



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 26 Feabhra, 2026
Thursday, 26th February, 2026

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his attention has been drawn to the rising rates of youth unemployment; the strategies he is developing to address this issue; if his attention has been drawn specifically to the causes of unemployment for the 18-24 year old cohort; the extent to which he has investigated the impact of automation and AI on the youth labour market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15402/26]

2. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on his engagement with disabled persons organisations; the consultation he is undertaking on the cost of disability support payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Hayes. [15656/26]

3. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to equalise the youth jobseeker's rates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15403/26]

4. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on the commitment to "Introduce Pay Related Parents Benefit and explore other payments where a similar model could be applied"; if maternity benefit is also being considered for pay related benefit status; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [14496/26]

5. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his engagement with the CRU, or energy providers, in relation to pay-as-you-go / hardship metres; to detail the full extent of this engagement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15404/26]

6. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his Department has considered introducing additional protections or supports for people living with rare diseases, given the unique financial and social challenges they face; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Roche. [15529/26]

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

7. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his views on the progress of the hot school meals programme funded by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Hayes. [15584/26]

8. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of individuals currently in receipt of jobseeker's allowance and jobseeker's benefit in Cork and Limerick, with particular focus on Intreo areas such as Mallow, Newmarket, Macroom and Kilmallock; the most recent trends in these figures over the past 12 months; the supports and activation measures in place locally (such as training, employment services, community programmes) to promote sustained employment in these areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O'Shea. [14225/26]

9. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to increase the living alone allowance in recognition of the significantly lower income available to qualifying single householders relative to couples. — Séamus McGrath. [15159/26]

10. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to combat poverty among disabled individuals and families; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shónagh Ní Raghallaigh. [15363/26]

11. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his Department's plans to introduce a cost of disability payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel McCarthy. [15527/26]

12. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on his efforts to analyse and improve the food quality of the hot school meal scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [14764/26]

13. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will review the carer's benefit for teachers who are not on full time hours; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Edward Timmins. [15591/26]

14. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on the Programme for Government commitment to introduce pay related parents benefit and explore other payments where a similar model could be applied. — Emer Currie. [15142/26]

15. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the average waiting time in the last five years to award maternity benefit; paternity benefit; parents benefit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [15027/26]

16. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to urgently address the anomaly that exists for senior citizens being disqualified from entitlement to the State pension (non-contributory) due to holding shares (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [15299/26]

17. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress that has been made on the introduction of pay-related carers benefit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Callaghan. [15519/26]

18. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of claims, by county, in 2025 for maternity benefit, paternity benefit and parents benefit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [15029/26]

19. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide the total administration fees that have been paid by participants in the My Future Fund to date, or most recent data available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Hayes. [15581/26]

20. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of meetings and correspondence that he and his Department have had with the Department of Finance following the announcement in January of this year that information of those in receipt of carer's allowance would be shared with Revenue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [15026/26]

21. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of men, and number of women, who applied for parent's benefit in the past three years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Grace Boland. [14193/26]

22. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will provide an update on the planned extension of the fuel allowance scheme to families in receipt of the working family payment; the expected number of beneficiary households; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [15632/26]

23. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if, in light of the recently published consumer price index figures, his plans to alleviate hardship through increases to core welfare payments; the fuel allowance; or any disability-contingent payments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15413/26]

24. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to engage with the Minister for Finance in relation to carer's allowance and carer's benefit being made tax exempt in line with other social welfare payments, including jobseeker's allowance and disability allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [15138/26]

25. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he intends to carry out a comprehensive review of means tests across the social welfare system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [15049/26]

26. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to introduce a permanent annual cost of disability support payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Moynihan. [15574/26]

27. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will conduct a full review of the CE scheme to ensure that placement processes are efficient, responsive, and supportive of participants seeking to return to work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paula Butterly. [14229/26]

28. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of domiciliary care allowance applications refused over the last three years, by county; the number of those refused where an appeal was registered; the outcome of that appeal, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [15025/26]

29. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on plans for a targeted second-tier child benefit payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aisling Dempsey. [14957/26]

30. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to outline the timeline and expected impact of the increases to the carer's allowance income disregards due to take effect later this year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [15631/26]

31. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he has given consideration to updating the communications allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15411/26]

32. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the measures being taken to strengthen income supports and remove barriers to employment for people with disabilities; and the way his Department is responding to the additional cost-of-living and service access challenges facing individuals and families in areas such as north Dublin. — Barry Heneghan. [15482/26]

33. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he has given consideration to removing means testing for people with an end-of-life cancer diagnosis for access to social protection schemes such as household benefits package and fuel allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Ardagh. [14956/26]

34. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons in County Mayo claiming carers allowance; and if that number has increased or decreased over the past five years. — Paul Lawless. [15141/26]

35. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the percentage of domiciliary carer's allowance rejections that were overturned on appeal in Cork in 2025. — Thomas Gould. [14269/26]

36. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when he will introduce a cost of disability payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louis O'Hara. [14631/26]

37. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his Department considers the condition known as long-Covid an occupational injury; and what social protection entitlements sufferers of the condition have; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Hayes. [15583/26]

38. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of men who applied for paternity benefit, and the number of women who applied for maternity benefit, in the past three years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Grace Boland. [14192/26]

39. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of families getting the working family payment who now qualify for fuel allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Moynihan. [15573/26]

40. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether he will expand and promote access to the wage subsidy scheme, including consideration of its availability to Oireachtas members as employers, in order to support the recruitment and retention of people with disabilities in workplaces and public service roles, and keep them close to policy makers. — Barry Heneghan. [15483/26]

41. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of recipients of the working family payment in Dublin that will benefit from the extension of the fuel allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [14953/26]

42. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the position regarding the rollout of the auto-enrolment pension scheme; how any initial teething problems have been managed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [13794/26]

43. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which food provided under the Hot School Meals Programme is sourced from Irish producers; the current procurement criteria for suppliers under the scheme; whether Irish origin or locally sourced produce forms part of the tender assessment process; if he will consider introducing measures to prioritise Irish-produced food, in line with public procurement rules COPY; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Albert Dolan. [14899/26]

44. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he intends to ensure that any disregards, means testing and income thresholds for secondary benefits including back- to-school clothing and footwear allowance, and national childcare scheme, are automatically raised in line with any core social welfare payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [15655/26]

45. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to increase the top-up payment for participants on community employment schemes, TÚS, and rural social schemes in recognition of the important work they do in local communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [15020/26]

46. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he intends to publish the outcome of a review instituted by his Department on means testing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [15654/26]

47. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are plans to update the emergency response payment, recognising that apartments are becoming a significant proportion of Irish dwellings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [15602/26]

48. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to outline the progress in extending illness benefit to the self-employed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [14228/26]

49. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the amount his Department spent on child-related payments in 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aisling Dempsey. [14958/26]

50. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will review changes made to access to community welfare officers in light of the difficulties being experienced in accessing same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [14227/26]

51. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will review the exclusion of self-employed workers from illness benefit, despite their payment of PRSI. — Martin Daly. [15646/26]

52. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will examine the need for set clinic times for the community welfare officer in Tubbercurry, County Sligo, given the difficulties faced by people seeking urgent assistance; if he will consider establishing a community welfare office in Ballymote, County Sligo, to ensure local access to supports for those without transport, financial means, or childcare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [15291/26]

53. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on the work being done to provide a cost of disability payment in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15517/26]

54. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way in which he is enhancing application processes within his Department, and providing additional resources where necessary to ensure that individuals receive decisions on their applications in a timely manner; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [15050/26]

55. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the action being taken by his Department, in liaison with other Government departments, to increase the level of participation in the workforce of those with disabilities, including the WSS, work and access, employability, workability and other relevant schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15518/26]

56. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration will be given to the introduction of a support payment for those who are required to take leave due to a miscarriage or early pregnancy loss; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [15524/26]

57. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way in which he will ensure that every effort is made to support individuals transition from welfare into further education/training and work, by examining the way in which to avoid a cliff-edge when people take up work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [15022/26]

58. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his Department’s current wait times on social welfare appeal decisions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Neville. [15648/26]

59. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will amend the current weekly means limit for the increase for qualified adult allowance for recipients of the State pension and to increase the current means limit of €100 which has been in place since 2007; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [14636/26]

60. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to increase the numbers participating in the rural social scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [14962/26]

61. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons in County Mayo claiming disability allowance. — Paul Lawless. [15140/26]

62. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will review and change the current unfair means test calculation on certain State benefits, including the pension (non-contributory); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Edward Timmins. [15590/26]

63. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the current average processing times for carer’s allowance; the steps his Department is taking to reduce delays and barriers faced by applicants in applying for this payment; the plans in place to deal with increased applications post July 2026 when the latest changes to the carer’s allowance scheme come into place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O’Shea. [14226/26]

64. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason pensions and social welfare payments cannot be paid together or at the same time, with the exception of carer's allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [14763/26]

65. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of people in Dublin that are currently in receipt of disability allowance; if they will benefit from the planned new cost of disability payment; the work he is undertaking with regard to that proposed new payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [14954/26]

66. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to publish a new employment strategy to help those most distant from the labour market into the workforce; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [15021/26]

67. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to review the changes to the qualifying criteria for the State pension (contributory) introduced in 2012; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [14963/26]

68. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to deal with the pensions issues for former An Post and Eir workers. — Conor D. McGuinness. [15634/26]

69. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will provide an update on abolishing the means test for the carer's allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [15568/26]

70. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for a full breakdown of charges that pension providers are charging; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Micheál Carrigy. [10855/26]

71. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will consider a pilot project to develop a model for community-driven provision within the Hot School Meals Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shónagh Ní Raghallaigh. [15362/26]

72. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on the MyFutureFund; the number who have been enrolled to date in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shay Brennan. [14951/26]

73. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he would consider tabulating his annual child poverty target with the material deprivation rate together with the rate at risk of poverty (after housing costs) as opposed to the current formula which incorporates the former with the at risk of poverty rate (before housing costs); if he is aware that the current child poverty target obscures the true scale of child poverty; if he will not consider making this change that he will explain his reasoning fully; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15414/26]

74. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the plans to further reduce the minimum hours worked requirement for the wage subsidy scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel McCarthy. [15526/26]

75. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of carers in Dublin who will benefit from the changes to the means test criteria announced in Budget 2026; his plans for further changes in Budget 2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shay Brennan. [14952/26]

76. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of people in receipt of unemployment benefits who have faced a reduction in their payments due to non-participation in required training, work experience, or attendance at Department of Social Protection meetings in the years 2020 to 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Callaghan. [15520/26]

77. To ask the Minister for Social Protection regarding access to community welfare officers and offices, the average waiting time for appointments; if there is a shortage of office locations; and whether opening times are an issue for those who need to access community welfare services. — Conor D. McGuinness. [15633/26]

78. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the new action his Department is taking to reduce high levels of youth unemployment in the economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [15653/26]

79. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the review of means testing for qualifying allowances in the social protection system will be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [14635/26]

80. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to provide increased flexibility to local community employment, TÚS, and rural social schemes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Sean Fleming. [15019/26]

81. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the entitlements widows and bereaved partners have from his Department; if he has any plans to revisit their entitlements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Hayes. [15585/26]

82. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he has given consideration to a tailored accessible weekly welfare payment for victims and survivors of rape, domestic, sexual and gender-based violence; if he is aware of the barriers and limitations of the disability allowance, jobseekers and illness benefit as alternatives, placing undue burdens, means-tests, contribution requirements and time constraints on victims/survivors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15410/26]

83. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he has engaged with the Minister for Public Expenditure; Infrastructure; Public Service Reform and Digitalisation regarding the fiscal implications of introducing a cost of disability payment; and if provision is being considered within future Estimates. — Michael Murphy. [1616/26]

84. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the timeline for the abolition of the carer's means test. — Thomas Gould. [14268/26]

85. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the way in which his Department will engage with stakeholders in the formation of a cost of disability payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [15603/26]

86. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the position regarding supports for small businesses in relation to the auto-enrolment pension scheme; if he is conscious of the administrative and financial burden put on these businesses by this scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [13793/26]

87. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will urgently introduce an emergency €400 disability payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15629/26]

88. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for clarity on the duties of landlords to tenants as regards payments made under the second HAS designation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O'Reilly. [15412/26]

89. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if consideration has been given to introducing a pay-related maternity benefit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [15525/26]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH TOSAÍOCHT DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

90. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the bus stop enhancement programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [15421/26]

91. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to issues affecting commuters using the new F1 bus route in Dublin South-West; if it is acceptable in his view that workers using the bus to travel to Dublin city centre in the morning have had an additional 20-30 minutes added to their commute; the reason the peak-time high-frequency timetable only applies to the northern part of the route; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Ahern. [16147/26]

92. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding electric vehicles; the measures he is taking to make them more accessible to rural and lower income drivers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [15422/26]

93. To ask the Minister for Transport if he intends to set a road deaths reduction target for Phase 2 of Vision Zero; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [16152/26]

94. To ask the Minister for Transport to consider extending the mandate for reflective road studs, commonly known as cat's eyes, to regional routes, particularly in rural areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Cooney. [15769/26]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

95. To ask the Minister for Transport to report on the issue of cancelled buses in the Dublin Bus and Go Ahead networks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15474/26]

96. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of transport surveys carried out over the public transport networks to ensure that there is adequate capacity on routes and efficiency in delivery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Neville. [15650/26]

97. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are plans to ensure that the NTA and service providers such as Dublin Bus are adhering to punctuality standards of buses across Dublin city as in the Public Service Obligation contracts Annual Performance Report given many low frequency routes on Dublin Bus did not experience punctuality of above 80%. — Paul McAuliffe. [15297/26]

98. To ask the Minister for Transport the date on which the public consultation on the route options/emerging preferred route for the Navan rail project will take place; if he will provide an update on the project development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [14756/26]

99. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the review of the public consultation on the proposed 425A bus route; the status of the assessment of submissions received; the expected timeline for completing the review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Albert Dolan. [14894/26]

100. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on progress of the Arklow to Shillelagh greenway; to outline the next steps in the process, and a timeframe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Brennan. [15349/26]

101. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department is considering encouraging transport providers to extend public transport operating hours later into the night to facilitate the night-time economy in Dublin. — Maeve O'Connell. [14878/26]

102. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the progression of safety and traffic management measures on the N25 between Midleton and Carrigtwohill, County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel McCarthy. [15464/26]

103. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department has examined ways of fast tracking the introduction of contactless payment on public transport from its current projected timeline of 2028; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Neville. [15649/26]

104. To ask the Minister for Transport to report on all meetings he has held with taxi representative groups, other stakeholders in the taxi industry, and meetings with any other groups related to the taxi industry; his views on the proposal of taxi representative groups for an NTA Taxi booking app to ensure protections of both taxi driver livelihoods and passenger interests; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [15292/26]

105. To ask the Minister for Transport to examine a dangerous junction in Farranfore village, County Kerry, at the point where the Currow road and the Firies/Castlemaine road meet with the main Killarney/Tralee road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [15294/26]

106. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will outline any plans, in conjunction with Iarnród Éireann, to provide an earlier weekday rail service from Ballinasloe to Galway city, as the current earliest departure at 7.44 am does not meet the needs of many commuters and contributes to increased road traffic congestion. — Martin Daly. [15554/26]

107. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps his Department is taking to ensure that returning Irish emigrants who have exchanged their Irish driving licence for a foreign one do not face excessive delays in getting their Irish driving licence back. — Paul Lawless. [14881/26]

108. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on actions being taken to improve accessibility on public transport, including further reducing the period of advance notice people must give; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [15615/26]

109. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of electric buses owned by Dublin Bus that are not in current use; the reasons for this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15547/26]

110. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to increase train capacity to alleviate overcrowding for Kildare commuters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shónagh Ní Raghallaigh. [15358/26]

111. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the measures being taken to ease commuter traffic on the M7 from Carlow-Kilkenny to Dublin return; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Callaghan. [15493/26]

112. To ask the Minister for Transport the engagements he has held with CIÉ to re-establish a catering facility on the Galway-Dublin rail service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [15502/26]

113. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the remaining sections of the Athenry relief road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louis O'Hara. [15161/26]

114. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will fund the expansion of Local Link services in Roscommon and Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [14233/26]

115. To ask the Minister for Transport to engage with Iarnród Éireann on the reason on a regular basis, DARTS do not have the maximum number of possible carriages at peak times, resulting in excessive over-crowding and the inability of passengers to board the DART; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [15293/26]

116. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will outline the criteria used by the NTA and operators when determining carriage allocation on commuter rail services, particularly where demand indicators show sustained overcrowding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [15550/26]

117. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the new dedicated statutory body that has been approved for the Metrolink project; the reasons the project could not be located with the NTA or TII; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [15488/26]

118. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the ongoing review of timings at the level crossings in Athenry; the scope and expected completion date of this review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Albert Dolan. [14893/26]

119. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the Horse-Drawn Carriages Bill; when it will be introduced and to give; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [15534/26]

120. To ask the Minister for Transport taking into account the heavy dependence on the non-national road network in counties Cavan and Monaghan, if he will consider as a matter of

urgency the provision of additional financial allocations this year to both local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [15561/26]

121. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding a timeline for a full rollout of contactless card payments for LUAS, Dublin Bus, Irish Rail and other public transport providers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [13796/26]

122. To ask the Minister for Transport the action that will be taken to improve the reliability of the 132 and the 133 Bus Éireann regional/commuter service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Edward Timmins. [15546/26]

123. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider the introduction of a fare cap for Young Adult Card holders travelling within commuter zones, similar to the daily and weekly fare caps currently available within the Dublin City Zone; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aisling Dempsey. [15477/26]

124. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will ensure that funding is made available to introduce an earlier train from Boyle to Sligo, something Irish Rail wish to do to support students and people with hospital appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [14232/26]

125. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps being taken to expand capacity, reliability and accessibility on the DART network; and the way planned investment will address overcrowding, station accessibility and connectivity for communities, including those across north Dublin. — Barry Heneghan. [15479/26]

126. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures he is taking to make our transport infrastructure resilient to extreme weather events. — Pa Daly. [15486/26]

127. To ask the Minister for Transport whether additional funding will be made available to local authorities, in 2026 specifically to repair potholes and other road damage caused by recent flooding and storms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15492/26]

128. To ask the Minister for Transport the efforts his Department is making to improve the country's road network. — Willie O'Dea. [15558/26]

129. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress of the Abnormal Load Working Group, in particular consideration being given by the working group to the current regulations which set the maximum authorised weights and dimensions for mechanically propelled vehicles and trailers on public roads; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Clendennen. [15495/26]

130. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress on the extension of the rail line from Athenry to Claremorris; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Lawless. [14880/26]

131. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on emergency, additional roads funding for Wicklow and Wexford local authorities following the significant damage caused by storm Chandra; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Brennan. [15290/26]

132. To ask the Minister for Transport if he intends to provide an additional allocation to local authorities for the purpose of local road maintenance and improvement, beyond the allocations currently announced, considering the announced funding will be insufficient to carry out the works that have been deemed necessary by many local authorities. — Matt Carthy. [14638/26]

133. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide a full update on Cork BusConnects, and the shorter term plans to improve the reliability of the bus service in Cork city and suburbs. — Séamus McGrath. [15514/26]

134. To ask the Minister for Transport to outline the 2026 grant allocations to local authorities for roads; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louis O'Hara. [15162/26]

135. To ask the Minister for Transport the average waiting time for new bus stop/shelters infrastructure approvals in Cork; if additional capital funding will be made available in 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O'Shea. [14231/26]

136. To ask the Minister for Transport if train services from Heuston Station to County Laois will be expanded so as to have additional late-night services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Stanley. [15530/26]

137. To ask the Minister for Transport the total allocations for local road maintenance and improvement to Monaghan and Cavan county councils for the years 2020-2025 inclusive; and the proposed allocation for 2026. — Matt Carthy. [14637/26]

138. To ask the Minister for Transport if progress has been made regarding further funding for DART+ Southwest in order to facilitate delivery of the project before 2030. — Eoin Ó Broin. [15544/26]

139. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason the 414 Barna-Galway service outlined in the Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan as an 'existing route' never operated; whether plans exist to commence a service of this description; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [15501/26]

140. To ask the Minister for Transport the level of investment planned for the Local Link network in 2026; the estimated cost of establishing a Local Link service to connect towns and villages along the N17 to Sligo town; the specific measures proposed to strengthen rural transport provision in the south Sligo region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [15288/26]

141. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an outline of his most recent engagements with the RSA in relation to the opening of the new driver test centre in Sandyford; if he will advise on any update in relation to same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Moynihan. [15552/26]

142. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will engage with the NTA on measures to address overcrowding and missed journeys on the 115 service, particularly for Kilcock commuters who have limited alternative public transport options; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [15549/26]

143. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the proposed N25 Midleton to Youghal (Castlemartyr and Killeagh Bypasses) project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel McCarthy. [15465/26]

144. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to improve bus route coverage, frequency and reliability in outer urban and suburban areas; and the way his Department is ensuring that route planning and service levels reflect population growth and commuting needs in communities in north Dublin. — Barry Heneghan. [15480/26]

145. To ask the Minister for Transport the action he has taken regarding the changing of the PSO contract for flights between Donegal and Dublin which has resulted in a drastic reduction in the service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15516/26]

146. To ask the Minister for Transport when funding will be provided to commence construction on Dart+ South West; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [15548/26]

147. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the upgrading of the line, facilities and car parking at stations in relation to the DART West project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15473/26]

148. To ask the Minister for Transport the actions that can be taken immediately to increase capacity on rail services in the Clondalkin area, given demand is increasing with development, and further capacity is not currently due to be delivered until 2027. — Eoin Ó Broin. [15543/26]

149. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will give urgent consideration to the request of counties Wicklow and Wexford, for an emergency adverse weather fund for the non-national road network for 2026, taking into account the further deterioration in road surfaces due to the ongoing consistent and heavy rainfall which impacts severely; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fionntán Ó Súilleabháin. [14598/26]

150. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the ongoing engagement he is having with Dublin Bus in relation to capacity issues, delays and ghost buses; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [13795/26]

151. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of the deteriorating road conditions in Galway East, particularly where safety concerns have been raised (details supplied); if funding has been assigned to address these issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Roche. [15532/26]

152. To ask the Minister for Transport when the funding to facilitate road safety measures on the N25 from Glenmore to Waterford will be released; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — George Lawlor. [13984/26]

153. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will urgently increase funding allocations to local authorities for the community involvement scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [9233/26]

154. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the 4 North Project; and if his Government is prepared to fund such a much needed proposal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15202/26]

155. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on when the promised increase in the 132 Bus Éireann regional /commuter service, which was scheduled for April 2025, will happen; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Edward Timmins. [15545/26]

156. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the establishment of a transport security force; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [15613/26]

157. To ask the Minister for Transport given of evidence that zonal fares for Skerries and Balbriggan are disproportionately higher on a per kilometre basis than for nearby stations such as Rush and Lusk, whether he accepts that this creates an unfair burden on commuters in Skerries and Balbriggan; whether his Department or the National Transport Authority has examined the impact of this disparity on travel behaviour, including increased driving to neighbouring stations and pressure on parking and local roads; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Grace Boland. [14235/26]

158. To ask the Minister for Transport for the latest update on the progression of the Dart+ West Project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [15143/26]

159. To ask the Minister for Transport the way in which his Department is planning to ensure that the Luas Green Line and other public transport providers will have the necessary capacity to service new housing developments in Sandyford, Dundrum and the surrounding areas. — Maeve O'Connell. [14879/26]

160. To ask the Minister for Transport which Dublin BusConnects routes will commence in 2026; when these routes will commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [15562/26]

161. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures in place to ensure that passengers receive clear, accurate and up-to-date information in real time across all public transport services, in particular, during service disruptions; how consistency of information is ensured across operators and the National Transport Authority; the standards that apply to customer communications; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Grace Boland. [14234/26]

162. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update regarding the provision of a reliable and frequent bus route from Hollystown, Dublin 15 to Dublin city centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15476/26]

163. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the dangerous overcrowding on the Wexford-Dublin commuter train; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [15540/26]

164. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on his plans to remove the passenger cap at Dublin Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15200/26]

165. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide funding to extend a service to Tyrrelstown-Hollywoodrath (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [15144/26]

166. To ask the Minister for Transport when he plans to roll out contactless payments around the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [15489/26]

167. To ask the Minister for Transport the discussions that have taken place regarding the provision of an early-morning train service between Longford and Sligo that would allow passengers to arrive in Sligo before 9am; whether Irish Rail has undertaken any assessment of passenger demand, timetable feasibility, or operational capacity for such a service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [15289/26]

168. To ask the Minister for Transport to report on the issue of permission to operate for commercial delivery drones; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15475/26]

169. To ask the Minister for Transport when the next tranche of the Safe Routes to School Programme will be announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [15461/26]

170. To ask the Minister for Transport to outline his Department's position on the proposed rail service to Shannon Airport, via a spur from Sixmilebridge. — Joe Cooney. [15350/26]

171. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on any planned upgrades or improvements to the TFI app, particularly in relation to its usability; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Moynihan. [15551/26]

172. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide a year-on-year update on roads improvement and maintenance funding for County Meath for 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026; the measures he is taking to ensure adequate funding to address road deterioration in the wake of the recent harsh weather; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O'Rourke. [14755/26]

173. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of ongoing capacity issues on the No. 424 bus in Connemara; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [15536/26]

174. To ask the Minister for Transport when he and his Departmental representatives will meet with local stakeholders regarding long-promised revision of the Dublin Carriage Act of 1853 to enable proper regulation and enforcement of the horse carriage industry and implement adequate safety measures; whether he is aware of the rampant intimidation by rogue carriage operators against tourists, residents, licenced operators, and business owners; the reason previous efforts to revise the 1853 Act were abandoned during COVID-19 and still have not been taken up again; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Máire Devine. [15455/26]

175. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the safety and upgrades works to the N81 road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [15541/26]

176. To ask the Minister for Transport if additional carriage capacity on trains will be provided along the Adamstown to Heuston Station route at peak hours; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Ward. [15535/26]

177. To ask the Minister for Transport to expedite a solution between Iarnród Éireann, Bus Éireann, the new owners of a centre (details supplied) and Kerry County Council that will allow

bus and train passengers go through the centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [15295/26]

178. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the progress made in rail projects under the CMATS. — Willie O’Dea. [15559/26]

179. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the rollout of Galway BusConnects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [15563/26]

180. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on recent research by the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission that indicates that 57% of consumers believe there are not enough taxis in their area, while outside Dublin, just 28% of people agree that there are enough taxis (and just 21% in Connacht and Ulster); the measures he plans to take to address this problem; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Murphy. [15484/26]

181. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will prioritise the upgrades needed on the N25 given the unacceptable number of deaths on the road over the past few years and the chronic infrastructure underspend on the road and the region it serves. — Conor D. McGuinness. [15557/26]

182. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans for the pilot cycle lane between Moone and Timolin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shónagh Ní Raghallaigh. [15359/26]

183. To ask the Minister for Transport the efforts he is making to support the growth of regional airports; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [15487/26]

184. To ask the Minister for Transport to outline the funding allocation to Louth County Council for the roadworks programme this year; if it is anticipated that additional funding will be available later this year for roadworks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [15491/26]

185. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the start date for the 199 local link bus in Wicklow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [15538/26]

186. To ask the Minister for Transport taking into account the severe damage due to more intensive heavy rainfall in shorter timeframes that is caused to the non-national road network, if he will give urgent consideration to the provision of additional funding this year following the recent financial allocations to the local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [15560/26]

187. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on a single digital application and payment point for road hauliers for use when applying for abnormal load permits, which is currently being considered by the Abnormal Load Working Group; the timeline for its implementation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Clendennen. [15496/26]

188. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will outline any plans to review or increase the local and regional roads funding allocations for both counties Cavan and Monaghan in 2026; if he will consider providing additional or emergency funding to address urgent repair, restoration, and maintenance needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Maxwell. [14948/26]

189. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of ongoing capacity constraints and overcrowding on the NX bus service between Navan and Dublin, despite the current 20 minute frequency and the introduction of additional peak services; whether he has engaged with the NTA and Bus Éireann with regard to these issues; and if he will consider the introduction of additional NX services originating in Navan town and Johnstown to help alleviate overcrowding and meet growing demand. — Aisling Dempsey. [15478/26]

190. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the BusConnects schemes in Galway City; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [15537/26]

191. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of times a plane (details supplied) landed in Ireland; and if the State has a record of passenger manifests from these arrivals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15201/26]

192. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of the work underway to develop the new needs-based, grant-aided vehicle adaptation scheme intended to replace the disabled drivers and disabled passengers scheme; if the eligibility criteria currently linked to the primary medical certificate are being reviewed as part of this process, particularly for individuals with significant disabilities such as loss of sight or hearing who are excluded under the existing mobility-based tests; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Roche. [15533/26]

193. To ask the Minister for Transport if he can allocate additional funding to County Wexford roads this year for Budget 2026, noting there is a €90 million euro deficit in our roads conditions; when budget 2026 is due to be announced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiontán Ó Súilleabháin. [5583/26]

194. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the progress to date in relation to the N/M20 Limerick to Cork motorway project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [15462/26]

195. To ask the Minister for Transport when he will review the IAA's interpretation of regulations regarding fatigue and factoring for ICG SAR aircrew, and urgently review the system of recording SAR crew working hours, to ensure full compliance with European law. — Conor D. McGuinness. [15556/26]

196. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has considered the experience of local residents in relation to lifting the passenger cap at Dublin Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15472/26]

197. To ask the Minister for Transport the plans to improve facilities such as rain shelters, disability access, and toilets in Ballybrophy and Portarlinton train stations County Laois; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Stanley. [15531/26]

198. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the arrival of the battery electric DART to Wicklow Town; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [15539/26]

199. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the Northern Ring Road and his plans to reduce congestion in Cork city. — Thomas Gould. [14271/26]

200. To ask the Minister for Transport whether Bus Éireann in Cork currently have a full cohort of drivers. — Thomas Gould. [14270/26]

201. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on Competition and Consumer Protection Commission findings that consumers are suffering due to a failure to facilitate innovations in the taxi industry; the regulatory barriers he believes should be considered in this regard; if he plans to address this problem; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Murphy. [15485/26]

202. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will commit to designating the R312 in Mayo as a strategic regional road; if he will provide the funding required to upgrade the route; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [15651/26]

203. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to ensure the NTA and service providers such as Dublin Bus are adequately resourced to ensure punctuality of routes across Dublin 9 and 11; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [15296/26]

204. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps being undertaken to introduce an hourly train service between Waterford and Dublin, in line with the Strategic Rail Review; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Callaghan. [15494/26]

205. To ask the Minister for Transport to comment on the CCPC's recommendation for the removal of barriers to companies (details supplied) fully entering the Irish taxi market; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [15287/26]

206. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of planned investment works at Millstreet railway station; the timeline for any upgrades to accessibility, parking capacity and platform facilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O'Shea. [14230/26]

207. To ask the Minister for Transport to report on the measures he is taking to improve real-time service updates on public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [15490/26]

208. To ask the Minister for Transport the reasons counties Cavan and Monaghan have experienced a reduction in local and regional roads funding allocations in 2026 compared to 2025; and if he will acknowledge the significant deterioration of road conditions across both counties following recent prolonged periods of severe and adverse weather. — David Maxwell. [14947/26]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

*209. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade for an update on the Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill; and when it is expected that the Bill will come before the Houses for First Stage. — Tom Brabazon. [15680/26]

*210. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade further to Parliamentary Question No.189 of 19 February 2026, and reply that her Department has “no affiliation with the referenced website” includes confirmation that, since 1 January 2015, her Department has not received or responded to correspondence from any entity operating under the name ‘Diplomat.ie’; her Department has not held meetings, whether in person or virtual, with any representative of such entity; has not provided any funding, grant assistance, sponsorship, procurement payment, or other financial support to such entity or any associated legal person; and has not authorised any individual associated with that entity to act in any diplomatic, consular, trade, advisory, representative, or quasi-diplomatic capacity on behalf of the State. — Ken O’Flynn. [15703/26]

*211. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade whether her Department calculates, or can calculate from grant financial reports held by her Department, the aggregate proportion of Ireland’s total Official Development Assistance in each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 that was retained by implementing partners for programme support costs, overhead, administration, consultancy, or management charges; and if so, to provide the proportion for each year. — Ken O’Flynn. [15704/26]

*212. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if her Department does not currently calculate a blended effective overhead rate across total Official Development Assistance expenditure, the reason this metric is not produced, the accounting or data constraints that prevent it, and the steps she will take to enable publication of such a rate for each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024. — Ken O’Flynn. [15705/26]

*213. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade for each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024, a breakdown of Ireland’s core contributions to multilateral organisations by recipient organisation and amount, and to state for each organisation the standard programme support cost rate, indirect cost recovery rate, or equivalent administrative levy applied to core resources, as published by the organisation or applied contractually, and the estimated euro value associated with that rate for Ireland’s contribution in each year. — Ken O’Flynn. [15706/26]

*214. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade whether her Department holds, for each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024, a schedule of programme support cost rates, indirect cost recovery rates, or equivalent charges applied by multilateral partners to Ireland-funded expenditure, including where Ireland provides earmarked contributions, and if so, to provide that schedule and the total estimated euro value of such charges in each year. — Ken O’Flynn. [15707/26]

*215. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade to provide by grant scheme under Ireland’s Official Development Assistance programme, the benchmarks, ceilings, or reference ranges applied to headquarters administration, programme quality costs, consultancy, or other indirect costs in each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024; and to specify the control mechanism used to verify compliance in each scheme, including financial reporting requirements and verification checks. — Ken O’Flynn. [15708/26]

*216. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade in respect of her statement that generic thresholds are not applied, to set out the criteria used by her Department to decide when benchmarks or ceilings for administrative costs are applied at grant level; and to provide the number of grants approved in each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 which had an explicit administrative or overhead ceiling attached, and the number which did not. — Ken O’Flynn. [15709/26]

*217. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade whether any funded programme in each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 was assessed by her Department, at appraisal stage or during financial review, as having an administrative, overhead, consultancy, or programme support cost ratio outside what her Department considered reasonable for the relevant scheme or context; and if so, to provide the number of such instances in each year and the corrective action taken in each case, including revised budgets, conditions imposed, suspension, or non-payment. — Ken O’Flynn. [15710/26]

*218. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade to provide the number of instances in each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 in which funding provided under Ireland’s Official Development Assistance programme was subject to financial correction, recovery, suspension, withholding, or clawback arising from audit findings, evaluation findings, expenditure verification, or ineligible expenditure determinations, excluding fraud cases already reported separately; and to provide the total monetary value involved in each year. — Ken O’Flynn. [15711/26]

*219. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade whether her Department maintains a central register of recoveries, suspensions, withheld payments, financial corrections, and clawbacks across all Official Development Assistance schemes; if so, when the register was last updated; and whether she will publish an annual summary showing counts and values by scheme for 2022, 2023 and 2024. — Ken O’Flynn. [15712/26]

*220. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade in respect of Official Development Assistance reported as part of Ireland’s national contribution to the European Union development cooperation budget, to set out for each of the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 the proportion of Ireland’s national contribution categorised as ODA-eligible, the Department unit responsible for that calculation, and the documents or data sources used to support the figure reported to the OECD Development Assistance Committee. — Ken O’Flynn. [15713/26]

*221. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade to confirm receipt of a letter from a cross-party group of parliamentarians from Ireland and Britain in relation to the situation in Palestine; the reason no response has been given; and her plans to respond to the proposals set out in the letter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [15742/26]

*222. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the timeline for the relocation of the Cork passport office; the overall cost of this relocation process, including the terms of the lease; the fit-out costs and other related costs such as professional fees; and the amount spent to date on the project. — Séamus McGrath. [15775/26]

*223. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade for an update on an application for a passport (details supplied). — Thomas Gould. [15783/26]

*224. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if an application for a person (details supplied) will be expedited; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [16154/26]

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

*225. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if his Department has engaged with local authorities on the use of CCTV, drones and other technologies to catch those

engaged in illegal dumping; the supports he has put in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Malcolm Byrne. [16082/26]

*226. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the basis on which the renewable heating obligation rates of 1.5% and 3% were determined; and whether these levels will result in additional renewable fuel deployment beyond current market activity. — Erin McGreehan. [15722/26]

*227. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether his Department has assessed the risk that fuel suppliers may opt to use buy-out provisions rather than invest in renewable fuel blending infrastructure under the proposed obligation rates; and the implications this would have for emissions reductions. — Erin McGreehan. [15723/26]

*228. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the estimated emissions reductions expected from the renewable heating obligation in each of the first five years. — Erin McGreehan. [15724/26]

*229. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the projected cost impact of the renewable heating obligation on households reliant on home heating oil, particularly in rural areas. — Erin McGreehan. [15725/26]

*230. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether he plans to publish a trajectory of obligation rates beyond year two to provide certainty to industry and ensure the scheme delivers meaningful emissions reductions. — Erin McGreehan. [15726/26]

*231. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether he will consider revising the proposed obligation rates to ensure the renewable heating obligation delivers genuine decarbonisation while protecting consumers from unnecessary cost increases. — Erin McGreehan. [15727/26]

*232. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment further to Parliamentary Question No. 197 of 19 February 2026, if the information requested can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16135/26]

*233. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to outline the actions his Department is taking to provide for the safe and environmentally responsible disposal of nitrous oxide canisters; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [16144/26]

Chun Aire Cosanta: To the Minister for Defence.

*234. To ask the Minister for Defence the projected strength of the Permanent Defence Forces for each of the years 2026, 2027 and 2028, broken down by Army, Naval Service and Air Corps; and the projected inductions and projected discharges underpinning those projections. — Ken O’Flynn. [15686/26]

*235. To ask the Minister for Defence the methodology used to calculate the “turnover rate of approximately 7.6% in 2025”; the numerator and denominator used; and the turnover rate for each service separately in each of the years 2020 to 2025,. — Ken O’Flynn. [15687/26]

*236. To ask the Minister for Defence whether her Department maintains a unit-cost model for recruitment and training of General Service Recruits; and if so, the most recent estimated cost per recruit by service and by cost heading. — Ken O’Flynn. [15688/26]

*237. To ask the Minister for Defence the estimated fiscal impact on the Defence Vote of recruits discharged by purchase within 90 days of induction in each of the years 2020 to 2025. — Ken O’Flynn. [15689/26]

*238. To ask the Minister for Defence the distribution of the planned strength of 11,500 personnel across the Army, Naval Service and Air Corps; and the date by which this target is planned to be achieved. — Ken O’Flynn. [15690/26]

*239. To ask the Minister for Defence whether her Department has conducted a study of mortality of serving or former members of the Air Corps; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [16168/26]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*240. To ask the Minister for Transport the additional measures his Department implemented upon failing to meet the Phase 1 death reduction targets in Vision Zero; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Whitmore. [16153/26]

*241. To ask the Minister for Transport his Department’s plan to purchase new buses for the BusConnects Cork plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O’Connor. [15659/26]

*242. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide a timeline for the delivery of Bus Connects Cork, as it is running behind schedule; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [15663/26]

*243. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide a firm date for the rollout of contactless cards payments across the Cork bus fleet, to match services in other regions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [15664/26]

*244. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on discussions between his Department and the National Transport Authority in relation to funding of the PSO (Public Service Obligation) programme; when these discussions will be concluded; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [15684/26]

*245. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department’s budget is sufficient for new services to be provided in 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [15685/26]

*246. To ask the Minister for Transport when the contract agreed between the State and a company (details supplied) is due to expire; if there is a buyout/ release clause for the State in that contract before the contract is due to expire; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Lawless. [15718/26]

*247. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of the compulsory purchase order for a bus corridor scheme in Dublin 12 (details supplied); the date of commencement and timeline for the CPO process and associated construction works; the compensation arrangements for land

acquisition; whether affected homes will be provided with a front driveway given the loss of off-street parking; and whether any measures are planned to address additional noise arising from buses and traffic passing closer to the home and property. — Máire Devine. [15731/26]

*248. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of a compulsory purchase order for the bus corridor scheme in Dublin 12 (details supplied); the date of commencement and timeline for the CPO process and associated construction works; the compensation arrangements for land acquisition; whether affected homes will be provided with a front driveway given the loss of off-street parking; and whether any measures are planned to address additional noise arising from buses and traffic passing closer to the home and property. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [15732/26]

*249. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the progression of plans to develop a rail spur to Shannon Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [15762/26]

*250. To ask the Minister for Transport in respect of the 2026 funding allocation of €500,000 towards the N2 Ardee to South of Castleblaney Bypass, for 2026, the stage that this will bring the project to; the further stages to be completed; the current estimated date for final completion of this scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [15763/26]

*251. To ask the Minister for Transport in respect of the 2026 funding allocation of €1,200,000 towards the N2 Clontibret to the Border road scheme, the stage that this will bring the project to; the further stages to be completed; the current estimated date for final completion of this scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [15764/26]

*252. To ask the Minister for Transport whether BusConnects has a target average speed for bus routes during peak commuter hours; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [15817/26]

