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Louise O'Reilly. [40099/25]
- *46. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the driver test waiting times, by test centre; the breakdown of new applications, by test centre, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [40109/25]
- *47. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of resit applications for the driver tests in the months of May, June and July, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

 Mark Ward. [40110/25]
- *48. To ask the Minister for Transport when a drivers licence for a person (details supplied) will be renewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Healy-Rae. [40111/25]
- *49. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will review correspondence (details supplied); if he will expedite a driving test for the person given particular circumstances outlined; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40135/25]
- *50. To ask the Minister for Transport the consideration given to the inclusion of a light rail system for Galway in the upcoming review of the National Development Plan; when the plan will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [39984/25]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

- *51. To ask the Minister for Finance the position regarding the review of Ireland's financial services tax regime, as encouraged by the Commission on Taxation and Welfare and plans to review the deemed disposal tax; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [39804/25]
- *52. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will give detailed consideration to a document produced by a national organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40056/25]
- *53. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider introducing a time-limited capital gains tax exemption for property owners to encourage the sale or reuse of vacant or underused residential properties, with the relief set to expire a short number of years after its introduction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40195/25]
- *54. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider introducing a 10-year income tax relief on rental income from refurbished vacant properties that are converted into residential use, with the relief available for a limited period following its introduction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40196/25]
- *55. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider replacing the existing vacant homes tax with a vacant property tax, and if he will consider increasing the tax annually by 5% from year two, up to a maximum of 15% over three years, to improve the activation of underused housing stock; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40197/25]
- *56. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will consider introducing a 9% VAT rate on construction products and materials that deliver measurable carbon savings during the operational phase of a building's life cycle, to incentivise sustainable construction practices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40198/25]

Chun an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí, Bonneagair, Athchóiriúcháin Seirbhíse Poiblí agus Digitiúcháin: To the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure; Public Service Reform and Digitalisation.

- *57. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if a company (details supplied) has ever been put on the Office of Government Procurement framework to provide security personnel to public bodies in each of the past five years to date in 2025. Albert Dolan. [39760/25]
- *58. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide an update on proposals to upgrade an Irish Coast Guard station (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Noel McCarthy. [39840/25]
- *59. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation his plans to acquire a station building for a Coast Guard service (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Noel McCarthy. [39842/25]
- *60. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he has considered setting up an Oireachtas members enquiries line (via e-mail)

for the OPW; if not, the reasons he has chosen not to pursue this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [39942/25]

- *61. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he has considered setting up Oireachtas members enquiry lines, via e mail, to check on the status of properties etc owned and operated by the OPW; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39943/25]
- *62. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide a breakdown of the applications received for the infrastructure, climate and nature fund, by Department; to provide the funding that has been awarded so far; if this funding will comprise part of the budget package for 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39944/25]
- *63. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to report on the criteria for application for funding under the infrastructure, climate and nature fund; the metrics by which project applications will be evaluated; the necessary criteria that have been identified; the successful criteria that have been identified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39945/25]
- *64. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to streamline and simplify the delivery of flood relief initiatives to address the threats posed by river and coastal flooding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39955/25]
- *65. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the percentage of carbon tax revenue that was allocated to agriculturally based programs in 2024 and to date in 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [30796/25]
- *66. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will give detailed consideration to a document produced by a national organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40059/25]
- *67. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the level of funding that will be provided under a scheme this year (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40186/25]

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

- *68. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment if he will give detailed consideration to a document produced by a national organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40057/25]
- *69. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the plans to extend the branding of our national tourism product (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40060/25]

- *70. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the actions he has taken to advance the Programme for Government commitment to examine ways to facilitate people who are on work permits to move jobs more easily and legally; whether he has brought this to the strategic migration policy unit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Sinéad Gibney. [40154/25]
- *71. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the number of people on work permits who have changed employment in the past two years, broken down by month, occupation, and whether they are on a general or critical skills permit, in tabular form. Sinéad Gibney. [40168/25]
- *72. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether he is aware of the practice of agencies and employers charging workers recruited from overseas illegitimate recruitment fees in order to secure their employment; whether his Department plans to issue any guidance to permit holders on the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Sinéad Gibney. [40171/25]
- *73. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to develop an extreme weather event assistance scheme for community organisations and businesses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [40777/25]

Chun an Aire Oideachais agus Óige: To the Minister for Education and Youth.

- *74. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if students of the upcoming educational psychology course in Maynooth University will undertake their placements in health and social care settings; and, if not where exactly will they be undertaken; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [39738/25]
- *75. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if the course accreditation for the upcoming educational psychology course in Maynooth University will be amended to reflect concerns over graduates being limited to careers in the NEPS; if such an amendment will be informed by a proper consultation process; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [39739/25]
- *76. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated first and full year cost of increasing primary school capitation grants in increments of €25 up to a maximum of €100. Darren O'Rourke. [39762/25]
- *77. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated first and full year cost of increasing secondary school capitation grants of €25 up to a maximum of €100. Darren O'Rourke. [39763/25]
- *78. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated first and full year cost of providing an additional 200 SNAs in primary and secondary schools respectively up to 2,000. Darren O'Rourke. [39764/25]
- *79. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated first and full year cost of providing an additional 100 special education teachers up to a maximum of 1,000. Darren O'Rourke. [39765/25]

- *80. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated first and full year cost of providing an additional 10,000 school transport places up to a maximum of 100,000 places. Darren O'Rourke. [39766/25]
- *81. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated first and full year cost of reducing the pupil-teacher ratio by one point in secondary schools. Darren O'Rourke. [39767/25]
- *82. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of DEIS primary and secondary schools respectively, that require students to have an iPad for learning instead of traditional textbooks. Darren O'Rourke. [39768/25]
- *83. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of non-Deis primary and secondary schools respectively, that require students to have an iPad for learning instead of traditional textbooks. Darren O'Rourke. [39769/25]
- *84. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost of providing an allowance of €500 toward iPads for students in secondary schools. Darren O'Rourke. [39770/25]
- *85. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost of providing an iPad to mandatory iPad schools. Darren O'Rourke. [39771/25]
- *86. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost of providing one teacher with trauma informed care training. Darren O'Rourke. [39772/25]
- *87. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of teachers working in the State across both primary and secondary schools. Darren O'Rourke. [39773/25]
- *88. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost of reinstating the allowance for teaching in Irish for teachers working in Irish-medium schools. Darren O'Rourke. [39856/25]
- *89. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost to develop a comprehensive plan to be developed and implemented for Irish-medium education and to increase the provision of Irish-medium education from 6% to 20% over a 20-year period. Darren O'Rourke. [39857/25]
- *90. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost of establishing an expert group to develop policy for the Irish language in the early education system from early childhood to third level, based on the Common European Framework of Reference. Darren O'Rourke. [39858/25]
- *91. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the first- and full-year estimated cost of expanding the summer programme by 2% up to 10%. Darren O'Rourke. [39859/25]
- *92. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of educational psychologists working in NEPS to date. Darren O'Rourke. [39860/25]

- *93. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost of providing an additional ten educational psychologists up to a maximum of 50 educational psychologists. Darren O'Rourke. [39861/25]
- *94. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost of increasing the ancillary grant by 5% up to a maximum of 20% for primary and secondary schools respectively. Darren O'Rourke. [39862/25]
- *95. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the first- and full-year of implementing the DEIS Plus programme to all secondary schools. Darren O'Rourke. [39863/25]
- *96. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the first- and full-year cost of increasing funding for Traveller supports by 10% up to a maximum of 50% in primary and secondary school respectively. Darren O'Rourke. [39864/25]
- *97. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the first- and full-year cost of increasing funding for Roma and refugee supports by 10% up to a maximum of 50% in primary and secondary schools respectively. Darren O'Rourke. [39865/25]
- *98. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated first- and full-year cost of increasing an increase of 2% up to a maximum of 20% for early intervention network. Darren O'Rourke. [39866/25]
- *99. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the current status of teacher recruitment for September; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Jen Cummins. [39682/25]
- *100. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the current status of teacher recruitment for September 2025, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Jen Cummins. [39909/25]
- *101. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide details of the expected commencement date for the construction of the new school building for a school (details supplied), given the urgent need for modern facilities to support the students' learning environment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Ardagh. [39917/25]
- *102. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide details of the current status of the new school building project for a school (details supplied), including any progress made and any obstacles encountered; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Ardagh. [39918/25]
- *103. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide details of the expected timeline for the completion of the new school building for a school (details supplied); the measures being taken to ensure the project stays on schedule; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Ardagh. [39919/25]
- *104. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of children who register for a place on the school transport scheme; and how many places would need to be delivered to cope with capacity. Darren O'Rourke. [39929/25]

- *105. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of children which availed of the school transport scheme in 2024 and to date in 2025, in primary and secondary school respectively. Darren O'Rourke. [39930/25]
- *106. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the first- and full-year cost of increasing post primary school grant by 5% up to a maximum of 30%. Darren O'Rourke. [39931/25]
- *107. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost of increasing secondary school capitation grant by €20. Darren O'Rourke. [39932/25]
- *108. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the estimated cost of carrying out a review of the PME. Darren O'Rourke. [39933/25]
- *109. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the first- and full-year cost of expanding the summer programme by 2% up to a maximum of 20%. Darren O'Rourke. [39934/25]
- *110. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the first- and full-year cost of abolishing the private school subsidy over one year, two years, five years and ten years. Darren O'Rourke. [39935/25]
- *111. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth further to her publication of the senior cycle redevelopment implementation support measures, which commits to establishing a dedicated post of responsibility in schools which offer level 1 and level 2 learning programmes, what will the role of the post of responsibility entail; if it will be a new recruitment; if it will involve actual teaching hours with children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Rose Conway-Walsh. [39936/25]
- *112. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the extent of his engagement on the pension claim of school caretakers and secretaries; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Darren O'Rourke. [38946/25]
- *113. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if, following the recent newspaper editorial (details supplied) that claimed "almost all primary schools, for example, had to employ unqualified individuals without teaching qualifications as substitutes in the past year", her Department will recognise early childhood care and education graduates as being a viable workforce for the junior classes of primary schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Joe Cooney. [39995/25]
- *114. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth her views on the need to further incentivise teaching through Irish; if additional grants or scholarships could be considered for any prospective teacher pursuing that career; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Barry Ward. [36978/25]
- *115. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update in relation to recruitment for the education therapy service; the number of the 90 posts announced by her that have been opened; the number have been filled; the number still vacant at present; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Shónagh Ní Raghallaigh. [40017/25]
- *116. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the terms of recruitment of the 90 therapists being recruited under the Education Therapy Service; the pool from which these therapists will

be recruited from; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Shónagh Ní Raghallaigh. [40019/25]

- *117. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an update in relation to the expansion of the school transport scheme service as set out in the Programme for Government; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40027/25]
- *118. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an update on the progress made to date in relation to the carrying out of an independent assessment on the feasibility of removing the exclusion of drivers aged over 70 from the school transport scheme, as set out in the Programme for Government; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40028/25]
- *119. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the first- and full-year cost of increasing funding and capitation funding for Traveller supports by 10% up to a maximum of 50% in primary and secondary school respectively. Darren O'Rourke. [40030/25]
- *120. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the first- and full-year cost of increasing funding and capitation funding for Roma and refugee supports by 10% up to a maximum of 50% in primary and secondary schools respectively. Darren O'Rourke. [40031/25]
- *121. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will give detailed consideration to the issues raised by an association (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

 Brendan Smith. [40045/25]
- *122. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of students on a waiting list for a special school place in County Kerry; the number per each school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40091/25]
- *123. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of children currently on a waiting list with the NCSE for an assessment of needs; the number of children on a waiting list from 2019 to 2025, in tabular form; the average time children spend on a waiting list; the plans to lower the number of children on a waiting list; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40092/25]
- *124. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if funding is available for caretaking and facilities management of a new school (details supplied). Ryan O'Meara. [40093/25]
- *125. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to clarify within every special school if every teacher and SNA, respectively has the appropriate qualification; and if not, the number of teachers and SNAs, respectively do not, out of the total number of teaching and SNA staff and if she will make a statement accordingly. Marie Sherlock. [40095/25]
- *126. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth in the context of the protection of schoolchildren, all school staff, teachers, support staff and caretakers, and their health and safety, if he is aware of serious harms being caused (and escalating) for several years now by high density, breeding gull colonies in many schools around the country; if she has noted the recent very stark warnings in respect of Avian Flu (in which gulls are heavily implicated) issued by the Department of Health, the Health Surveillance Protection Centre, the Health and Safety Executive, the Department of Agriculture, and indeed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) which urge that the

public avoid contact with seabirds and their faecal waste; and if she is aware, can she inform the Deputy as to what advices, instructions and resource provisions have been or will be issued by her Department to all schools impacted by the urban gull issue and the warnings issued by the above mention State bodies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [40106/25]

- *127. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the current status of a request (details supplied) to revoke the S1 form to allow them to revert as a new entrant; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brian Brennan. [40150/25]
- *128. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will ensure that a project (details supplied) will proceed to the next stage without delay in view of the urgent need to have this much needed accommodation provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40180/25]

Chun an Aire Cultúir, Cumarsáide agus Spóirt: To the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport.

- *129. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the progress to date with the roll out of the National Broadband Plan throughout County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40178/25]
- *130. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the progress to date with the roll out of the National Broadband Plan throughout County Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40179/25]
- *131. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if he will review a proposal and request that the Arts Council to engage with a group (details supplied) that wish to host an international competition; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ryan O'Meara. [39989/25]

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

- *132. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to prioritise urban greening of the existing built environment in cities, towns and villages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39958/25]
- *133. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 251 of 3 July 2025, if he has ever requested that the providers or delivery partners of home ownership support schemes supply anonymised, disaggregated application and approval data, specifically covering variables outlined in previous parliamentary questions; if not, if he will write to the relevant providers to seek this data; if his Department does not intend to do so, if he will provide the relevant contact details in order that I may follow up with them directly. Albert Dolan. [39793/25]
- *134. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider loosening the criteria for the vacant property grant, which does not allow the property to be

- occupied during the grant application process as it can cause difficulties for the applicants (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [39810/25]
- *135. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the current status of phase 3 of the Ulster Canal; when works on this phase will commence; the estimated date of completion; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39812/25]
- *136. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether the State, through the Housing Finance Agency or another State body, took out a loan from the European Investment Bank for the purpose of delivering Social Housing PPP Bundle 3; whether that loan has been drawn down; if so, whether interest payments are being made on the loan by the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Rory Hearne. [39844/25]
- *137. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the development of 106 social houses in Blessington will commence, having been halted earlier in June 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Edward Timmins. [39937/25]
- *138. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of social homes retrofitted to date; the average cost to retrofit to a b2 BER rating or higher; the proportion that have been retrofitted to a BER b2 rating or higher; the average pre and post BER of a retrofitted social home in each of the years 2020 to date, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39946/25]
- *139. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of social homes have been fitted with solar PV in each of the years 2020 to date; the average pre and post BER; the average cost; the average KwH installed, from 2020 to date in 2025, by local authority, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39947/25]
- *140. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of social homes, by whether they are occupied, on the market or vacant, by local authority. Pa Daly. [39948/25]
- *141. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of social homes, by local authority in each of the years 2010 to date in 2025. Pa Daly. [39949/25]
- *142. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to create new national parks and increase funding to the NPWS to support its operation and visitor experiences; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39956/25]
- *143. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to support applications for additional UNESCO recognition sites to showcase Ireland's heritage internationally and examine the role of the National Monuments Service in the progression of these applications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39957/25]
- *144. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to the Programme for Government, the progress his Department has made in ensuring the Housing Agency is able to effectively regulate the owners management sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Lahart. [39977/25]

- *145. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a breakdown of the social housing waiting lists for Kerry in each of the years 2020 to 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40083/25]
- *146. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a breakdown of the average duration spent on a social housing waiting list in Kerry in each of the years 2020 to 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40084/25]
- *147. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of people on the housing waiting list; the number of those in receipt of social housing supports, by category; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40085/25]
- *148. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to set out in detail the specific "threats to public health and safety" that underpinned the legal justifications of the derogation for removal of nests and eggs of specified gull species in Balbriggan and its districts each of the years 2017 to 2023 inclusive, including i) such threats as were recognised by successive Departments and Ministers in the annual derogations 2017-2023, ii) such threats as were formally recognised in the Report and Recommendations of his predecessor's Consultative Committee on urban gulls 2019-20, and such threats as were formally recognised (as justification for derogations) in external legal advices acquired by the Department in 2020-2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Louise O'Reilly. [40101/25]
- *149. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in the context of his Department's advice to his Ministerial predecessor which resulted in the revocation of the Balbriggan derogation (2017-2023, originally granted due to "a threat to public health and safety") for removal of nests and eggs of specified gull species, will the Minister inform the deputy as to whether the Department's official advice to revoke the derogation referred in any way to the existing and legally recognised threat to public health and safety (2017-2023), and in recommending revocation of the derogation to his predecessor, whether that advice explained how or why that legally recognised threat suddenly disappeared, and if that advice did not refer to the legally recognised threat to public health and safety (2017-2023) or explain how this threat had suddenly disappeared, thus enabling revocation; if he will i) explain the situation to the Deputy and ii) instruct his Department/NPWS to reinstate the derogation immediately in order to mitigate the legally recognised threat to public health and safety; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Louise O'Reilly. [40102/25]
- *150. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage given that he is no doubt aware that the State's Courts have consistently emphasised that protection of the health and safety of citizens is a paramount duty of the State within our legal framework, if he accepts, and if he will ensure, that protection of citizens' health and safety is, therefore, assuredly paramount across his entire Department's priorities, policies and programmes, thus reflecting application of the principle of 'citizens first' across all Government services and activities; if he does not so accept, or will not so ensure, will he explain his reasons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Louise O'Reilly. [40103/25]
- *151. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage with reference to the book entitled 'Seabirds Count' a census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021), ISBN 9788416728602, (pub. Nov. 2023), and recurring acknowledgements in that book of the 'Lead Partner' role played by his Department/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) in the conduct of the census over six years and its publication, will he provide the Deputy with a year on year breakdown, over the duration of the census, the total costs to his Department, itemising

internal resource costs, all funds disbursed to identified external organisations, and details of the financial management, audit, control and accounting procedures, in tabular form; if he will provide copies of documents managed and operated by his Department/NPWS) to ensure that all such externally disbursed funds were expended totally and solely on the purpose(s) for which they were intended, that any unused disbursements for the census work were returned, and that all such expenditure was fully accounted for in his Department's budget; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [40104/25]