*253. To ask the Minister for Transport the purpose of the €2 million allocation towards the Athenry relief road project in the recent road allocations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louis O'Hara. [15830/26]

*254. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures currently being considered in the context of reform of the local area hackney licence scheme; if a working group within his Department has been established or has considered the matter; if so, the dates in which the relevant body has met and discussed the matter; the timeframe he would envisage for the completion of considerations and the formulation of proposals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O'Shea. [15869/26]

*255. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will commit to a national taxi strategy to address key issues facing the taxi industry, including supply and barriers to new entrants; the timeframe he would envisage for the completion of such an exercise; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O'Shea. [15870/26]

*256. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide significant emergency funding for Carlow and Kilkenny to repair and reconstruct roads damaged by recent flooding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [15942/26]

*257. To ask the Minister for Transport the details of active travel initiatives funded by the National Transport Authority in Kilkenny since 2020; the initial cost estimate for each project;

the outturn cost of each project; and for those still unfinished, the latest cost projection, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15943/26]

*258. To ask the Minister for Transport the details of active travel initiatives funded by the National Transport Authority in Carlow since 2020; the initial cost estimate for each project; the outturn cost of each project; and for those still unfinished, the latest cost projection, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15944/26]

*259. To ask the Minister for Transport whether any post-implementation review has been conducted by his Department of the Road Traffic Act 2024 provisions relating to graduated penalty points; whether an impact assessment was undertaken prior to enactment regarding proportionality and licence disqualification risk; and if he will publish any such assessment. — Ken O’Flynn. [16041/26]

*260. To ask the Minister for Transport whether his Department conducted modelling or analysis on the projected increase in licence disqualifications arising from the interaction between reduced statutory speed limits and the graduated penalty points framework; and if he will provide details of same. — Ken O’Flynn. [16042/26]

*261. To ask the Minister for Transport whether consideration has been given to introducing a lower-tier administrative margin for minor excess speeding of 1–5 km/h above the posted limit, including the option of warnings or reduced penalty points; and if he will outline the policy position of his Department on such a tier. — Ken O’Flynn. [16043/26]

*262. To ask the Minister for Transport the policy rationale for permitting the accumulation of multiple sets of penalty points arising from a single incident under the Road Traffic Act 2024; whether any cap on cumulative points from a single roadside detection was considered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16044/26]

*263. To ask the Minister for Transport whether his Department has examined the road safety regimes of other EU Member States that differentiate penalty thresholds by road type, including urban, rural and motorway classifications; whether any comparative analysis was undertaken prior to introducing the current graduated system; and if he will publish any such analysis. — Ken O’Flynn. [16045/26]

*264. To ask the Minister for Transport whether any review has been initiated by his Department into the proportionality of mandatory disqualification periods under roadside drug testing legislation where no observable impairment is recorded; and whether amendments to incorporate impairment-based assessment or judicial discretion are under consideration. — Ken O’Flynn. [16046/26]

*265. To ask the Minister for Transport whether his Department has examined the introduction of accredited driver awareness or rehabilitation programmes as an alternative to penalty points for minor offences; and if he will outline any proposals in this regard. — Ken O’Flynn. [16047/26]

*266. To ask the Minister for Transport whether his Department requires the National Transport Authority to collect and report vandalism data for public transport infrastructure on a county-by-county or local authority basis; if not, the policy rationale for permitting exclusively national-level reporting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16048/26]

*267. To ask the Minister for Transport the total annual expenditure incurred by the National Transport Authority in each of the past five years in respect of vandalism-related repair and replacement costs for bus shelters; whether this expenditure is reported to his Department in aggregated or disaggregated form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16049/26]

*268. To ask the Minister for Transport whether key performance indicators or contractual provisions within the national bus shelter contract include targets relating to vandalism frequency, asset durability, or cost containment; and if he will provide details of any such oversight mechanisms. — Ken O’Flynn. [16050/26]

*269. To ask the Minister for Transport whether his Department has undertaken or commissioned any cost-benefit analysis comparing standard laminated glass panels with alternative vandal-resistant materials for bus shelters; and if he will outline the conclusions of any such analysis. — Ken O’Flynn. [16051/26]

*270. To ask the Minister for Transport whether local authorities are provided with incident-level or location-specific data in respect of vandalism to bus shelters within their administrative areas; and if not, whether the Minister considers the absence of such local reporting consistent with transparency and value-for-money principles. — Ken O’Flynn. [16052/26]

*271. To ask the Minister for Transport the entire funding drawn down and spent by Galway City Council from the NTA for the Bus Stop Enhancement Programme in 2024 and 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16058/26]

*272. To ask the Minister for Transport the entire funding drawn down and spent by Galway County Council from the NTA for the Bus Stop Enhancement Programme in 2024 and 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16059/26]

*273. To ask the Minister for Transport if Bus Éireann plans to increase the fleet serving Galway city routes for which Bus Éireann hold the route licence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16062/26]

*274. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of booked driving tests cancelled by the RSA in the years 2023 to 2026, in tabular form; the reasoning for the cancellation of these tests; the wait time for rebooking a test for applicants who have had their test cancelled; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [16095/26]

*275. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the first meeting of the National Working Group on Geographical Zones; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [16096/26]

*276. To ask the Minister for Transport whether local authorities will be involved in the National Working Group on Geographical Zones, specifically Fingal County Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [16097/26]

*277. To ask the Minister for Transport the disciplinary procedures in place for senior management in State transport bodies (details supplied) in the event of failure of evidence-based forward planning of public transport infrastructure and services in settlements of population growth; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gillian Toole. [16105/26]

*278. To ask the Minister for Transport the input provided by his Department or ZEVI into the development of the private wires legislation on the subject of making it possible for residents who do not have a driveway to install home electric charging points; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16109/26]

*279. To ask the Minister for Transport the procurement process for bus shelters; the average cost of a bus shelter over the last ten years, broken down by year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16126/26]

*280. To ask the Minister for Transport the total roads funding allocated to each county over the last ten years, broken down by funding category, by year, by county, the total funding by year and over ten years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16127/26]

*281. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 231 of 19 February 2026, if the information requested can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16133/26]

*282. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the proposed rail link between Donegal and Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [16139/26]

*283. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding any research carried out into the merits of creating a rail link between Dublin and Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [16140/26]

*284. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding any costings that have been done into creating a rail link between Dublin and Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Ward. [16141/26]

*285. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to provide a bus shelter at bus stop number 4895, Fernleigh Close, Diswellstown Road, Carpenterstown, Dublin 15; if so, can the NTA provide timings on this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [16159/26]

*286. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the launch of the N8 airport route (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [16162/26]

*287. To ask the Minister for Transport if exceptional funding packages will be made available to local authorities that were affected by storm Chandra, namely Tipperary county council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [16223/26]

*288. To ask the Minister for Transport to report on his most recent meeting with the NTA; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Ahern. [16279/26]

*289. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the roll-out of Phase 8 of the BusConnects programme; when he expects the roll-out to commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Ahern. [16280/26]

*290. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to expand dedicated bus lanes across Dublin; the amount of funding earmarked in the National Development Plan Sectoral Investment Plan for

Transport for the construction of new bus lanes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Ahern. [16281/26]

*291. To ask the Minister for Transport the details of his engagements to date with CIÉ, the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Services, Reform and Digitalisation, the Pensions Authority and NewEra financial advisors regarding the 5% pension increase for retired CIÉ workers; to provide an update on the Statutory Instrument required to give effect to the increase; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Ahern. [16282/26]

Chun an Tánaiste agus Aire Airgeadais: To the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance.

*292. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance for an update on the expansion of the living city initiative; when the new expanded plan will open for new applicants from the five new regional centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Conor Sheehan. [15751/26]

*293. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he has considered a review of the carbon tax, with a focus on fairness, affordability and rural impact; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [15702/26]

*294. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance to review the case of a person (details supplied) regarding child credits. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [15735/26]

*295. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether his Department has undertaken any analysis of the impact of Capital Acquisitions Tax Group A thresholds on the intergenerational transfer of residential rental property; whether consideration has been given to index-linking the Group A threshold to the residential property price Index or other inflation measure; whether any assessment has been carried out as to whether current Capital Acquisitions Tax arrangements contribute to the disposal of residential rental properties prior to inheritance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O'Flynn. [15929/26]

*296. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if his Department has considered the inclusion of music producers as a new category who would benefit from the artists tax exemption scheme, particularly given that music producers can apply for the basic income for the arts scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O'Gorman. [15995/26]

*297. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance when the ISIF intends to review its regional city-specific investment programme launched in 2022; if the investment programme will be extended to include Drogheda, Dundalk and other large urban centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [16070/26]

*298. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the number of rental properties that have availed of the tax incentive for small-scale landlords who undertake retrofitting works in respect of 2024, and any other available years. — Eoin Ó Broin. [16074/26]

*299. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance for the last four years, to date, the number of nitrous oxide canisters seized by the Revenue Commissioners; and the cost of disposing of these canisters, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mark Wall. [16146/26]

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

*300. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if his Department will provide a timeframe for a decision on the pension increase of 2.1% for Eir (formerly Eircom and Telecom Éireann) pensioners if the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport sends the increase to his Department for consent; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Neville. [15697/26]

*301. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide an exhaustive list of flood related compensation paid from the OPW's vote allocations over the past ten years and any other votes under the aegis of his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15777/26]

*302. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation whether, following the removal of ministerial approval at Approval Gate 2 under the revised Infrastructure Guidelines, his Department has introduced or will introduce enhanced reporting requirements to Ministers or to Dáil Éireann in respect of material scope changes, procurement strategy alterations, or emerging cost pressures arising between Approval Gate 1 and Approval Gate 3; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O'Flynn. [15908/26]

*303. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation whether his Department conducted any analysis of cost escalation occurring between Approval Gate 2 and Approval Gate 3 under the previous approval framework; the average percentage increase in estimated project costs at that stage over the past five years; and whether that analysis informed the decision to remove ministerial approval at Gate 2. — Ken O'Flynn. [15909/26]

*304. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation whether the advice provided by the Major Projects Advisory Group in 2025 concerning the removal of ministerial approval at Approval Gate 2 will be published; and if not, the reason for that decision. — Ken O'Flynn. [15910/26]

*305. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation whether his Department has conducted any time-based analysis of the duration between, submission of major infrastructure project proposals to a Minister or Cabinet committee and, formal ministerial or Cabinet decision; if so, to provide the average, median and range of decision intervals for the years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025; and if no such analysis has been undertaken, whether he will commit to conducting one in 2026. — Ken O'Flynn. [15911/26]

*306. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation whether the July 2025 Stakeholder Engagement and Emerging Themes Report or any related departmental analysis included quantitative modelling attributing proportions of overall project delay to, statutory planning processes, judicial review, procurement procedures, departmental appraisal and approval stages, and ministerial or Cabinet decision-making; and to provide any such breakdown. — Ken O'Flynn. [15912/26]

*307. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the average duration of each stage of the Public Spending Code appraisal and approval process for major capital projects exceeding €100 million for the years 2022 to 2025

inclusive; and to indicate which stage accounted for the longest cumulative delay across projects during that period. — Ken O’Flynn. [15913/26]

*308. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation whether his Department has assessed the impact of Cabinet committee scheduling frequency on the progression of major infrastructure projects requiring political approval; whether any backlog or queuing analysis has been undertaken; and if he will provide details of such analysis. — Ken O’Flynn. [15914/26]

*309. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the number of major infrastructure projects which had completed statutory planning consent were, at any point during 2022 to 2025 inclusive, awaiting ministerial or Cabinet approval for funding or progression; and to provide the average duration of such waiting periods. — Ken O’Flynn. [15915/26]

*310. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation whether his Department has benchmarked Ireland’s ministerial and central approval timelines for major infrastructure projects against comparable EU member states; and to provide the findings of any such benchmarking. — Ken O’Flynn. [15916/26]

*311. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide an update regarding investment in critical infrastructure in Carlow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15931/26]

*312. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation provide an update regarding investment in critical infrastructure in Kilkenny; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15932/26]

*313. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on flood relief schemes in Carlow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15933/26]

*314. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on flood relief schemes in Kilkenny; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15934/26]

*315. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the number of flood relief scheme commencements in Carlow and Kilkenny since 2020; the total cost of each to date per scheme; the average length of time spent in pre-planning consultation prior to each of these works commencing, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15935/26]

*316. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation when the Ordinary Summer Level (OSL) for Tarmonbarry Upper Lough was set; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15991/26]

*317. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the reason meeting minutes for the Shannon Flood Risk State Agency Co-ordination Working Group have not been updated on the website since 31 October 2024; the number of meetings which have taken place since then, and if the minutes can be updated on the website; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15992/26]

*318. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation where the minutes of meetings held daily/weekly to determine the amount of water to be released through Ardnacrusha and the Old River Shannon are available; the persons involved in these meetings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15993/26]

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

*319. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment if he will reform the work permit regulations concerning the visa process for non-EEA dental nurses allowing them to practise in the jurisdiction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [15759/26]

*320. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment if the decision to delay the introduction of a living wage will be reconsidered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louis O’Hara. [14632/26]

*321. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether there is an Oireachtas liaison email address for the National Standards Authority of Ireland which sits under his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louis O’Hara. [15773/26]

*322. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the way in which the new tourism policy A New Era for Irish Tourism will support tourism development in Carlow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15954/26]

*323. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the way in which the new tourism policy A New Era for Irish Tourism will support tourism development in Kilkenny; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15955/26]

*324. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the number of international IDA visits to regions over the past ten years, broken down by city and county and by year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16114/26]

*325. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the number of IDA supported jobs in Ireland over the past ten years broken down by county and by year, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16115/26]

*326. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the contact he and his Department have had with a company (details supplied) following the announcement of significant job losses in the company; the actions he and his Department are taking to safeguard jobs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16116/26]

*327. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 283 of 19 February 2026, if the information requested can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16136/26]