- *152. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage with reference to the published book entitled 'Seabirds Count' a census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021), which deals with 25 species of seabirds, has the Minister noted that 70+ pages out of 484 pages in the book are given over to the escalating proliferation of high density urbanbreeding gull colonies (including in many schools, hospitals etc.) compared to the Seabird 2000 census in which urban gull colonies were hardly mentioned - surely a red flag in itself, if he has also noted the recent stark warnings in respect of Avian Flu (in which gulls are heavily implicated) issued by the Department of Health, the Health Surveillance Protection Centre, the Health and Safety Executive, the Department of Agriculture, and indeed by his own Department/ NPWS, and Local Authorities - in particular warnings that people should avoid any contact with seabirds - and their faecal waste - which can "harbour the H5N1 virus for very long periods"; if he shares the Deputy's concerns in such regards, and if he agree with the Deputy that the 'Balbriggan Derogation' (granted by successive Ministers in the period 2017-2023 to address a recognised legally threat to public health and safety - a threshold materially higher than the EU's legal threshold) needs to be reinstated immediately - given the proven very high density gull breeding colonies in Balbriggan - and extended to all urban areas impacted by urban gull colonies, as was recommended by the Consultative Committee (CC) on urban gulls in its 2020 Report to the Minister, and as affirmed by independent legal advice acquired by his Department via the CC in 2020/2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [40105/25]
- *153. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when additional funding will be allocated to a local authority (details supplied); if he will ensure that this grant aid is allocated without further delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40134/25]
- *154. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the current status of animal welfare monitoring and oversight at Dublin Zoo; the independent inspections that have been conducted by the National Parks & Wildlife Service under the Zoo Directive during 2024 and 2025; what specific welfare issues, if any, were identified and what remedial actions have been mandated; how he is ensuring continuous compliance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Robert O'Donoghue. [40167/25]
- *155. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the level of funding that will be provided for a scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40183/25]
- *156. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline the rationale behind proposals to reduce minimum standards for apartment size, window dimensions, and green space provision in new housing developments; and how he intends to address concerns that such changes may negatively affect residents' well-being and overall quality of life; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40192/25]

- Chun an Aire Coimirce Sóisialaí: To the Minister for Social Protection.
- *157. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to develop an extreme weather event assistance scheme for homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [39954/25]
- *158. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of WTE staff, by grade based in each INTREO office in Galway, in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39742/25]
- *159. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of appeals currently with the scope section of the Department; and the number of these appeals that have run over one year. Peadar Tóibín. [39778/25]
- *160. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of appeals with the scope section of the Department with regard to State and semi-State body pensions; the average time they are ongoing; and the longest ongoing appeal. Peadar Tóibín. [39779/25]
- *161. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of appeals currently with the scope section of the Department with regards to a dispute over the modified rate of insurance governed by either paragraph 81, 82, 83 or 84 of S.I No. 312 of 1996, Social Welfare (Consolidated Contributions and Insurability) Regulations, 1996. Peadar Tóibín. [39780/25]
- *162. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of the jobseeker's allowance claim for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brian Brennan. [39867/25]
- *163. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of applications under humanitarian assistance scheme 1 and humanitarian assistance scheme two which have been refused, in tabular form. Claire Kerrane. [39873/25]
- *164. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total cost of allowing all fostering caring families to receive the back to school allowance without a means test; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Wall. [39879/25]
- *165. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of fostering caring families who will benefit from his recent announcement that foster caring families will be eligible for the back to school allowance through a means test; the total cost of this measure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Wall. [39880/25]
- *166. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons in receipt of the living alone allowance for each of the last four years; the number per county; and the cost to his Department for each of those last four years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Wall. [39881/25]
- *167. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons or couples in receipt of the telephone allowance for each of the last four years; the number per county; and the cost to his Department for each of those last 4 years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Wall. [39882/25]
- *168. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will outline the number of persons that have availed of parents benefit in 2022, 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form;

the number of mothers and the number of fathers who have availed of parent's benefit in each of these years; if he believes further steps can be taken to encourage greater uptake of parent's benefit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O'Shea. [39920/25]

- *169. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons in receipt of jobseeker's allowance for 24 months or longer, by county; if he will confirm when he intends to publish a new employment strategy focused on intensive engagement with those most distant from the labour market as committed in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Paul O'Shea. [39921/25]
- *170. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons that have benefitted since the minimum required hours under the wage subsidy scheme was reduced from 21 hours to 15 hours in April 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Paul O'Shea. [39922/25]
- *171. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when he plans to publish draft proposals for consultation on the new working age payment, which will ensure that inconsistencies within the social welfare system, which disincentivise work, are removed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Paul O'Shea. [39923/25]
- *172. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons over 66 who have qualified for the fuel allowance since the expanded means test for over 66s was introduced, by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Paul O'Shea. [39924/25]
- *173. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons in receipt of a widows pension who are under age 66; if he will provide an estimated cost of allowing persons in receipt of widow's pensions to access illness benefit in the event that they get sick at work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Paul O'Shea. [39925/25]
- *174. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost of extending the period of a social welfare payment following the death of a dependent from 6 to 12 weeks as committed in the Programme for Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Paul O'Shea. [39926/25]
- *175. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the cost of extending illness benefit to the self-employed; if he will outline the estimated increase in PRSI rates which would be required to meet this cost; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Paul O'Shea. [39927/25]
- *176. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will give consideration to a document produced by a national organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40055/25]
- *177. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person who retires from employment at the age of 65 is entitled to receive jobseeker's pay related benefit until they reach the age of 66; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Paul O'Shea. [40152/25]
- *178. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he is aware of the pay claim which regional administrators of the Citizens Information Service are bringing to the Labour Court; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Louis O'Hara. [40247/25]

- Chun an Aire Dlí agus Cirt, Gnóthaí Baile agus Imirce: To the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration.
- *179. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of vetting applications processed by Garda National Vetting Bureau in the years of 2024 and 2025 in tabular form; and the average turnaround time for such applications. Albert Dolan. [39751/25]
- *180. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of marked and unmarked Garda cars and marked vans attached to Galway division as of 8 July 2025; if he will provide same figures as of 31 December 2022, in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39752/25]
- *181. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the weekly actual and target average turnaround times for South African visa applicants, broken down by category of visa, for the past three months, in tabular form. Sinéad Gibney. [39817/25]
- *182. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he is aware of an internal audit investigation into an incident (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [39826/25]
- *183. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to provide an update on the previous commitments to deliver domestic violence refuges in each county, including Monaghan and Cavan; the number of refuge spaces now provided in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39827/25]
- *184. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of prisoners that have been unlawfully at large from prison in each of the past ten years. Peadar Tóibín. [39839/25]
- *185. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the estimated annual costs of removing point 2 on the Garda pay scale so that Gardaí would go from point one to point 3 on the pay scale; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39900/25]
- *186. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the estimated annual cost of removing point 5 on the Garda pay scale so that Gardaí would go from point 4 to point 6 on the pay scale; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39901/25]
- *187. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the most up-to-date figures in terms of the number of members of An Garda Síochána; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Matt Carthy. [39902/25]
- *188. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to the Programme for Government commitment, the progress that has been made in transferring responsibility for property services and estate agents from the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Lahart. [39978/25]
- *189. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the progress made in regulating service charges and sinking funds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Lahart. [39980/25]

- *190. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will provide clarity for a person (details supplied) on the steps they can take to apply for citizenship; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40145/25]
- *191. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will engage with the Minister for Social Protection to consider the introduction of a dedicated 'safe fund', similar to the fleeing fund in the UK, to provide immediate financial assistance to victims of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence who need to leave abusive situations; if this measure can be considered as part of Budget 2026 to ensure that victims have access to emergency cash payments for essential items such as clothing, food, transport or temporary accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Robert O'Donoghue. [40170/25]

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

- *192. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he has received correspondence relating to an unauthorised agricultural operation (details supplied); if he has responded to this correspondence; the steps taken to address the matter; if he will arrange for an inspection of this operation to judge its compliance with regulations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. David Cullinane. [39740/25]
- *193. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in the context of the recent and annually recurring very stark warnings in respect of Avian Flu issued by his Department, the Department of Health, the Health Surveillance Protection Centre, the Health and Safety Executive, and indeed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), and Local Authorities, warnings which urge the general public to avoid contact with seabirds and their faecal waste, and in the context of the explicit and thorough biosecurity measures promulgated by his Department, does he share the Deputy's concerns about the rapid proliferation in recent years of high density urban breeding gull colonies, gulls being a species heavily implicated in the dispersal of the H5N1 virus, (ref 'Seabirds Count' a census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)), ISBN 9788416728602, and if he does share the Deputy's concern, does he agree with the Deputy that e.g. children/people in schools, hospitals and residential areas, especially though not exclusively immune-compromised people, where dense gull breeding colonies exist and now live all year round, are at significantly higher risks of infection compared to swathes of the general population who may have no or very limited exposure to breeding gull colonies and their detritus over the breeding season April through September each year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [40107/25]
- *194. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in the context of his Department's annually recurring stark warnings to the general public with regard to Avian Flu and appropriate safety precautions and avoidance measures vis. a vis. seabirds, sick/dead birds and faecal waste and nest detritus of wild birds, and the necessary and thorough zonal biosecurity protocols promulgated by his Department, can he advise the Deputy whether any specific advice has been published and/or provided to employers with regard to the appropriate protection of workers who may encounter high volume concentrations of wild bird detritus in the course of their work, and who may have roles/duties that bring them into close contact with such detritus e.g. construction workers, janitors, cleaners, school and hospital caretakers et al, and personal protective equipment and decontamination procedures for ensuring that such workers who may have close familial connections e.g. with farming families, food production etc. do not inadvertently undermine or threaten the efficacy of essential biosecurity measures, and

- in preparing his reply to the deputy, will he confer with other Government colleagues if such is necessary towards a comprehensive reply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Louise O'Reilly. [40108/25]
- *195. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the position as of July 2025 on the Programme for Government commitment to develop an extreme weather event assistance scheme for farmers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoghan Kenny. [40704/25]

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

- *196. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of WTE staff grade speech and language therapists based in each children's disability network team within CHO2 in the years of 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39741/25]
- *197. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the capital budget allocation to her Department in 2024 and 2025, in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39761/25]
- *198. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on the proposed move of a crèche to a new building (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Rory Hearne. [39794/25]
- *199. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on any additional childcare facilities planned in the Ballymun and Finglas area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Rory Hearne. [39795/25]
- *200. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the strategy to ensure services, care and accommodation for disabled people does not move in large measure to the private-for-profit sector as has happened with elder care services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [39820/25]
- *201. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the reason a service (details supplied) does not have a single service level agreement with the HSE but rather numerous agreements with individual CHOs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [39821/25]
- *202. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will include additional ringfenced funding to an organisation (details supplied) in Budget 2026; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39877/25]
- *203. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if he will consider extending the DNA testing to family members who are cousins to identify remains at the mother and baby home in Tuam as a result of advancements in the science of DNA testing since the Bill was enacted; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Louis O'Hara. [39878/25]
- *204. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality further to Parliamentary Question No. 883 of 8 July 2025, if she will recognise obsessive compulsive disorder as a disability rather than a mental health condition. Richard Boyd Barrett. [39910/25]

- *205. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the supports available to ensure people with cerebral palsy can adapt their cars to continue living independent lives; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [39916/25]
- *206. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of assessments of need completed by each children's disability network team, in each area, in each of the years 2020 to 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39940/25]
- *207. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the average waiting times for assessments of need completed by each children's disability network team, in each area, in each of the years 2020 to 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39941/25]
- *208. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measure being taken to address the 25% decrease in the number of services who have listed capacity for children under the age of one on their core funding application; to increase the capacity for children under the age of one more generally across the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Emer Currie. [39963/25]
- *209. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of children on waiting lists for an assessment of need, by area, in each of the years 2020 to 2025; the number overdue for completion; the number completed with a service statement., in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39964/25]
- *210. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if the new forward planning unit will be engaging with city and county childcare committees on the planned provision of public childcare infrastructure in light of the Revised National Planning Framework; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Shane Moynihan. [40020/25]
- *211. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality what the plans are for the operation of new public childcare infrastructure in light of the Revised National Planning Framework; if there is a preference for community-based provision or if private providers will be permitted to lease such facilities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Shane Moynihan. [40021/25]
- *212. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the length of the waiting list for adult disability respite in each county in each of the past five years, in tabular form; the measures she is taking to increase respite capacity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40035/25]
- *213. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures she is taking to increase respite capacity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40036/25]
- *214. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps being taken by her Department to increase capacity for childcare services in Kerry; the number of families currently on a waiting list for childcare services in Kerry; the average waiting times on those lists; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40037/25]
- *215. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of people under 18 who are on an autism assessment waiting list, broken down by county; the length of time they have been on this waiting list in each of the years 2020 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40038/25]

- *216. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of residential places for people with a disability currently being provided as of 1 June 2025 or latest date available; and if she will provide a breakdown of same, by CHO area, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40046/25]
- *217. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of new emergency places provided to people with a disability as of 1 July 2025, by local health office area, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40047/25]
- *218. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of people on the speech and language therapy initial treatment waiting list, and within that, the numbers waiting less than 4 months; the number waiting 4-12 months; the number waiting more than 12 months; and for each category, the numbers waiting aged 0-17 years and those aged 18 and above, for each local health area, as of 1 July 2025 or latest date available, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40048/25]
- *219. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of children as of 1 June 2025 or latest date available, that were awaiting a first assessment from the HSE under the Disability Act 2005, for each local health office area, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40050/25]
- *220. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of young adults within an intellectual disability in Kerry that are on the waiting list for day services. Pa Daly. [40082/25]
- *221. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to expedite an appointment for a person (details supplied) who was referred fourteen months ago to a foundation for both occupational therapy and behavioural treatment but has yet to receive one; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Maurice Quinlivan. [40098/25]
- *222. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the support that is in place for parents who, due to lengthy waiting times, paid for a private assessment of needs for their child only to find out much later that there are questions around the bona fides of the private psychologist qualifications; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [40153/25]
- *223. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department will provide an updated list of all childcare providers currently availing of the core funding scheme; if she is aware that only a relatively small proportion of providers are participating, which has led to confusion among many parents seeking clarity on available supports, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40189/25]
- *224. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department will engage directly with smaller or community-based childcare providers as part of the core funding evaluation process, to ensure that the scheme's accessibility challenges for providers of different sizes are fully captured; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40190/25]
- *225. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department has assessed the level of awareness and understanding among parents regarding which childcare providers are participating in the core funding scheme, given the confusion reported by some families about

fee structures and eligibility; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Heneghan. [40191/25]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

- *226. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the number of home help agencies that are registered in Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Lawless. [39928/25]
- *227. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE dental nurses based in each health centre and primary care centre within CHO2 in 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39755/25]
- *228. To ask the Minister for Health the number of critical care ambulances and rapid response vehicles based in Galway in the years of 2024 and to date in 2025 in tabular form; if each of these vehicles are available on a 24-7 basis. Albert Dolan. [39756/25]
- *229. To ask the Minister for Health the number of minor and major treatment bays within the accident and emergency department of Galway University Hospital. Albert Dolan. [39757/25]
- *230. To ask the Minister for Health the locations within CHO2 where HSE Adult Safeguarding Teams are based; and the WTE staff by job title required to fully staff one of those teams in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39758/25]
- *231. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant ophthalmologists based at Galway University Hospital in the years of 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025 in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39759/25]
- *232. To ask the Minister for Health if bereavement suites and a bereavement champion are available 24/7 in each maternity hospital in the State; and if not, will she detail which maternity hospital does not have either in view of the fact mothers who tragically lose their baby just before birth or just after often have to endure the cries of healthy babies in the maternity hospital which can add to their trauma. Peadar Tóibín. [39798/25]
- *233. To ask the Minister for Health the current status of the drug duvyzat-givinostat in Ireland; when a decision could be made to make it available to those with Duchenne muscular dystrophy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Malcolm Byrne. [39799/25]
- *234. To ask the Minister for Health the number of autopsies carried out in Mullingar, Tullamore and Portlaoise in 2024 and to date 2025; the number of histologies carried out and the number of consultants working on same in each of these hospitals; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Fleming. [39801/25]
- *235. To ask the Minister for Health if she will consider extending the long-Covid payment for frontline HSE staff; if this payment will be continued for a person (details supplied). Robert Troy. [39805/25]
- *236. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department has considered the model whereby funding follows the patient (MFTP) for vasectomy services, as with termination of pregnancy services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Marie Sherlock. [39807/25]

- *237. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration has been, or will be, given to extending free family planning to the provision of vasectomy services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Marie Sherlock. [39809/25]
- *238. To ask the Minister for Health if she will carry out a full assessment of the financial impact of heart failure on patients with recommendations on appropriate actions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [39813/25]
- *239. To ask the Minister for Health her plans to alleviate high levels of depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder suffered by heart failure patients by increasing access to psychological support which only a fraction of heart failure patients can currently access; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [39814/25]
- *240. To ask the Minister for Health if she will seek a reduction in waiting lists of up to two years for cardiac rehabilitation programmes, which reduce death from heart disease by at least 20%; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [39815/25]
- *241. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking towards the removal of barriers preventing cardiac and stroke patients from returning to work on a phased basis without losing their social welfare entitlements; if he will encourage equal treatment in terms of benefits for people living with other lifelong conditions and disabilities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [39816/25]
- *242. To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide a detailed update on the status of verification testing for spinal muscular atrophy and severe combined immunodeficiency within the national newborn screening programme; when this verification phase is expected to conclude; the remaining steps that must be completed before this routine screening can begin, with particular reference to staffing, equipment and laboratory readiness; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [39819/25]
- *243. To ask the Minister for Health the plans in place for the roll out of a service (details supplied) in County Cavan; the discussions had in relation to this; the agreements that have been made regarding the prevision of this service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [39834/25]
- *244. To ask the Minister for Health the number of operating GP surgeries per town in Cork south west, by town or by townland, in tabular form. Holly Cairns. [39841/25]
- *245. To ask the Minister for Health if reimbursement for any form of hormone treatment for transgender teenagers is possible under the Cross Border Directive, given that a referral has been received for treatment abroad as the procedure in question is not currently provided nationally; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Noel McCarthy. [39868/25]
- *246. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on a new service (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39874/25]
- *247. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on a new building (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39875/25]

- *248. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on re-establishing 24/7 advanced paramedic cover in Roscommon; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39876/25]
- *249. To ask the Minister for Health the steps she will take to create an overarching framework for cross-Border cancer care that would ensure that citizens on both side of the Border can get timely local cancer care (details supplied). Peadar Tóibín. [39883/25]
- *250. To ask the Minister for Health the current status of services for endometriosis assessment and treatment at Mullingar Regional Hospital; if a specialised multidisciplinary team is in place; if diagnostic imaging and laparoscopy procedures are available; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Sorca Clarke. [39886/25]
- *251. To ask the Minister for Health to provide details on current waiting times for endometriosis related services at Mullingar Regional Hospital; the number of patients awaiting each stage of care; and the way in which these waiting times compare with the national average.