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

*328. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she expects any of the sectoral plans under the NDP to be revised, with particular focus on education; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15936/26]

*329. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth when an urgent project (details supplied) will proceed to the next stage; the timeline for this project to go to construction; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [15666/26]

*330. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide clarification regarding the refusal of incremental credit to a teacher for previous teaching experience in a private school (details supplied); if the refusal will be reconsidered given the information outlined regarding qualifications and experience; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [15681/26]

*331. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department and the NCSE will engage with persons (details supplied) to ensure an appropriate school place is provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoghan Kenny. [15716/26]

*332. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of the additional school accommodation application submitted by a school (details supplied); when her Department expects to complete its assessment of the application; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Erin McGreehan. [15720/26]

*333. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide an update on whether the postgraduate master’s in education (PME) refund scheme will open for applications; the expected timeline for a decision on the matter, the number of applications currently being processed from the previous scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O’Shea. [15743/26]

*334. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide an update on the implementation of the teacher supply measures announced in April 2025, including proposals to allow for permanent contracts after one year of service; the expected commencement date of any such measures; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O’Shea. [15744/26]

*335. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to consider the creation of a Gaelscoil in an area (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15776/26]

*336. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the steps being taken to reduce delays in delivering permanent accommodation for rapidly growing schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Cearúil. [15784/26]

*337. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the combined costs of all projects that are currently at Stage 2a or 2b approval by her Department of education for school building projects across the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [15832/26]

*338. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to publish in full the current national criteria, weighting factors, assessment instruments and decision thresholds used by the National

Council for Special Education in determining annual Special Needs Assistant allocations to primary schools; and to confirm whether any amendments, recalibrations or procedural changes were introduced for the 2026/27 review cycle. — Ken O’Flynn. [15925/26]

*339. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of primary schools notified of a reduction of two or more Special Needs Assistant posts for the 2026/27 school year prior to the decision to pause the review process; and to provide a county-by-county breakdown of same. — Ken O’Flynn. [15926/26]

*340. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the total whole-time equivalent Special Needs Assistant allocation to primary schools in County Cork for the 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27 school years respectively; and to confirm whether the 2026/27 figure reflects the position before or after the pause of the review process. — Ken O’Flynn. [15927/26]

*341. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether a formal impact assessment, equality screening, child rights assessment, financial analysis or cost modelling exercise was conducted prior to issuing Special Needs Assistant reduction notifications for the 2026/27 school year; and, if so, to provide the title, date of completion and authoring body of each such assessment. — Ken O’Flynn. [15928/26]

*342. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of all school building projects in Carlow; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15937/26]

*343. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of all school building projects in Kilkenny; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15938/26]

*344. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to outline efforts underway within her Department to increase the supply of primary and secondary school teachers; the specific breakdown of the number who were employed nationally, by county for the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15939/26]

*345. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the reason many schools in Carlow awaiting school buildings were not included on the priority list or supplementary priority list; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15940/26]

*346. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the reason many schools in Kilkenny awaiting school buildings were not included on the priority list or supplementary priority list; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15941/26]

*347. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department can issue a national circular stating that electric scooters are not permitted on the grounds of primary schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Roderic O’Gorman. [15996/26]

*348. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the categories of teachers providing substitution cover who do not have their hours of work set out in their pay slip from her Department; her views on whether this is a breach of the terms of the Payment of Wages Act 1991. — Marie Sherlock. [16005/26]

*349. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the controls that exist within the payroll section of her Department to prevent against the late or irregular payment of wages to teachers

providing regular substitution cover and to prevent against the payment of the wrong pay rate. — Marie Sherlock. [16006/26]

*350. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the reason teachers who have taken carers leave and are providing regular part-time substitution cover appear to be treated discriminately relative to all other category of teachers; and if she can clarify if this is a breach of the Carer's Leave Act 2001. — Marie Sherlock. [16007/26]

*351. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the reason a person (details supplied) has been paid late and irregularly between the period November 2024 and February 2026; the reason her Department has no controls in place to identify that they were paid the incorrect rate for six months; and if they will be paid on a regular basis, at the correct rate with immediate effect. — Marie Sherlock. [16008/26]

*352. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the breakdown of the new special classes announced to date for the 2026 Academic Year according to the NCSE categories of special class; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16061/26]

*353. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on upgrades to a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [16072/26]

*354. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the opening hours for a school (details supplied); to confirm that all students attending the school are doing so on a full school day basis; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [16076/26]

*355. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the consultation and co-creation involved in the production of the SNA Toolkit 2024, produced by the National Council for Special Education, for the deployment of special needs assistants; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gillian Toole. [16102/26]

*356. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth what the pause in the deployment of special needs assistants means for school communities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gillian Toole. [16103/26]

*357. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an update on the capital project for a school (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [16220/26]

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

*358. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport whether, in light of the proposal by RTÉ to amend regulation 20 of the RTÉ superannuation scheme to permit scheme and trustee expenses to be met from scheme assets, he will now seek independent legal advice regarding the compatibility of such an amendment with trust law principles, pensions legislation and her statutory oversight role under section 91 of the Broadcasting Act 2009; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O'Flynn. [15883/26]

*359. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the estimated annual financial impact, as advised to her Department or by NewERA, of the proposed amendment to

regulation 20 of the RTÉ superannuation scheme; the categories of expenditure envisaged; whether any retrospective charging of costs to scheme assets has been proposed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15884/26]

*360. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport whether the proposal to amend regulation 20 of the RTÉ superannuation scheme has been formally submitted to the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for consent; if not, the stage currently reached in the statutory approval process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15885/26]

*361. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport whether, as part of his oversight responsibilities in respect of RTÉ superannuation schemes, his Department has engaged with or received any correspondence from the Pensions Authority concerning the proposed amendment to regulation 20 of the RTÉ superannuation scheme in the past five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15886/26]

*362. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport whether his Department has issued, or intends to issue, any policy guidance to RTÉ regarding the protection of pension scheme assets from being used, directly or indirectly, to offset operational or legacy costs of the broadcaster; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15887/26]

*363. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the engagement he has had with an organisation (details supplied) in 2025 and 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15945/26]

*364. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport to provide the full list of grants provided per project, including the detail of where top-up funding was provided, under the Large-Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16060/26]

*365. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport to urgently assist a club in County Kerry in respect of a legal matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [16110/26]

*366. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport further to Parliamentary Question No. 387 of 19 February 2026, if the information requested can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16137/26]

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

*367. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to review SI 374/2024 given concerns that have been raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15767/26]

*368. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether, prior to the commencement of the Room for a Student – Local Authority Tenancies Scheme on 1 December 2023, his Department prepared any policy modelling, capacity assessment or impact analysis of potential participation levels among local authority tenants; whether such analysis informed Cabinet approval; and whether he will provide the aggregate findings. — Ken O’Flynn. [16002/26]

*369. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on Ireland's engagement with the Year of the Normans; and the activities planned. — Malcolm Byrne. [16084/26]

*370. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the Raheen group water scheme in County Clare requires planning permission to replace certain piping in their system before it can be taken in charge by Uisce Éireann; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [15660/26]

*371. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline the membership of the steering committee that takes charge of the DPI infrastructure between his Department and Uisce Éireann; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James O'Connor. [15662/26]

*372. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will clarify eligibility criteria for a Local Authority home loan; if a person who is the primary earner and applicant must be in the same role for a period of two years or if continuous employment can mean that the person remained employed but changed jobs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [15715/26]

*373. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the lead authority performance reports for Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 2025 will be published; and to give a commitment to include new child presentations into homelessness in these reports including a cumulative figure for the period from 2016 to Quarter 4 2025. — Eoin Ó Broin. [15733/26]

*374. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of properties and sites under the Derelict Sites Act 1990, by local authority for each of the years 2022 to 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Conor Sheehan. [15748/26]

*375. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount outstanding in levies that were levied but not collected under the Derelict Sites Act 1990 between 2022 and 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Conor Sheehan. [15749/26]

*376. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the implementation process and the exact timelines for the derelict property tax; the engagement he had with local authorities on the public of preliminary registers of derelict properties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Conor Sheehan. [15750/26]

*377. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of derelict properties, by local authority area, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Conor Sheehan. [15752/26]

*378. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has received the responses from the local authorities yet; when the derelict sites levy collection data for 2025 will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Conor Sheehan. [15753/26]

*379. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount that was paid out in the vacant property refurbishment grant, by county, in 2022 to 2025 and to-

date in 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Conor Sheehan. [15754/26]

*380. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of applications received for the vacant property refurbishment grant, by county, in 2022 to 2025 and to date in 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Conor Sheehan. [15755/26]

*381. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of applications refused for the vacant property refurbishment grant, by county, in 2022 to 2025 and to-date in 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Conor Sheehan. [15756/26]

*382. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to deliver affordable housing for counties Roscommon and Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15760/26]

*383. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of affordable homes delivered in Roscommon and Galway to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15761/26]

*384. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the current status of the legislative or departmental guidelines regarding the restructuring of legacy shared ownership loans into annuity loans; if his attention has been drawn to cases where local authorities have failed to process restructuring applications for several years, leading to the 'expiry' of the loan through no fault of the borrower; the specific special case provisions available to borrowers in County Clare who are now facing housing insecurity due to these combined administrative and policy delays; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [15765/26]

*385. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many times he, or officials in his Department met with representatives of the CIF since the last general election, and to list those organisations and the dates on which meetings took place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15802/26]

*386. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many times government ministers, or their Department representatives met with representatives of IBEC, or any employer representative body since the general election, and to list those organizations and the dates the meetings were held; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15803/26]

*387. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a list of state-financed maintenance contracts where a particular company carry out works (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15804/26]

*388. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage a list of current state-financed capital contracts where a particular company are listed as a contractor(details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15805/26]

*389. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a list of future State-financed capital expenditure projects where a particular company have tendered for

contract (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15806/26]

*390. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount the State has paid a company (details supplied) for works carried out on behalf of the State since the general election; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15807/26]

*391. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total number of applications received, approved and paid under the vacant property refurbishment grant scheme since its commencement; the total amount of public expenditure disbursed under the scheme to date. — Ken O'Flynn. [15809/26]

*392. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in respect of approved and paid applications under the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Scheme the number and percentage of recipients who were Irish citizens; the number and percentage of recipients who were citizens of another EU Member State; the number and percentage of recipients who were non-EU citizens; whether the Department or local authorities collect data on the length of legal residence in the State of grant recipients at the time of application; whether the Department collects or verifies information on prior income tax or PRSI contributions in the State as part of the eligibility or compliance process; whether tax clearance certification is required prior to approval or payment; (g) whether any assessment is carried out regarding an applicant's previous contribution to the Exchequer before public monies are disbursed; and if the information requested is not centrally collated, the data that is available and whether consideration has been given to enhancing reporting transparency in respect of the scheme. — Ken O'Flynn. [15810/26]

*393. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the planned new fire station for Bagenalstown, County Carlow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [15946/26]

*394. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the planned new fire station for Kilkenny city; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [15950/26]

*395. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of households currently on the social housing waiting list in Carlow in 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025; the number of people who have been removed from the list since 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [15951/26]

*396. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of households currently on the social housing waiting list in Kilkenny in 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025; the number of people who have been removed from the list since 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [15948/26]

*397. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department has undertaken any formal governance review of the Room for a Student – Local Authority Tenancies Scheme since its commencement on 1 December 2023; whether any briefing was prepared by his Department regarding scheme performance relative to projected uptake; and whether any policy modifications are under consideration arising from that review. — Ken O'Flynn. [15968/26]

*398. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his response to concerns in relation to planning reform and judicial review (details supplied). — Catherine Ardagh. [16101/26]

*399. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage given the recent confirmation that homes in Dublin Fingal west are now to be included in the defective concrete blocks grant scheme, the reason repeated representations, clear timelines and confirmed funding arrangements have not been provided to affected homeowners; when precisely applications from Dublin Fingal west will be opened, assessed and approved; the ring-fenced funding that has been allocated to ensure these homeowners are not left competing with other areas for limited resources; the definitive commencement date for the release of grant payments; if he will provide a clear, binding timeline and funding commitment to bring certainty to these homeowners; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert O'Donoghue. [16106/26]

*400. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will provide an update on the most recent Local Democracy Taskforce meeting; if he can provide an update on the publication of its final report, including any emerging themes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16107/26]

*401. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his response to concerns (details supplied) regarding changes in residential tenancy laws; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [16128/26]

*402. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he can provide an update on consideration of buying homes in the Connemara area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [16129/26]

*403. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 399 of 19 February 2026, if the information requested can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16131/26]

*404. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to confirm if Lough Corrib and the River Corrib in County Galway still retain their “salmonid waters” designation as granted by his legacy Department under S.I. No. 293/1988 - European Communities (Quality of Salmonid Waters) Regulations (1988); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [16163/26]

*405. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to list all sporting/recreational clubs in County Galway that the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) has directly engaged with since 2020, regarding the threat of non-piscine invasive species to the ecology of Lough Corrib SAC; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [16164/26]

*406. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will review the grant scheme for private wells at domestic dwellings to allow for houses where Uisce Éireann have acknowledged an inability to ensure a reliable water supply and service to the house due to its location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [16225/26]

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

*407. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will review a jobseekers benefit payment for a person (details supplied). — Paul McAuliffe. [15729/26]

*408. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his Department is considering a policy change to bring Ireland in line with the rest of Europe by granting maternity and paternity benefit at 100%, or a high percentage of salary for all, or a portion of a person's entitlement to the corresponding leave; if there are policy learnings from the recent implementation of the jobseeker's pay-related benefit scheme which could support a similar change in terms of maternity and paternity benefit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Currie. [15774/26]

*409. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of clients classified as beneficiaries of temporary protection who were referred to the National Employment Service and Local Area Employment Services in each of the years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the number of such clients who secured employment; the number who sustained employment for at least 6 months and 12 months respectively; and the corresponding figures for all other clients referred during the same period. — Ken O'Flynn. [15833/26]