 Sorca Clarke. [39887/25]
- *252. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department will undertake a full assessment of the financial impact of heart failure on patients with recommendations on appropriate actions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [39903/25]
- *253. To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide an overview of actions that are being taken to ensure a reduction in current waiting lists of up to two years for cardiac rehabilitation programmes, which reduce death from heart disease by at least 20%; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [39904/25]
- *254. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that have presented to Crosslanes Drogheda psychiatric unit each month for the past 12 months from Navan Hospital or accident and emergency department; and the number of patients that have presented from Drogheda Hospital or accident and emergency department in each of the past 12 months. Peadar Tóibín. [39912/25]
- *255. To ask the Minister for Health the capacity of Crosslanes Drogheda unit. Peadar Tóibín. [39913/25]
- *256. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people turned away from Crosslanes Drogheda psychiatric unit in each of the past 12 months. Peadar Tóibín. [39914/25]
- *257. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients that have been in Crosslanes Drogheda Psychiatric Unit for more than one month, three months and six months, in the past year, in tabular form. Peadar Tóibín. [39915/25]
- *258. To ask the Minister for Health the details and dates of correspondence received from the HSE or Children's Health Ireland regarding a report (details supplied). Pa Daly. [39965/25]
- *259. To ask the Minister for Health to report on progress on the North Kerry CAMHS Lookback Review; when the report will be published; if a redress scheme will be opened; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39966/25]

- *260. To ask the Minister for Health the details and dates of correspondence received from the HSE or Children's Health Ireland regarding a report (details supplied). Pa Daly. [39967/25]
- *261. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting times for accident and emergency departments, broken down by hospital. Pa Daly. [39968/25]
- *262. To ask the Minister for Health the number of closure notices issued by the Health Information and Quality Authority relating to nursing homes, for each nursing home, for each of the years 2015 to 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39969/25]
- *263. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on CAMHS waiting lists in Kerry, by area and by length of time, in each of the years 2015 to date in 2025, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39970/25]
- *264. To ask the Minister for Health the measures she is taking to improve CAMHS services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39971/25]
- *265. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on CAMHS waiting lists in Kerry, broken down by area and by length of time, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39972/25]
- *266. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a breakdown of the number of persons on CAMHS psychology waiting lists in Kerry; the average waiting times to access these services; to provide a breakdown of the number waiting more than 12 months; and to outline the longest wait times in years and months, in each of the years 2015 to date, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39973/25]
- *267. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting on CAMHS waiting lists in Kerry, broken down by the number of months they have been waiting, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39974/25]
- *268. To ask the Minister for Health if a clinical child psychologist has been appointed for CAMHS in Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [39975/25]
- *269. To ask the Minister for Health the budgetary allocations to CAMHS psychology in CHO4 in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [39976/25]
- *270. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a referral for a person (details supplied) by a child psychologist at the Longford clinic to CAMHS in January 2025 has not been accepted by CAMHS; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Micheál Carrigy. [39981/25]
- *271. To ask the Minister for Health if she is considering abolishing means testing for the carer's allowance (details supplied); and if the case of a person will be examined. Robert Troy. [39991/25]
- *272. To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown of the number of WTEs in the National Ambulance Service (NAS), per grade codes, by HSE region, from 2020 to 2025; and to provide the level of activity year-on-year delivered by the NAS for the same period, by HSE region, in tabular form. Joe Cooney. [39994/25]

- *273. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the unit within her Department that is responsible for alcohol policy outside of the enforcement of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act 2018; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Sinéad Gibney. [40010/25]
- *274. To ask the Minister for Health when the new National Drugs Strategy will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Sinéad Gibney. [40011/25]
- *275. To ask the Minister for Health whether she or Ministers of State have met with groups on alcohol policy since taking office; if she will provide a list of those meetings; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Sinéad Gibney. [40012/25]
- *276. To ask the Minister for Health whether there will be consultation with alcohol groups in advance of the publication of the new National Drugs Strategy, given the stakeholder engagement from the Citizens Assembly on Drugs did not have alcohol within its remit; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Sinéad Gibney. [40013/25]
- *277. To ask the Minister for Health if her attention has been drawn to the proposal that high protein oral nutritional supplements are administered under a managed access programme, the effect this may have on patient wellbeing and recovery; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Muirí. [40014/25]
- *278. To ask the Minister for Health the progress of a project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Muirí. [40015/25]
- *279. To ask the Minister for Health if the Health Service Executive has considered funding for a hospital (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Muirí. [40016/25]
- *280. To ask the Minister for Health if she has issued health advisory guidelines to schools related to nicotine pouches in response to calls from an organisation (details supplied); if not, whether she intends to; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Jennifer Whitmore. [40018/25]
- *281. To ask the Minister for Health when it is envisaged that tubeless diabetic pumps will be made available to children to assist in managing type 1 diabetes, who are currently required to use cumbersome wired diabetic pumps; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [40029/25]
- *282. To ask the Minister for Health in view of recent statements from the Tánaiste on pausing the implementation of alcohol labelling, when alcohol labelling will be introduced; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Sinéad Gibney. [40034/25]
- *283. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people with diabetes on a waiting list in Kerry in each of the years 2020 to 2024 and to date in 2025; the number of those waiting less than six months, between 6 to 12 months and more than 12 months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40039/25]
- *284. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people awaiting for assessment for endometriosis in Kerry, in each of the years 2020 to 2024 and to date in 2025; the number of those waiting less than six months, between 6 to 12 months, and more than 12 months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40040/25]

- *285. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the waiting list for electric powered wheelchairs from the HSE within CHO4; and the average waiting time for same. Pa Daly. [40041/25]
- *286. To ask the Minister for Health in relation to reports that CHI orthopaedic surgeons performed hip surgeries at University Hospital Kerry in recent years, who approved sending CHI orthopaedic doctors to Kerry; if this was part of an official waiting list initiative or NTPF arrangement; if the same oversight and patient selection standards applied there as CHI sites; if the orthopaedic doctors concerned were paid over the accepted rates; if so, the reason; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40042/25]
- *287. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on the speech and language therapy assessment waiting list, and within that, the numbers waiting less than four months; the number waiting 4-12 months; the number waiting more than 12 months; and for each category, the numbers waiting aged 0-17 years and those aged 18 and above, for each local health area, as of 1 July 2025 or latest date available, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40049/25]
- *288. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on the occupational therapy first-time assessment waiting list, and within that, the numbers waiting less than 4 months; the number waiting 4-12 months; the number waiting more than 12 months; and for each category, the numbers waiting aged 0-4 years, 5-17 years, 18-64 years and aged 65 plus, for each local health area, as of 1 June 2025 or latest date available, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40051/25]
- *289. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on the waiting list for Jigsaw in Kerry as off 1 July 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40052/25]
- *290. To ask the Minister for Health the number of companies used by Children's Health Ireland to provide consultant weekend cover and/or waiting list initiatives in Kerry since 2019; to list the names of the companies and the funds provided to the companies, broken down by year and by hospital, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40053/25]
- *291. To ask the Minister for Health the amount of money paid to private hospitals via the national treatment purchase fund from the outsourcing of waiting list elective in-patient and day-case surgeries at Kerry University Hospital, for the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025.

 Pa Daly. [40054/25]
- *292. To ask the Minister for Health if she will give detailed consideration to a document produced by a national organisation (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40058/25]
- *293. To ask the Minister for Health for an update regarding Lyme disease in providing accurate testing and adequate treatment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Danny Healy-Rae. [40061/25]
- *294. To ask the Minister for Health to give detailed consideration to the issues raised in a document produced by a national organisation (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40079/25]

- *295. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for CAMHS by community health organisation, age category, and time waiting, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40087/25]
- *296. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for treatment of an eating disorder by community health organisation, age category, and time waiting, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40088/25]
- *297. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for adults special care needs GA waiting list for routine dental care in each hospital, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40089/25]
- *298. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 402 of 8 May 2025 the proportion of this funding that was spent to address waiting lists in Kerry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40090/25]
- *299. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people using omnipod 5 insulin pumps in each county from 2020-2025 inclusive; the status of the rollout of these products; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Roderic O'Gorman. [40094/25]
- *300. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of ongoing delays in processing blind welfare allowance applications throughout the Midlands and Western regions; if she will review this matter and establish the role of the Department of Social Protection in any such delay; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Louise O'Reilly. [40097/25]
- *301. To ask the Minister for Health if the case of a person (details supplied) will be reviewed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Niamh Smyth. [40121/25]
- *302. To ask the Minister for Health if she will ensure that at least €20 million in new recurrent development funding is provided in 2026 and in each subsequent year for the National Cancer Control Programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40126/25]
- *303. To ask the Minister for Health if she will ensure that adequate investment is made in the National Cancer Strategy to enable target waiting times for cancer tests to be met; the proposals there are to expand screening as planned; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [40127/25]
- *304. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the senior radiographer post at Carndonagh Community Hospital, County Donegal has been delayed by two years; when this post will be filled; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [40128/25]
- *305. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) can expect a decision on a recent discretionary hardship application for the purposes of ozempic injections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40149/25]
- *306. To ask the Minister for Health whether a prolonged release melatonin drug (details supplied) will be made available in Ireland and covered by the medical card. Richard Boyd Barrett. [40169/25]
- *307. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of the findings from the May 2025 ESPAD report which show that 10 percent of 15- and 16-year-olds in Ireland have used moist

- snuff and 7.6% have used nicotine pouches, with higher prevalence among male students and typical initiation at age 15; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40193/25]
- *308. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of the promotional activity by nicotine pouch brands (details supplied) including the distribution of free samples and merchandise at retail tills, concerts, and festivals; if she will outline what steps her Department is taking to regulate the advertising, promotion, and availability of nicotine pouches to young people; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40194/25]
- *309. To ask the Minister for Health the length of the waiting list for GP services in each county in each of the past five years, in tabular form. Pa Daly. [40248/25]

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

- *310. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the budget allocation to each education and training board in 2024 and 2025, in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39748/25]
- *311. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the capital budget allocation to his Department in the years of 2024 and 2025 in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39749/25]
- *312. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will confirm the proportion of funding to ETBs and Solas; if his Department maintains data on the number of redundancies of adult educators who are employees, and the number of non-renewals of contracts of adult educators who are contractors; and, if so, the number of same in 2024 and to date in 2025.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39802/25]
- *313. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on reports of funding issues for adult educators and the need to provide security for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ivana Bacik. [39803/25]
- *314. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the discretion SOLAS has to spend funding from his Department as they wish; the nature of the oversight provided by his Department; and if SOLAS will be brought in front of the public accounts committee to explain their inability to fund Adult Education. Paul Murphy. [39828/25]
- *315. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware of the ETB's letting go of adult education tutors who are about enter their 3rd year of teaching, and then advertising their jobs online; and the steps being taken to address this issue.

 Paul Murphy. [39829/25]
- *316. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if a person holding a level 8 undergraduate degree is eligible to apply for a student grant for a second undergraduate course; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Lahart. [39836/25]

- *317. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures that will be implemented to address the issues of concern to adult education teachers with regards to the new adult educator contract; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [39869/25]
- *318. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of current purpose-built student accommodation beds in each university; the number of beds planned to be built; and their stage of construction, in tabular form. Jen Cummins. [39911/25]

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

- *319. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the number of vacancies currently at each grade from administrative officer level and above within the Department, in tabular form. Albert Dolan. [39753/25]
- *320. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail, agus Gaeltachta cén dul chun cinn atá déanta chun an "Plean Digiteach don Ghaeilge", a d'fhoilsigh an Rialtas i mí na Nollag 2022, a chur i bhfeidhm; cé na hacmhainní chuige sin a cuireadh ar fáil gach bliain ó 2022 ar aghaidh; an bhfuil sé i gceist na hacmhainní sin a mhéadú go mór sna blianta beaga amach romhainn, agus an tábhacht a bhaineann leis an ábhar sin á chur san áireamh; agus an ndéanfaidh sé ráiteas ina thaobh. John Connolly. [39823/25]
- *321. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht when a service (details supplied) will reopen; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [39872/25]

CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH TOSAÍOCHT DÓIBH, I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 17 IÚIL, 2025 QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 17 JULY, 2025

Chun an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí, Bonneagair, Athchóiriúcháin Seirbhíse Poiblí agus Digitiúcháin: To the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure; Public Service Reform and Digitalisation.

- 1. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide an update on the permanent solution for flooding in Lough Funshinagh in County Roscommon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [38435/25]
- 2. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation when work will be undertaken to renew the exterior protective finish of Rathfarnham Castle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Lahart. [39992/25]
- 3. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the status of flood schemes for Rathcormac, Midleton, Castlemartyr & Mogeely,

Killeagh, and any others in Cork East that his Department is considering; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [40173/25]

- 4. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if Dundalk and Drogheda will remain a key priority as key economic growth areas due to their location on the Dublin to Belfast economic corridor Dundalk; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paula Butterly. [39512/25]
- 5. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if his Department will consider a new retrospective scheme for residents of Midleton who wish to purchase higher barriers to protect their premises from any flooding that may occur in the future considering parts of Midleton town were under four feet of water and higher during Storm Babet; if his Department is aware of any delays installing the current IPP scheme in Midleton; and if he will make a statement on the matter. James O'Connor. [40172/25]
- 6. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 363 of 20 May and 79 of 1 July 2025, if he will carry out a feasibility study to assess whether the remains of the Invincibles (details supplied) can be reinterred in Glasnevin Cemetery from their unmarked graves in Kilmainham Gaol, where they were interred in 1883; if his office will engage with family members of the Invincibles on this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [38413/25]
- 7. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the progress being made on plans for additional funding to Uisce Éireann to progress large scale infrastructure projects following the review of the National Development Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ruairí Ó Murchú. [40118/25]
- 8. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if there is long-term financial planning for capital infrastructure projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Edward Timmins. [40182/25]
- 9. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he is reviewing the infrastructure guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Seán Fleming. [39797/25]
- 10. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will provide an overview of OPW drainage, flood protection and coastal erosion defence works that are planned to be undertaken in County Clare in 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [39855/25]
- 11. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will provide an update on his scoping exercise for the overpayment of civil servants and ministers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [39499/25]
- 12. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the safeguards that are now in place to ensure large-scale public infrastructure contracts are completed on time and within budget; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

 Séamus McGrath. [40074/25]

- 13. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will report on the public engagement event he hosted on accelerating infrastructure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Erin McGreehan. [39950/25]
- 14. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will provide funding to tackle costal erosion and flooding in Rossbeigh, Waterville, Kenmare, Tralee, Listowel, Glenbeigh, Dooks, Cromane Lower, Killorglin and Glosha; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Cahill. [39792/25]
- 15. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will ensure that the new National Development Plan sets an enhanced level of ambition for collaborative cross-Border public investment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [39837/25]
- 16. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation when the remaining three payment requests under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility will be formally submitted to the European Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Cearúil. [39987/25]
- 17. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an overview of the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 5 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Ardagh. [39719/25]
- 18. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the current status and occupancy of the OPW-owned Garda station in An Rinn, County Waterford. Conor D. McGuinness. [40161/25]
- 19. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will report on the new Accelerating Infrastructure Taskforce; when it will report; what are the emerging issues that have been identified; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Seán Fleming. [39796/25]
- 20. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an overview of the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 1 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Willie O'Dea. [39824/25]
- 21. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will report on the progress of the new accelerating infrastructure taskforce; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Muirí. [40159/25]
- 22. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the position regarding discussions his Department has had with other Government Departments about reducing or increasing third level college fees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ruairí Ó Murchú. [40117/25]
- 23. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for a report on Ireland's second payment under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Cearúil. [39986/25]

- 24. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation when the allocations for the Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund operated by his Department will be made known; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Roderic O'Gorman. [39171/25]
- 25. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation when he will bring forward a public investment Bill; the rationale for the Bill; the likely objectives of such legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cormac Devlin. [40119/25]
- 26. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation when flood defence works will commence for a location (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40142/25]
- 27. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide a breakdown of capital allocations made to public infrastructure projects located in Dublin Bay north, including investments in schools, transport, and healthcare facilities, in each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40187/25]
- 28. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the progress being made in his Department on reviewing the infrastructure guidelines and creating a public investment Act, requiring sponsoring agencies to meet timelines on development of project appraisals and other evaluations so as to reduce delays in decision making and embed value for money across all capital projects, as per the Programme for Government commitment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Connolly. [40076/25]
- 29. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if a preferred site has been identified by the OPW for Northern Cross Garda station; the expected capacity of the site; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Muirí. [40160/25]
- 30. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on the review of the National Development Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Darren O'Rourke. [38945/25]
- 31. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide an update on flood protection measures currently being undertaken in Rathcormac, Killeagh, Mogeely, Castlemartyr and Midleton in east Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Noel McCarthy. [39572/25]
- 32. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation further to Parliamentary Question No. 100 of 13 February 2025, for an update on the Coirib go Cósta project; the timeline for its delivery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [39985/25]
- 33. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if meeting Ireland's climate targets will be a consideration in the allocation of the final tranche of money raised from AIB share sales, as part of the National Development Plan review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Roderic O'Gorman. [39896/25]

- 34. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide an update on a flood relief scheme for Ballinasloe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [38436/25]
- 35. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation his response to the recent IMF report on the Irish economy, especially in relation to the areas under his remit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Shay Brennan. [39789/25]
- 36. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will provide an update on the proposed new Garda station for Northern Cross in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40130/25]
- 37. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an overview of the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 9 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ryan O'Meara. [39787/25]
- 38. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 4 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [39689/25]
- 39. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the amount that will be allocated under the review of the National Development Plan to public capital investment in housing, public transport and renewable energy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39718/25]
- 40. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the new protocols implemented to ensure that future IT upgrades of State or public bodies will be fully thought out, have robust procurement-tender documentation, including penalty clauses for failure to deliver; have the relevant IT expertise or access to it to ensure assessment; monitoring of any such IT project till full completion of tender; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [38421/25]
- 41. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an overview of the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 8 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [39808/25]
- 42. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation further to Parliamentary Question No. 101 of 29 May 2025, for a further update on a commencement date for the construction of the new south Tipperary Garda Community HQ based in Clonmel; and if the project is still on track for a completion date of the end of 2026. Michael Murphy. [38412/25]
- 43. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on the plans for the proposed new visitor centre development at Trim Castle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aisling Dempsey. [39714/25]

- 44. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the position regarding the National Public Procurement Strategy review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Barry Ward. [39587/25]
- 45. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an overview of the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 6 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Ardagh. [39720/25]
- 46. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to confirm the level of capital spending on Cork and Dublin in the years 2022 to 2024; the major capital spending plans for Cork going forward; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40138/25]
- 47. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the way in which public expenditure to date in 2025 compares to the same period in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Shay Brennan. [39790/25]
- 48. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the measures he is taking to speed up the delivery of local projects on publicly owned land; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40156/25]
- 49. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if sustainable management of water and other environmental resources will be a key priority of the new National Development Plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Ryan O'Meara. [39788/25]
- 50. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation further to Parliamentary Question No. 25 of 9 July 2025, if his Department will liaise directly with Cork County Council to consider re-opening the retrospective element of the Midleton and east Cork individual property protection (IPP) scheme to applicants who are seeking the installation of higher barriers for the protection of their property than what is currently being provided, and who, having received quotations, did not proceed with the original installation of such barriers by a private contractor given their expected availability under the finalised IPP scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Noel McCarthy. [39571/25]
- 51. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation when the National Development Plan 2026-2035 will be published; if it will include a section on childcare infrastructure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Shane Moynihan. [40005/25]
- 52. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an overview of the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 7 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [39806/25]
- 53. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will provide an update on his Department's work to recover pension overpayments from existing and former ministers and senior-grade civil servants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40129/25]