*410. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total actual expenditure incurred in respect of all clients referred to the National Employment Service and Local Area Employment Services in each of the years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; and the proportion of that expenditure attributable to beneficiaries of temporary protection in each year. — Ken O'Flynn. [15834/26]

*411. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the average actual cost per client referred to the National Employment Service and Local Area Employment Services in each of the years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the average cost per client classified as a beneficiary of temporary protection; and the average cost per client not so classified. — Ken O'Flynn. [15835/26]

*412. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether the contractual payment structure for providers under the National Employment Service and Local Area Employment Services differs in respect of beneficiaries of temporary protection compared to other clients; whether payment triggers, milestone payments or outcome payments vary by cohort; and if he will provide details of same. — Ken O'Flynn. [15836/26]

*413. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether his Department has estimated the reduction in welfare expenditure arising from beneficiaries of temporary protection securing sustained employment through the National Employment Service or Local Area Employment Services; the estimated increase in income tax and PRSI receipts attributable to such employment; and whether any cost-benefit or value-for-money assessment has been conducted in this regard. — Ken O'Flynn. [15837/26]

*414. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the average duration in receipt of a jobseeker's payment prior to referral to contracted employment services for beneficiaries of temporary protection; the equivalent duration for all other jobseekers; and whether any differential activation pathway applies. — Ken O'Flynn. [15838/26]

*415. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether additional supports, including English language training, translation assistance or tailored integration measures, are funded within the

National Employment Service and Local Area Employment Services in respect of beneficiaries of temporary protection; and the total cost of such supports since 2022. — Ken O’Flynn. [15839/26]

*416. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether any formal review, audit, performance evaluation or value-for-money assessment has been undertaken since 2022 in respect of referrals of beneficiaries of temporary protection to contracted employment services; and if he will provide the title and completion date of any such review. — Ken O’Flynn. [15840/26]

*417. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a nutritionist has been appointed to oversee the school hot meals scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15949/26]

*418. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will consider awarding domiciliary care allowance to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [16087/26]

*419. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the first and full year cost of a €100 lump sum payment to all recipients of the disability allowance; blind pension; invalidity pension; domiciliary care allowance; disablement benefit; incapacity supplement; illness benefit, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Louise O’Reilly. [16166/26]

*420. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the first year and full year cost of a €100 lump sum to all recipients of the working family payment. — Louise O’Reilly. [16167/26]

*421. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the supports being put in place for those who may lose their jobs at a company (details supplied) following the announcement of significant job losses. — David Cullinane. [16821/26]

Chun an Aire Dlí agus Cirt, Gnóthaí Baile agus Imirce: To the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration.

*422. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to review the case of a person’s right to work (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15734/26]

*423. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the full extent of non-compliant procurement in international protection accommodation from 1 January 2022 to date in 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [15778/26]

*424. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the details of due diligence processes for international protection accommodation providers; the checks that are mandatory to prevent taxpayer funds from being inappropriately allocated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [15779/26]

*425. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the reasons for the accommodation recognition payment scheme’s tax-free status and lack of means-testing for Ukrainian hosts; the reforms proposed to align it with taxpayer-funded supports, such as HAP, to cut costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [15780/26]

*426. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of bikes reported as stolen in Dublin in 2025; the number of prosecutions recorded; the number of bikes

recovered by the Gardaí; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [15794/26]

*427. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the current processing times for family reunification applications under the International Protection Act 2015; the number of applications processing for over two, three and four years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [15795/26]

*428. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the first instance and appeal recognition rates for international protection applications from Georgia, Brazil, and India for each month in 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [15796/26]

*429. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the first instance and appeal recognition rates for all international protection applications from designated safe country applicants for each month in 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [15797/26]

*430. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the first instance recognition rates for all international protection applications in 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [15798/26]

*431. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the appeal recognition rates for all international protection applications in 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gary Gannon. [15799/26]

*432. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether he proposes to introduce any amendment to the Legal Services Regulation Act 2015; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [15820/26]

*433. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the date on which the working Group established to advise on the appropriate indexation rate for Periodic Payment Orders submitted its final report to his Department; the date on which he approved, in principle or otherwise, the recommendations of that Working Group; the date on which formal drafting instructions were issued to the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel in respect of the regulations required to give effect to section 51I of the Civil Liability Act 1961, as amended, relating to the indexation of Periodic Payment Orders; whether the drafting of those regulations has been completed; whether the draft regulations have been circulated to the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, the State Claims Agency, or any other public body for consultation or financial assessment, and if so, the dates of such circulation; the specific reasons the anticipated Q4 2025 timeline for signature and commencement of the regulations was not achieved; the revised and specific timeline by which he now intends to sign and commence the regulations required to make the Periodic Payment Order framework fully operational; whether any fiscal, actuarial or public expenditure considerations have contributed to the delay in finalising or commencing the regulations. — Ken O'Flynn. [15917/26]

*434. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of newly qualified Gardaí allocated to County Kilkenny in each of the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [15958/26]

*435. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of newly qualified Gardaí allocated to County Carlow in each of the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15959/26]

*436. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether he has issued any policy direction, guidance, or formal interdepartmental coordination framework since 1 January 2025 concerning safeguarding disclosure or re-vetting arrangements in the early years sector; whether such coordination has been formalised through memorandum, circular, or agreed protocol at Government level; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15964/26]

*437. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he has considered delegated powers for enforcement in environmental, public order and other offences (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [16069/26]

*438. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 833 of 4 February 2026, if he will publish the report of the Garda Vetting Review Group. — Malcolm Byrne. [16078/26]

*439. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the timetable for the introduction of proposed changes to the Garda vetting process; the nature of those changes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Malcolm Byrne. [16079/26]

*440. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the measures that are in place for cross-border and transnational checking as part of the Garda vetting process. — Malcolm Byrne. [16081/26]

*441. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Gardaí currently assigned to all Garda stations in County Longford. — Sorca Clarke. [16088/26]

*442. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Gardaí currently assigned to all Garda stations in County Westmeath. — Sorca Clarke. [16089/26]

*443. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of new Gardaí have been assigned per Garda stations in County Longford in each of the past five years, in tabular form. — Sorca Clarke. [16090/26]

*444. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of new Gardaí have been assigned per Garda stations in County Westmeath in each of the past five years, in tabular form. — Sorca Clarke. [16091/26]

*445. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Gardaí deployed on the beat in Edgeworthstown, Granard, Ballymahon, Lanesborough, Newtownforbes and Longford town. — Sorca Clarke. [16092/26]

*446. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Gardaí deployed on the beat in Mullingar, Athlone Town, Kinnegad, Moate and Kilbeggan. — Sorca Clarke. [16093/26]

*447. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration his views on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [16160/26]

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

*448. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of aquaculture licence determinations issued by the Department in 2022, 2023 and 2024 respectively; to provide a breakdown of how many of these were new licence applications or licence renewals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [15665/26]

*449. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will consider legislation to make it illegal to give away live animals for prizes to stop animal suffering, like was introduced in Scotland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Brennan. [15736/26]

*450. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the actions his Department is taking to tackle an issue (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [15792/26]

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

*451. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality further to correspondence regarding the matter, will she commit to visiting childcare facilities in Donegal affected by defective concrete blocks; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [15674/26]

*452. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will ensure that the decision of the Ombudsman in relation to a person (details supplied) is put into effect; to ensure the person is provided with the services as recommended by the Ombudsman; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — George Lawlor. [15691/26]

*453. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to commit to providing a national brain injury case management service to reach every person with a brain injury regardless of location; the specific provision that will be made to care for children with a brain injury; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [15699/26]

*454. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her plans and the timeline to phase out long-term care in a nursing home for younger people with disabilities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [15701/26]

*455. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to detail her plans and timeline to expand AIM support to children with additional needs in afterschool settings to ensure that they have continuity of support post early years/pre-school while in primary school; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15757/26]

*456. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the roll out of regional assessment hubs; the location and status of each; the details of who will be working out of these hubs, and their roles; the completion date for roll out, as per location; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15818/26]

*457. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether her Department formally requires Tusla, under the oversight agreement or any governance framework, to provide

annual or periodic age-disaggregated statistical data on applications for emergency care orders under section 13 of the Child Care Act 1991, including a specific category for children under one year of age; and if not, whether she will consider introducing such a reporting requirement. — Ken O’Flynn. [15821/26]

*458. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether emergency child removal decisions under sections 12 and 13 of the Child Care Act 1991 are explicitly identified within Tusla’s corporate risk register as a governance or systemic risk category; whether the Tusla board reports trend analysis on such removals to her Department; and if she will outline the reporting mechanism involved. — Ken O’Flynn. [15823/26]

*459. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether Tusla’s internal audit function, or any external audit process since 2018, has examined evidential thresholds, proportionality standards, or quality assurance mechanisms in relation to section 13 emergency care order applications; and whether any reports or recommendations were made available to her Department. — Ken O’Flynn. [15824/26]

*460. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether any national policy guidance approved, noted or overseen by her Department requires Tusla to apply disability-informed assessment protocols, reasonable accommodation standards, or specialist procedural safeguards when child protection proceedings involve a parent with a diagnosed autism spectrum condition or intellectual disability; and if she will outline the relevant framework. — Ken O’Flynn. [15826/26]

*461. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether she has, at any time since 2013, issued a general policy direction under section 8 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013 in relation to evidential standards, proportionality assessment, or quality assurance in emergency child removal cases; and whether she is considering issuing such a direction. — Ken O’Flynn. [15827/26]

*462. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the total Exchequer expenditure in each of the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025 on placements purchased from privately operated children’s residential centres; the proportion this represented of total residential care expenditure in each year.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15841/26]

*463. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether her Department maintains a formal risk register entry relating to reliance on privately operated children’s residential centres; if so, the risk categorisation and mitigation measures identified; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15842/26]

*464. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether the Oversight Agreement or Performance Framework between her Department and Tusla requires the formal notification to the Department of governance, safeguarding or regulatory compliance concerns relating to privately operated children’s residential providers funded by the State; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15843/26]

*465. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether her Department maintains or receives a consolidated annual report aggregating safeguarding, compliance, or regulatory concerns relating to privately operated children’s residential centres funded in whole or in part by the Exchequer; and if not, whether she intends to establish such a reporting

mechanism in the interests of governance transparency and value-for-money oversight. — Ken O’Flynn. [15844/26]

*466. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the contractual governance, audit, and performance reporting requirements are imposed at Departmental policy level on Tusla in respect of its procurement and funding of privately operated residential care providers; and whether these requirements have been reviewed since 2020. — Ken O’Flynn. [15845/26]

*467. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps her Department is taking to address the shortage of childcare places in Carlow. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15956/26]

*468. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps her Department is taking to address the shortage of childcare places in Kilkenny. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15957/26]

*469. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures she will take to support a vital residential and respite service in Meath (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Darren O’Rourke. [16071/26]

*470. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the input, she has to ensure that sports facilities around Ireland are made increasingly accessible, in particular when it comes to State support for such facilities. — Malcolm Byrne. [16083/26]

*471. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the legal charge (lien) placed on properties in respect of the Early Years Services Building Blocks Extension Grant in 2025; the conditions attached to that charge, including the duration of the charge and the circumstances under which it may be enforced; if a funded early years service ceases operation or disposes of the property during the period of the charge; whether the Department will require repayment of the full amount of the grant or only a proportion relative to the number of years remaining under the charge; the details of any formula or policy used to calculate the amount of any such repayment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Robert O’Donoghue. [16108/26]

*472. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality further to Parliamentary Question No. 519 of 19 February 2026, if the information requested can be provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16132/26]

*473. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality when a funding stream will be made available for charities to provide a purpose-built day services centre for adults with autism and intellectual needs; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [16221/26]

*474. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her proposals to provide additional respite capacity for adults and children with disabilities in County Tipperary; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [16222/26]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*475. To ask the Minister for Health if she will expedite the provision of a new maternity unit at University Hospital Kerry given the clinical risks to both mother and baby due to the location of the existing unit, which is quite a distance from the operating theatre; if this urgent and necessary facility be progressed in 2026; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [15658/26]

*476. To ask the Minister for Health to expedite the development of the new 108-bed block on the campus of University Hospital Kerry, which will significantly help address the overcrowding in the accident and emergency department, along with the trolley crisis at the hospital; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [15661/26]

*477. To ask the Minister for Health to give a detailed progress report with regard to the provision of a new permanent oncology and haematology unit at University Hospital Kerry, and if she will prioritise this new oncology unit for Kerry patients; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [15668/26]

*478. To ask the Minister for Health her current plans to ensure that those on the standard public service sick leave scheme due to contracting Long Covid can gain access to other HSE schemes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [15670/26]

*479. To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide an update on the commitment contained in the HSE Service Plan, published in December 2025, which states that a community neuro-rehabilitation team will be established in the Dublin North East region in 2026; the current status of planning and resourcing for this team; the expected timeline for recruitment and service commencement; and if she will outline how this development will ensure that people living with neurological conditions in the region can access the vital community neurorehabilitation supports they require. — Erin McGreehan. [15671/26]

*480. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of beds which are currently closed in all community hospitals in Donegal, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Ward. [15672/26]

*481. To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional staff, including nurses, care assistants and other staff are needed in each community hospital, in order to safely staff all currently closed beds in these community hospitals in Donegal, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Ward. [15673/26]

*482. To ask the Minister for Health if a site has been identified yet for the new hospital in Limerick; If not, the timeframe; the proposed new Board to progress the project which been constituted yet; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [15679/26]

*483. To ask the Minister for Health when the Government changed the policy on the co-location of the Rotunda Maternity Hospital with the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital; if she now recognises the current location as the long-term location of the Rotunda in effective co-location with the Mater; if she is now ruling out re-location to the Rotunda to the Temple Street site or any other site; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [15682/26]