- 54. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will provide an overview of cases before his Department for certain workers to be re-categorised as public service workers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [39854/25]
- 55. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an overview of the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 10 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Erin McGreehan. [39951/25]
- 56. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the recent efforts made to progress the Blackpool flood relief scheme given the continual delays on the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [38580/25]
- 57. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on the south Galway flood relief scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Albert Dolan. [39681/25]
- 58. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide an update on the rollout of the guidelines for responsible use of artificial intelligence in the public service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Malcolm Byrne. [40068/25]
- 59. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will urgently address the long delays signing a lease for a playground to be developed in conjunction with Kerry County Council on OPW lands at Cheathrúin, Dún Chaoin, County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Michael Cahill. [39791/25]
- 60. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 3 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [39688/25]
- 61. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the measures put in place to ensure value for money as a result of the expansion of civil and public service numbers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Malcolm Byrne. [40067/25]
- 62. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the progress to date with the proposed Cavan town drainage scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [39853/25]
- 63. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the up-to-date position on advancing flood defence works in the Upper River Lee area of County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40141/25]
- 64. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the timeline for when the public consultation will be established in relation to the Blackpool flood relief scheme given the proposal for this project has been approved by the OPW

and before it can be progressed it must also receive approval from his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [38715/25]

- 65. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the Roscommon Courthouse refurbishment has been considered for inclusion in the National Development Plan, following positive engagement with the Minister for Justice and the Minister of State at the Office of Public Works, and in view of the Government's stated commitment to advancing works on the site in time to come. Martin Daly. [40063/25]
- 66. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation his plans to broaden the remit of the National Development Finance Agency to provide expert advice for major infrastructure delivery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cormac Devlin. [40120/25]
- 67. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will provide an update on reform of the ethics in public office legislation, given that the review of the statutory framework was completed in December 2022; the reason for the delay in publishing the heads of a Bill; if he expects this Bill to be introduced this year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Cian O'Callaghan. [40131/25]
- 68. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation his views on the merits of producing national and local authority level statistics to outline how an individual's income taxes are spent, broken down by Department, local services, and so on (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. Barry Ward. [38836/25]
- 69. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an overview of the progress made to date under National Strategic Outcome 2 of the National Development Plan 2021-2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Willie O'Dea. [39825/25]
- 70. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on the establishment and the work programme of the new infrastructure taskforce; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Connolly. [40075/25]
- 71. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the stage at which the new infrastructure taskforce is; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Edward Timmins. [40181/25]
- 72. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the actions the Government is taking to improve the delivery of, and value for money in, infrastructure in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Eoin Hayes. [40003/25]
- 73. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for progress reports on the Whitechurch flood alleviation scheme and Poddle flood alleviation scheme; when these will be completed and all obstacles to movements in local parks such as St. Enda's and Tymon removed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. John Lahart. [39993/25]

- 74. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on vacant publicly owned buildings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40155/25]
- 75. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department will bring forward a plan to support children with dyslexia; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [39783/25]
- 76. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of school building projects across Cork county of which her Department is aware, in tabular form; the stage of the process they are currently at; and if she will make a statement on the matter. James O'Connor. [40175/25]
- 77. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of sanctioned classes nationally for children with additional needs, as announced earlier this year; the number hoped to be operational in autumn 2025 in the Dublin north-west constituency; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul McAuliffe. [40000/25]
- 78. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide a list of all capital projects currently underway in Cork city and county, in tabular form; the stages the various projects are at; the amount of capital estimated and spent on each project to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [38583/25]
- 79. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding the percentage of eligible schools that have completed or commenced work to install solar panels under the free scheme for schools; if she will consider providing funding to allow private schools take part in this scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Barry Ward. [38827/25]
- 80. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department will work with the DDLETB to fast track the application for a new building for a school (details supplied) which has faced significant delays; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [39784/25]
- 81. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an updated list of all primary and post-primary schools that have been sanctioned for an ASD class for the 2025-2026 school year.
 Sorca Clarke. [39382/25]
- 82. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide an update on the progress of the €5 million pilot programme of counselling and wellbeing/mental health supports for the academic years 2024-2025; to provide a breakdown of the progress in Cork in particular; if there are plans to expand the programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40008/25]
- 83. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the status of the extension to a school (details supplied); the timeline for the delivery of the extension; when the project is expected to be completed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [39982/25]
- 84. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth further to the roll out and installation of solar panels in schools, if there are plans to work the ESB in relation to prioritising schools for installation or adjusting the payment rate for schools without smart metres to sell electricity

back into the grid (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Edward Timmins. [40201/25]

- 85. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if there are plans to review the transition year programme to include 'practical life skills' as part of the compulsory requirement across all schools: personal legal rights, household management, personal finance, taxation and social welfare, and the driver theory test; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Edward Timmins. [40202/25]
- 86. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she recognises that the introduction of one-to-one digital policies in schools can put an impossible financial burden on some parents; the measures she is taking to support parents and students who are unable to afford digital devices in one-to-one digital schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Darren O'Rourke. [40113/25]
- 87. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to outline the supports that are available for capital development for youth facilities from her Department; the plans she has to expand these; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Malcolm Byrne. [40070/25]
- 88. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the actions she will take to ensure that every child has an appropriate school place with all necessary supports in their local area in September. Paul Murphy. [39845/25]
- 89. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the criteria for schools to qualify for DEIS status; the progress of a DEIS+ model; when this will be delivered; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [40132/25]
- 90. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will ensure that adequate financial provision is made to enable the appointment of SNAs to all schools from September where such needs have been identified, and ensure that all pupils needing such support will not be deprived of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [39776/25]
- 91. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of children currently awaiting a place in a secondary school; her Department's plans to ensure that every child who finished sixth class in 2025 is able to progress to secondary school in September; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [40176/25]
- 92. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if a review can be carried out on the process for assessing teaching allocations, given a number of primary schools in County Louth have been affected by the loss of a teacher while managing class sizes in excess of 30 pupils per class, contrary to the recently published figure of 22 pupils per class being the national average; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paula Butterly. [39428/25]
- 93. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an update on plans to roll out senior cycle redevelopment in light of the rejection of the implementation plan by an organisation (details supplied); the level of engagement and progress with the ASTI and other second level stakeholders since that ballot; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Darren O'Rourke. [40115/25]

- 94. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the progress to date in providing a new school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brendan Smith. [39777/25]
- 95. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if there is any intention within the Department to progress the development of guidelines and additional supports for schools on supporting transitions of children as they move from early years to junior infants, including the extension of AIM supports into primary education; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

 John Connolly. [40077/25]
- 96. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department is aware of financial constraints currently being experienced by independent youth projects in Dublin; if she will put in place a bespoke solution to alleviate any constraints, in partnership with the City of Dublin Youth Services board; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul McAuliffe. [39999/25]
- 97. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will intervene to ensure that a school (details supplied) receive a decision on their emergency works grant application to enable the numerous leaks in the school roof be repaired; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Roderic O'Gorman. [40072/25]
- 98. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is considering a strategic plan to attract qualified teachers, who have left the service to work abroad, back to the education service in Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [39786/25]
- 99. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department has considered increasing the availability of Irish phonics resources to assist students with dyslexia studying Irish; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Muirí. [40158/25]
- 100. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide an update on school building projects in Dublin mid-west (details supplied) and their projected completion dates. Shane Moynihan. [40006/25]
- 101. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of applications made for an additional SNA in counties Galway and Roscommon, where the application has been denied by the NCSE; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [38438/25]
- 102. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth when schools will be added to the DEIS list; and when the next list of additional schools to the DEIS programme will be announced (details supplied). Michael Murphy. [36846/25]
- 103. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth her Department's plans to provide alternative models of learning for children who struggle with the larger conventional classroom model and prefer learning in smaller groups; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Donna McGettigan. [40163/25]
- 104. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will address concerns from parents and schools about suggestions by her Department that parents should no longer apply directly to schools geared towards mild disability, and that the decision on who attends should no longer be made by the board of management based on medical advice and the parents' submissions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pearse Doherty. [39850/25]

- 105. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she has plans to provide for specialised support for students with speech and sound disorders of a known origin, given that these children are currently excluded from enrolling in DLD/SSD special classes, and that no alternative supports are available to them, despite their needs being no less significant than those of children currently eligible to enrol. Shónagh Ní Raghallaigh. [40064/25]
- 106. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide an update of the timeline for the budget allocation and commencement of the new school building for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. William Aird. [40185/25]
- 107. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will intervene to allow a school (details supplied) access to land owned by Fingal County Council immediately adjacent to the school for the duration of building works that will be commencing soon, so school students have access to some play areas while building works are taking place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Roderic O'Gorman. [40071/25]
- 108. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide further clarity on the reason a school (details supplied) was not facilitated to open a new autism classroom; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [39782/25]
- 109. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of speech and language therapists assigned to schools in Dublin for each year from 2020 to 2025, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40200/25]
- 110. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the up-to-date position on her Department's evaluation of pilots run under the revised school transport scheme for 2025-2026; the next stage in the rollout of the revised school transport scheme 2025-2026; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40144/25]
- 111. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide a list of schools in Mayo which are due to open autism classes in September 2025; the names of schools which were due to open autism classes but which are not now proceeding; to provide the reasons scheduled autism classes may not be opening in September; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Rose Conway-Walsh. [39774/25]
- 112. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of children still without an appropriate school place for September; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39848/25]
- 113. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for reconfiguration numbers at the end of the 2025 academic year. Jen Cummins. [39684/25]
- 114. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth when she will announce the next pilot routes on the school transport scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Aisling Dempsey. [39997/25]
- 115. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of the timeline for the budget allocation and commencement of a new two-storey extension comprising four classrooms, specialist rooms, toilets, stores at a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. William Aird. [40184/25]