*484. To ask the Minister for Health following the dissolution of the CervicalCheck Tribunal, the full costs of the Tribunal from inception to dissolution, by cost type by year; the number of eligible claims; the number of claims made; the number of decisions made; the number of settlements or awards made; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [15683/26]

*485. To ask the Minister for Health the plans which have been established to fund the implementation of the National Review of Cardiac Services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [15692/26]

*486. To ask the Minister for Health the funding which has been made available for the national stroke strategy; what the funding is being used for; the actions being implemented in 2026 and 2027 as part of the national stroke strategy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [15693/26]

*487. To ask the Minister for Health the costs of ensuring adequate national capacity to deliver cardiac rehabilitation to all patients for whom it is recommended, ensuring that staffing and resources are protected; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [15694/26]

*488. To ask the Minister for Health the plans which have been established to fund the implementation of the new cardiac rehabilitation model of care; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [15695/26]

*489. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the expansion of cardiac rehabilitation services for HSE West and North-west; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [15696/26]

*490. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 427 and 428 of 13 November 2025, if she will advise on the outcome of the review conducted by her officials in relation to the proposed sale of the property; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [15714/26]

*491. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on an appointment for a person (details supplied). — Paul McAuliffe. [15717/26]

*492. To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide an update on the work of the non-statutory inquiry into the licensing and use of sodium valproate in women of child-bearing potential in the State; the details of the stages of the inquiry; the remaining timeline for the inquiry; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [15728/26]

*493. To ask the Minister for Health if she will confirm the current number of mental health inpatient beds in each RHA; the additional beds that have been promised to meet shortfalls; the location of the shortfalls; and the timelines attached to delivering those additional beds. — Sorca Clarke. [15737/26]

*494. To ask the Minister for Health the progress that has been made in developing a national eye health workforce strategy under Sláintecare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Moynihan. [15738/26]

*495. To ask the Minister for Health if she will introduce independent prescribing legislation for qualified optometrists. — Shane Moynihan. [15739/26]

*496. To ask the Minister for Health the steps her Department is taking in preparation in the context of 50% of the global population being short-sighted by 2050; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Moynihan. [15740/26]

*497. To ask the Minister for Health the steps that are being taken to expand training places and HSE employment for optometrists, orthoptists, and ophthalmologists; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Moynihan. [15741/26]

*498. To ask the Minister for Health if she will immediately reassess the safety and clinical appropriateness of telemedicine abortion services in light of rising concerns regarding coercive control; if she will establish a taskforce to investigate the ease with which controlling partners can obtain such medications; her views on the immediate steps being taken to ensure in-person clinical safeguards are restored to protect vulnerable women; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [15745/26]

*499. To ask the Minister for Health the total State funding allocated specifically to post-abortion counselling services in each of the years 2023, 2024, and 2025; the number of women who accessed these specific supports in that period; if she is satisfied that the current 'MyOptions' model provides sufficient face-to-face long-term psychological support; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [15746/26]

*500. To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the data-sharing protocols between GPs and community pharmacists regarding the distribution of abortion medication; if there is a centralised tracking system to monitor if multiple requests for such medication are made by or for the same individual across different providers; and if she has engaged with the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration regarding the potential for telemedicine to be exploited by human traffickers or those engaging in domestic abuse. — Peadar Tóibín. [15747/26]

*501. To ask the Minister for Health the health and social care professional training or degree programmes which are reviewed, validated, recognised or otherwise regulated, standardised, or certified by the HSE; the date on which the HSE assumed such roles relative to each profession and each course; the professions covered by this; the reason the HSE has assumed the role in each case rather than adhering to standard practice of independent professional regulators; her intentions regarding the establishment of independence in the regulation of each profession for which the HSE assumes responsibility; her views on the HSE's rationale of exercising its role as an employer as a reason to take charge of the regulation of a profession and whether she considers this an appropriate exercise of the HSE's authority in relation to the directions she has given the HSE in statute and otherwise regarding professional independence in regulation and development, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [15758/26]

*502. To ask the Minister for Health the measures her Department intends to take to support healthcare workers who continue to suffer ongoing health complications as a result of contracting Covid-19 in the workplace during the pandemic; if she will consider recognising long-term post-Covid illness among affected healthcare staff as an occupational illness; and if she will reinstate the special leave with pay scheme, which ended on 31 December, in order to provide appropriate financial and employment protection for those who remain unwell and unable to return to work through no fault of their own. — Paula Butterly. [15766/26]

*503. To ask the Minister for Health if a hospital appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [15781/26]

*504. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) was refused approval for cover under their medical card; if she will review the case which has been appealed by the GP; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [15782/26]

*505. To ask the Minister for Health if she will review correspondence in respect of a person (details supplied) who has been informed that the night-time rate payable to their personal assistants is to be reduced; the reason this decision has been made in this case; whether the matter

will be reconsidered in light of the person's care need; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [15785/26]

*506. To ask the Minister for Health when she expects screening for spinal muscular atrophy will commence; the progress being made by the Beneluxa initiative in treating these patients; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Naoise Ó Muirí. [15793/26]

*507. To ask the Minister for Health when the next round of grant supports will be made available to the National Cancer Control Programme through the National Alliance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mattie McGrath. [15800/26]

*508. To ask the Minister for Health the current plans for the proposed elective hospital at the Merlin Park site in Galway city; the number and type of beds to be delivered as part of the current plans; the number of operating theatres, endoscopy suites and minor operation rooms to be delivered as part of the current plans; the proposed phases of delivering this project along with a timeline for each phase; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Louis O'Hara. [15801/26]

*509. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on ICT improvements for patient files across hospitals to ensure patient files are up to date, especially for review case appointments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [15808/26]

*510. To ask the Minister for Health the incremental cost-effectiveness ratio, cost per QALY gained, time horizon applied, and discount rate used in the full health technology assessments conducted by the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics in respect of tirzepatide for type 2 diabetes mellitus and weight management; and whether lifetime modelling assumptions were applied in either assessment. — Ken O'Flynn. [15811/26]

*511. To ask the Minister for Health whether the health technology assessments conducted in respect of tirzepatide included modelling of downstream healthcare cost offsets arising from reductions in incidence of type 2 diabetes; cardiovascular events; hospital admissions; and obesity-related complications; and to provide the percentage reductions assumed in each case within the base-case analysis. — Ken O'Flynn. [15812/26]

*512. To ask the Minister for Health the projected gross and net annual budget impact, and five-year cumulative budget impact, of reimbursement of tirzepatide for weight management under the current eligibility criteria outlined by the HSE; and the estimated eligible patient population used in the budget impact model. — Ken O'Flynn. [15813/26]

*513. To ask the Minister for Health whether one-way or probabilistic sensitivity analyses were conducted as part of the pharmacoeconomic evaluations of tirzepatide and semaglutide; and if so, the key variables identified as having the greatest impact on cost-effectiveness outcomes. — Ken O'Flynn. [15814/26]

*514. To ask the Minister for Health the reasons for the duration between commissioning and completion of the full health technology assessment of tirzepatide for type 2 diabetes; and whether her Department has conducted any review of timelines in the medicines assessment process since 2023. — Ken O'Flynn. [15815/26]

*515. To ask the Minister for Health to outline how often the HSE's National Women and Infants Health Programme meet; for an update on the application of a specific centre under

the Endometriosis Surgery Abroad Interim Scheme (detailed supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Rice. [15828/26]

*516. To ask the Minister for Health in addition to staff being transferred from Killarney District Hospital, how many new jobs will be created in the new Killarney Community Hospital, when will they be advertised; and will the Minister give a breakdown of how many under each category will be advertised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [15829/26]

*517. To ask the Minister for Health when the new development in St. Columba's Hospital will be open and operational; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter 'Chap' Cleere. [15831/26]

*518. To ask the Minister for Health whether the provision of direct Exchequer funding by her Department to any non-statutory body is conditional upon the recipient maintaining a formally adopted safeguarding policy; a designated safeguarding officer; written mandatory reporting procedures in respect of safeguarding concerns; compliance with obligations under the Children First Act 2015 where applicable; and periodic certification or attestation of safeguarding compliance to her Department; the statutory, contractual or administrative basis for any such requirements; the monitoring and verification mechanisms operated by her Department to ensure compliance; and whether any funding has been suspended, withheld, reduced or subject to clawback in the past five years on grounds of safeguarding non-compliance. — Ken O'Flynn. [15846/26]

*519. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department maintains a central register or consolidated oversight framework identifying all non-statutory bodies in receipt of direct Exchequer funding; whether that register records safeguarding compliance status, including the existence of safeguarding policies, designated safeguarding officers and reporting procedures; whether her Department requires annual safeguarding compliance declarations from such bodies; and if she will provide the number of directly funded non-statutory bodies in each of the years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, together with details of any compliance reviews, audits or inspections undertaken by her Department in respect of safeguarding governance during that period. — Ken O'Flynn. [15847/26]

*520. To ask the Minister for Health whether she has received the completed report of the expert clinical group examining the implications for Ireland of the Cass Review; on what date it was received by her Department or the HSE CEO; whether she has requested a copy; whether she intends to publish the report in full; if not, the statutory or policy basis for withholding publication; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O'Flynn. [15848/26]

*521. To ask the Minister for Health the formal interim clinical governance framework, written safeguards, or ministerial policy directions are currently in force governing the provision of gender-related healthcare services to children and adolescents pending completion of the updated National Model of Care; whether any elements of clinical practice have been paused, amended or restricted during this interim period; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O'Flynn. [15849/26]

*522. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department or the HSE has approved or mandated a national data collection framework, minimum dataset, or outcome monitoring system for gender identity services for children and young people; if not, when such a framework will be introduced; and how clinical outcomes, adverse events and long-term follow-up are currently monitored at national level. — Ken O'Flynn. [15850/26]

*523. To ask the Minister for Health whether a formal methodological review, evidence appraisal, or structured policy evaluation of international clinical guidance, including the WPATH Standards of Care, was undertaken between 2018 and 2023 prior to adoption or application within Irish healthcare services; if so, to provide the title and date of such review; and if not, to explain the basis upon which those standards informed Irish clinical practice. — Ken O’Flynn. [15851/26]

*524. To ask the Minister for Health the date on which the expert clinical group report examining the implications for Ireland of the Cass review was submitted to the HSE chief executive officer; whether the report has been furnished to her Department; whether she has received or reviewed the report; whether she intends to publish the report in full; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15852/26]

*525. To ask the Minister for Health the formal interim clinical governance arrangements, safeguards, or policy instructions currently apply to gender healthcare services for children and adolescents pending completion of the updated national Model of Care; whether any written direction, circular, or instruction has issued since publication of the Cass review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15853/26]

*526. To ask the Minister for Health to specify the statutory authority, national clinical guideline, or formally approved policy framework under which gender healthcare services for minors are currently delivered within the public health system; the date on which that framework was approved; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15854/26]

*527. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has approved a national dataset, reporting framework, or outcome measurement standard for gender identity services provided to children and adolescents; if not, when such a framework is expected to be established; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15855/26]

*528. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the formal methodology used by her Department and the HSE when evaluating international clinical guidance prior to consideration or incorporation into national healthcare policy; whether that methodology was applied in respect of the WPATH Standards of Care between 2018 and 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15856/26]

*529. To ask the Minister for Health whether any formal clinical risk assessment, patient safety review, or governance audit has been undertaken since publication of the final Cass review in respect of gender healthcare services for children and adolescents; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15857/26]

*530. To ask the Minister for Health whether, under the Health Service Executive National Service Plan 2026 approved by her, her Department requires the HSE to collect, retain and report to the Department the number and percentage of clinical status 1 purple and red emergency calls in which the ambulance response time exceeded 30 minutes, 45 minutes, 60 minutes and 90 minutes in each of the years 2023, 2024 and 2025; if such reporting is not currently mandated, whether she will amend the 2026 or subsequent National Service Plan to require same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15858/26]

*531. To ask the Minister for Health whether in, in the exercise of its statutory oversight of the Health Service Executive under the Health Act 2004, receives or requests data on the single longest recorded ambulance response time for clinical status 1 purple and red calls in each month nationally and by HSE region; if not, whether she considers the absence of such governance

reporting compatible with effective patient safety oversight; and whether she will direct that such data be formally reported to her Department. — Ken O’Flynn. [15859/26]

*532. To ask the Minister for Health whether it is Departmental policy that an ambulance response exceeding 60 minutes to a clinical status 1 purple or red emergency call does not, of itself, constitute a notifiable patient safety incident under the HSE Incident Management Framework; the policy basis for that position; and whether she will review that policy in the context of her statutory responsibility for patient safety and quality governance. — Ken O’Flynn. [15860/26]

*533. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has, since 1 January 2023, received any aggregated report, briefing, risk register entry, or governance submission identifying delayed ambulance response as a contributory factor in patient harm or adverse outcomes; the number of such instances recorded; and whether her Department has conducted any formal policy review arising from those findings. — Ken O’Flynn. [15861/26]

*534. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department receives regional disaggregated performance data for clinical status 1 purple and red emergency calls as part of the annual Service Plan governance framework; whether her Department undertakes structured comparative analysis of response performance between HSE regions; and the specific policy directives issued by her since 2023 to address identified regional inequities in emergency ambulance response times. — Ken O’Flynn. [15862/26]

*535. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department or the HSE has undertaken any analysis of mortality, morbidity, or adverse clinical outcomes for clinical status 1 Purple or Red emergency calls stratified by response time bands (0–19 minutes, 20–30 minutes, 31–45 minutes, 46–60 minutes, and over 60 minutes) during the period 2023 to date; if so, to provide details of the findings; and if not, whether she will direct that such outcome-based analysis be conducted and published. — Ken O’Flynn. [15863/26]

*536. To ask the Minister for Health whether the National Ambulance Service records the number of clinical status 1 Purple and Red emergency calls where the response time exceeds 30 minutes, 45 minutes, and 60 minutes; if so, to provide the total number in each category for each of the past three years; and if not, the policy rationale for not capturing such data within the State’s emergency performance framework. — Ken O’Flynn. [15864/26]