- 116. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais agus Óige na céimeanna atá glactha aici chun déileáil leis an easpa téascleabhar as Gaeilge atá ar fáil do dhaltaí Ghaelcholáistí an Stáit ionas gur féidir leo, ar comhchéim le daltaí i gcoláistí Béarla, staidéar i nGaeilge a dhéanamh ar na hábhair don Teastas Sóisearach nó don Ardteistiméireacht. Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [38422/25]
- 117. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the reason two secondary schools in Tipperary town have no resources under the DEIS programme (details supplied) given they serve the same families as five DEIS schools in the area. Michael Murphy. [36847/25]
- 118. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth her plans to pause the reconfiguration of MGLD schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Jen Cummins. [39685/25]
- 119. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to outline the plans there are to offer educational solutions at primary and secondary schools for students with mild learning disabilities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Ruairí Ó Murchú. [39353/25]
- 120. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the actions underway in primary schools to ensure that children have adequate digital literacy skills. Erin McGreehan. [40002/25]
- 121. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth her plans to acknowledge and provide restitution for survivors who experienced abuse in Irish schools under the guideline of 'corporal punishment'. Conor D. McGuinness. [40147/25]
- 122. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 330 of 8 May 2025, the position regarding the school transport pilot scheme; if the scheme will be extended beyond the 14 schools from the 2024/2025 school year; if the students in this pilot project from last year will be granted eligible tickets for the 2025/26 school year instead of concessionary tickets; and if she will make a statement on the matter. James O'Connor. [40174/25]
- 123. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the action she is taking to increase the numbers of SNAs and special education teachers available to teach in schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39847/25]
- 124. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the steps she is taking to ensure that children have access to summer provision and adequate supports during the summer months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Lawless. [32483/25]
- 125. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will introduce pension parity for school secretaries and caretakers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Louis O'Hara. [38943/25]
- 126. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Oideachais agus Óige an aontaíonn sí go bhfuil líon na ndaltaí atá ag fáil díolúintí ó staidéar a dhéanamh ar an nGaeilge ag leibhéal na meánscolaíochta as alt go hiomlán agus ag déanamh scigmhagadh den riachtanas gur gá do chuile dhalta an Ghaeilge a bheith mar ábhar acu mar chuid dá meánscolaíocht, agus cén céimeanna atá glactha aici chun an líon sin a ísliú. Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [38424/25]
- 127. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of children that will be affected by the decision not to open autism classes in Mayo which had been scheduled to open

- in September 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Rose Conway-Walsh. [39775/25]
- 128. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the measures she is taking to increase ASD unit capacity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40140/25]
- 129. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 205 of 1 October 2024, if it is still the intention of her Department to make a green area available for use as a playing field by local schools; if so, to provide an update on the progress made within her Department in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Noel McCarthy. [39996/25]
- 130. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will consider introducing a funding stream in her Department in order that all secondary school students would be entitled to have a free Irish college experience at least once during their schooling; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [39852/25]
- 131. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the immediate steps her Department is taking to address the urgent issue of Special Needs Assistant (SNA) resourcing in the Roscommon–Galway constituency, particularly in light of the current pause in the allocation process and the restriction that appeals may only be submitted in July 2025; and if she will consider interim measures or fast-tracking appeals for schools in rural areas, where children with complex medical and educational needs are being supported in mainstream classrooms without current SNA allocations, placing school communities in an unsafe and unsustainable position heading into September. Martin Daly. [40066/25]
- 132. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if the Government will address the shortage of early intervention classes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly. [40139/25]
- 133. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if, before issuing 0039/2025, she has considered the unique and complex situation of the cohort of students that currently benefit from the specialised education provided at MGLD special schools across the country; if her Department is aware of the potential negative impacts of a forced redesignation on these students, as expressed by parents, teachers, principals and the students themselves; if she will consider revising her decision in light of recent testimonies; and if she plans on engaging with stakeholders on the matter. Shónagh Ní Raghallaigh. [40065/25]
- 134. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is aware of children who, according to their autism reports, require one-on-one SNA support, being denied this by the NCSE; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Claire Kerrane. [38437/25]
- 135. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the steps her Department have undertaken to reduce the pupil teacher ratio in an effort to maintain teaching posts while there is a temporary dip in primary school enrolment numbers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Grace Boland. [40137/25]
- 136. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the steps her Department is taking to address the urgent issue of special needs assistant (SNA) resourcing in the Roscommon-Galway constituency, particularly in light of the current pause in the allocation process and the restriction that appeals may only be submitted in July 2025; and if she will consider interim measures or fast

tracking appeals for schools in rural areas, where children with complex medical and educational needs are being supported in mainstream classrooms without current SNA allocations, placing school communities in an unsafe and unsustainable position heading into September. — Martin Daly. [40062/25]

- 137. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the measures she is taking to address the teacher supply crisis in advance of September 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Darren O'Rourke. [40112/25]
- 138. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of children with additional needs who have yet to secure appropriate places in primary and secondary schools in the next academic year; what plans there are to address this issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Ruairí Ó Murchú. [39352/25]
- 139. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the up-to-date position on a design team been appointed to a new school project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. Aindrias Moynihan. [40143/25]
- 140. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of children attending Gaelscoileanna and Gaelcholáistí, including in Gaeltacht areas, in each of the past three years; the indicative number for 2025-2026; her plans to increase the number of children who complete their primary and second level education through Irish; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Darren O'Rourke. [40116/25]
- 141. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the efforts her Department are making to ensure a sufficient supply of primary school teachers are available to fill all outstanding vacancies within the sector; and if she will make a statement on the matter. John Connolly. [40078/25]
- 142. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of children from Dublin Bay north who were on a waiting list for a place in a special school in each of the years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Barry Heneghan. [40199/25]
- 143. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the long-awaited capital works at a school (details supplied). Conor D. McGuinness. [40148/25]
- 144. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will ensure that all children who meet the criteria for a special needs class will get a place in a special needs class in September 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Martin Kenny. [38426/25]
- 145. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the measures she is taking to amend this criterion following the dissemination of circular 0024/2025 (details supplied) to be inclusive of children with a disability and speech sound disorder; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mairéad Farrell. [39679/25]
- 146. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is concerned by reports that large numbers of students in post-primary schools are receiving exemptions for Irish; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Naoise Ó Muirí. [40157/25]
- 147. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if the projected population growth in Donabate outpaces her Department's delivery of new primary and secondary schools for the area;

- if her Department, via the capital plan for the area, will ensure that the delivery of new schools is prioritised to meet the demand; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith. [39785/25]
- 148. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any initiatives that seek to increase the provision of Gaelscoileanna and Gaelcholáistí at a national level; her views on the importance of offering parents this option of school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Barry Ward. [38828/25]
- 149. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the urgent steps being taken to ensure equality for school secretaries and caretakers; the details of her engagement to date with their trade union and with the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation in this regard; if the analysis of the survey undertaken by her Department to understand the current working patterns and the terms of work for school caretakers has completed; the results of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Catherine Connolly. [39983/25]
- 150. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an update in relation to the implementation of the terms of the school transport review to reduce distance criteria and expand eligibility, as set out in the Programme for Government; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Colm Burke. [40009/25]
- 151. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will increase funding for SNAs and SNA allocations for schools to ensure that lack of SNAs is not a barrier to any child accessing an appropriate school place; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Paul Murphy. [39846/25]
- 152. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth her plans to ensure schools that are operating via Windows 10 are supported to upgrade all ICT infrastructure; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Jen Cummins. [39683/25]
- 153. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will confirm that pupils with a diagnosis of dyslexia will be allowed additional time to complete their State exams in 2026; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Grace Boland. [40136/25]
- 154. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the work that has been undertaken since youth work came under her remit. Jen Cummins. [39686/25]
- 155. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the steps her Department is taking to combat the use of AI in assessments; the concerns her Department has; the steps she is taking to reduce its prevalence; if she will engage with stakeholders to insure the integrity of assessment practices can be protected; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Pádraig O'Sullivan. [38582/25]
- 156. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she has engaged with the Minister for Transport and the Road Safety Authority regarding allowing those over 70 years to drive for school transport; if this will now be allowed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Brian Stanley. [39574/25]

- 157. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth her plans to invest in and expand early intervention classes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Darren O'Rourke. [40114/25]
- 158. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide an overview of steps she is taking to ensure that school secretaries and care-takers receive better pay and conditions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Cathal Crowe. [39851/25]
- 159. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if a review of the number of special needs assistants will be carried out for a school (details supplied); to outline the recommended student-SNA ratio; the average SNA allocation per 100 students; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mark Ward. [40133/25]
- 160. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department will reassess the need for a secondary school for Newcastle given the population is growing faster than projected in the 2022-2028 South Dublin County Development Plan; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Shane Moynihan. [40007/25]
- 161. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on a new primary school for Carrick on Shannon; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Martin Kenny. [38425/25]
- 162. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the accommodations currently in place for visually impaired students sitting the Leaving Certificate examinations. Erin McGreehan. [40001/25]
- 163. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she has engaged with an organisation (details supplied) regarding the treatment of abuse survivors and the need for a redress scheme for survivors of abuse; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Louis O'Hara. [38944/25]
- 164. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an update on the development of a school (details supplied); and to outline plans for its future growth. Malcolm Byrne. [40069/25]
- 165. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will urgently review the sanction and subsequent withdrawal of sanction for a new ASD class at a school (details supplied) in Tipperary; the reasons this sanction was removed; if she is satisfied with the manner in which this matter has been dealt with; if she will instruct the NCSE to re-instate the ASD class that she approved and announced in March 2025 to ensure this much-needed class proceeds; and if she will make a statement on the matter. Mattie McGrath. [39235/25]