*537. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has issued any policy guidance defining the circumstances in which prolonged ambulance response times constitute patient safety incidents; whether delays exceeding 60 minutes in life-threatening emergencies are automatically reviewed under the HSE Incident Management Framework; and if not, the governance basis for excluding such delays from mandatory safety review. — Ken O’Flynn. [15865/26]

*538. To ask the Minister for Health the approved whole-time equivalent staffing target for the National Ambulance Service for each year 2023 to 2026 under the NAS Workforce Plan; the actual WTE achieved in each year; the variance between target and actual; and the measures being taken to close the current capacity deficit (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15866/26]

*539. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department conducts formal comparative analysis of ambulance response performance between HSE regions; whether any equity standard exists to ensure consistent life-threatening emergency response across regions; and the corrective

mechanisms triggered where sustained regional underperformance is identified. — Ken O’Flynn. [15867/26]

*540. To ask the Minister for Health how long the National Ambulance Service has operated above NASCAP Level 1 since 2022; the total number of days spent at Levels 2 and 3 in each of the past three years; and whether the Department considers a prolonged state of escalation compatible with stable emergency service governance. — Ken O’Flynn. [15868/26]

*541. To ask the Minister for Health whether a national policy exists within the National Ambulance Service requiring that a life-threatening emergency call be allocated to the next available ambulance within a fixed time window, including a 90-second allocation protocol; when this policy was introduced; the clinical or operational rationale underpinning it; and whether she has reviewed its impact on resource efficiency and regional coverage. — Ken O’Flynn. [15871/26]

*542. To ask the Minister for Health the number of occasions in each of the past three years where an ambulance assigned to a life-threatening emergency call was dispatched from outside the county in which the incident occurred; the average travel distance and time in such cases; and whether her Department has assessed the impact of long-distance dispatch on local ambulance availability. — Ken O’Flynn. [15872/26]

*543. To ask the Minister for Health the number of instances in each of the past three years where an ambulance dispatched to a life-threatening emergency call travelled more than 20 minutes, 30 minutes, or 45 minutes before being stood down due to reassignment; whether such redeployments are reviewed for resource efficiency and patient safety impact; and whether national guidelines exist governing maximum travel before stand-down. — Ken O’Flynn. [15873/26]

*544. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department or HSE has undertaken any cost-benefit or efficiency analysis of the current national dispatch model, including fuel expenditure, crew time utilisation, overtime costs, and opportunity cost arising from cross-regional dispatch and stand-down; and if so, to provide details. — Ken O’Flynn. [15878/26]

*545. To ask the Minister for Health whether any formal clinical risk assessment has been conducted in relation to the National Ambulance Service dispatch model where units are assigned across regions under a time-based allocation protocol; whether this model has been benchmarked against alternative international dispatch systems; and whether any review is planned. — Ken O’Flynn. [15875/26]

*546. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department monitors instances where rural or peripheral areas are temporarily left without local ambulance cover due to cross-regional dispatch under national allocation protocols; the frequency of such occurrences in the past three years; and the safeguards in place to mitigate exposure risk in those areas. — Ken O’Flynn. [15876/26]

*547. To ask the Minister for Health whether the 90-second allocation protocol forms part of the HSE Enterprise Risk Register; whether it has been subject to independent audit or review since 2020; and whether she is satisfied that the current dispatch framework balances speed of allocation with geographic efficiency and sustained regional capacity. — Ken O’Flynn. [15877/26]

*548. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 315 of 11 February 2025, and noting that the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics completed a full health technology assessment of tirzepatide for the treatment of adults with insufficiently controlled type 2 diabetes mellitus on 9 February 2026, and for weight management on 3 December 2025, whether she has been notified of the completion of those assessments; the month in 2026 in which the HSE senior leadership team is scheduled to consider each application for pricing and reimbursement; whether any internal target decision date has been set by her Department or the HSE; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15874/26]

*549. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department or the HSE has prepared or received any gross and net budget impact analysis in respect of the proposed reimbursement of tirzepatide and semaglutide for diabetes and weight management indications; the estimated annual gross cost to the Exchequer in each of the first five years of potential reimbursement; any estimated downstream cost offsets relating to reduced incidence of type 2 diabetes complications, cardiovascular disease or renal failure; and whether specific provision has been made within Vote 38 for 2026 to accommodate any such reimbursement decision. — Ken O’Flynn. [15879/26]

*550. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated number of adults nationally who meet the clinical eligibility thresholds outlined in the completed HTAs for tirzepatide for diabetes and weight management indications; the estimated number of adolescents who would meet the subpopulation criteria proposed for semaglutide reimbursement; whether her Department has been advised of projected uptake rates; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15880/26]

*551. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has undertaken any comparative assessment of the timeframe from marketing authorisation to reimbursement decision for GLP-1 receptor agonists in Ireland relative to other EU Member States; whether she considers the current pharmacoeconomic assessment and negotiation timeline proportionate to the scale of the public health burden posed by obesity and type 2 diabetes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15881/26]

*552. To ask the Minister for Health whether formal commercial negotiations between the HSE Corporate Pharmaceutical Unit and the relevant marketing authorisation holders in respect of tirzepatide and semaglutide are currently active; whether any price proposal has been received following completion of the HTA processes; whether any budget ceiling or access cap has been set as a matter of Departmental policy; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15882/26]

*553. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has approved, directed, agreed to, or otherwise authorised any performance reporting methodology under the Health Service Executive National Service Plan whereby clinical status 1 purple or red emergency ambulance calls with response times exceeding 60 minutes are excluded, truncated, capped, or otherwise omitted from published National Ambulance Service key performance indicators; if so, to state the date on which such methodology was adopted, the approving authority within her Department, the governance or policy document under which it operates, and whether she is satisfied that such an approach provides full transparency in respect of life-threatening emergency response performance; and if no such methodology exists, to confirm explicitly that all clinical status 1 purple and red calls, irrespective of response duration, are included in the denominator of published performance indicators and to outline the publication methodology applied. — Ken O’Flynn. [15888/26]

*554. To ask the Minister for Health whether the current National Ambulance Service key performance Indicator (KPI) framework, including the absence of any maximum response time thresholds for clinical status 1 purple and red calls, has been formally approved, endorsed or noted by her Department; the date on which the current KPI framework was last reviewed by her Department; and whether any review of the scope of those KPIs is currently underway. — Ken O’Flynn. [15889/26]

*555. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has assessed the governance implications of not routinely recording, collating or publishing data on emergency ambulance response times exceeding 60 minutes for clinical status 1 purple and red calls; whether such data exists within computer aided dispatch systems or other internal datasets; and whether she will direct that an analysis of such outlier response times be prepared for ministerial oversight purposes. — Ken O’Flynn. [15890/26]

*556. To ask the Minister for Health whether the Department of Health Enterprise Risk Management Framework identifies prolonged ambulance response times for life-threatening emergencies as a strategic or operational risk; if so, the risk rating currently assigned; and if not, whether she will require that this risk be formally assessed and recorded. — Ken O’Flynn. [15891/26]

*557. To ask the Minister for Health whether any internal Departmental briefings, submissions, memoranda or governance reviews since 2020 have considered the question of whether emergency ambulance response times exceeding 60 minutes should be classified or recorded as patient safety incidents; and if so, to outline the conclusions reached. — Ken O’Flynn. [15892/26]

*558. To ask the Minister for Health the number of occasions in 2025 on which the National Ambulance Service operated at NASCAP level 3; the duration in days of each such period; whether any escalation to level 4 was considered; and the formal reporting mechanism by which such escalation levels are notified to her Department. — Ken O’Flynn. [15893/26]

*559. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has undertaken or commissioned any comparative review of international ambulance service performance governance frameworks, including the use of outlier response time reporting, since 2018; and if so, to provide the title and date of such review and the principal findings. — Ken O’Flynn. [15894/26]

*560. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1121 of 7 February 2026, to provide a detailed implementation schedule for each recommendation contained in the Emerging Health Threats Steering Group (ESG) Report published in October 2024, including for each recommendation; the decision taken by her Department; the approving authority, the decision date; the accountable division; the current implementation status; and the planned completion date. — Ken O’Flynn. [15895/26]

*561. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1121 of 7 February 2026, to list all funding approvals issued by her Department arising from the ESG Report since October 2024, including for each approval; the programme title; vote and subhead; amount approved for each financial year; whether the funding is current or capital, the approval date, and the body receiving the funding. — Ken O’Flynn. [15896/26]

*562. To ask the Minister for Health the governance and reporting arrangements to Government in respect of the Health Threats Advisory Committee established in 2025, including

its terms of reference, reporting frequency, the senior official accountable within her Department, and the dates of meetings held to date. — Ken O’Flynn. [15897/26]

*563. To ask the Minister for Health the governance, statutory or administrative basis, and reporting structure of the cross-departmental One Health Oversight Committee established in 2025, including the Departments formally represented and the number of meetings held to date. — Ken O’Flynn. [15898/26]

*564. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1121 of 7 February 2026, to provide the approved governance structure, staffing complement, procurement route, budget allocation, and expected operational commencement date for the Evidence Synthesis Hub for Health Emergency Preparedness. — Ken O’Flynn. [15899/26]

*565. To ask the Minister for Health the current stage of development of the National Health Threats Preparedness Plan; including the responsible Division; the anticipated publication date; whether draft Heads have been prepared; and whether the Plan will be placed on a statutory footing. — Ken O’Flynn. [15900/26]

*566. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1121 of 7 February 2026, to list the pandemic preparedness simulation exercises that have taken place since 2022; including the date; organising authority; participating State bodies, whether an after-action report was completed, and whether any such reports were submitted to her Department. — Ken O’Flynn. [15901/26]

*567. To ask the Minister for Health the key performance indicators her Department uses to monitor national preparedness for emerging health threats; the date each indicator was first adopted; and the most recent reporting date for each indicator to the Minister. — Ken O’Flynn. [15902/26]

*568. To ask the Minister for Health the governance framework within her Department for oversight of the Public Only Consultant Contract since its introduction in March 2023; including the responsible Division; the senior accountable official, the reporting frequency; and the titles and dates of any oversight reports received by her since that date. — Ken O’Flynn. [15903/26]

*569. To ask the Minister for Health the key performance indicators and outcome measures used by her Department to assess whether the objectives of the Public Only Consultant Contract are being met; and to provide the baseline date and most recent reporting date for each such indicator. — Ken O’Flynn. [15904/26]

*570. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has issued any formal reporting requirements, policy directions, or data specifications to the HSE in relation to monitoring consultant working patterns under the Public Only Consultant Contract since March 2023, and to provide the date and title of each such direction. — Ken O’Flynn. [15905/26]

*571. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has commissioned, received, or reviewed any audit, evaluation, or value-for-money assessment of the Public Only Consultant Contract since its introduction, and if so, to provide the title, authoring body, and completion date of each such assessment. — Ken O’Flynn. [15906/26]

*572. To ask the Minister for Health what interim monitoring or assurance mechanisms her Department relies upon where complete hospital-group-level reporting of consultant evening,

weekend and public holiday hours is not available, and to state the date on which each such mechanism commenced. — Ken O’Flynn. [15907/26]

*573. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department receives, on a scheduled and recurring basis, written reports from the Health Service Executive specifically relating to gender identity services provided to persons under 18 years of age; if so, the frequency of such reports; the categories of data included, including activity levels, waiting list numbers, safeguarding notifications, adverse incidents and clinical outcomes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15918/26]

*574. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has required the Health Service Executive to provide any dedicated safeguarding assurance report, audit report, or governance review relating specifically to gender identity services for minors since 1 January 2020; if so, the date of each such report and whether it has been reviewed at Secretary General or Corporate Governance Committee level; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15919/26]

*575. To ask the Minister for Health whether the Department has established any formal oversight framework, reporting template, performance dashboard, or key performance indicators specific to gender identity services for persons under 18 years of age; and if not, whether she intends to establish such a framework. — Ken O’Flynn. [15920/26]

*576. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department maintains a formal monitoring or compliance framework to assess the timeliness and completeness of responses provided by bodies under her aegis to Parliamentary Questions and other formal requests from Members of the Oireachtas; and if so, the nature of that framework and the office responsible for maintaining it. — Ken O’Flynn. [15921/26]

*577. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has recorded, since 1 January 2023, any concerns, warnings, or internal assessments regarding the adequacy or timeliness of responses provided by Children’s Health Ireland to Members of the Oireachtas; and if so, the number of such recorded instances and the governance actions taken. — Ken O’Flynn. [15922/26]

*578. To ask the Minister for Health whether decisions relating to the publication or non-publication of reports concerning Children’s Health Ireland are recorded in writing within her Department; whether a central register of such decisions is maintained; and the grade or office responsible for oversight of such publication decisions. — Ken O’Flynn. [15923/26]

*579. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department applies standardised criteria, guidance, or written policy when determining whether reports concerning bodies under her aegis should be published; and if so, to provide the title and date of such policy. — Ken O’Flynn. [15924/26]

*580. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has established, approved, or required any national key performance indicators relating to recruitment clearance timelines across the six health regions established under Sláintecare; if not, whether this represents a deliberate policy decision; and the governance rationale for not applying national clearance benchmarks in a devolved regional recruitment structure. — Ken O’Flynn. [15947/26]

*581. To ask the Minister for Health the average ambulance response time in County Carlow and County Kilkenny; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15960/26]

*582. To ask the Minister for Health the number of ambulance bases in Carlow and Kilkenny; the location of each; the permanent number of ambulances assigned to each base; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15961/26]

*583. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a list of all HSE-funded meals-on-wheels services in Cork; the funding they have received for 2024, 2025 and 2026; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul O’Shea. [15963/26]

*584. To ask the Minister for Health to specify the statutory provision, regulation, circular, or formal policy instrument under which elective procedures without medical indication are authorised within the public hospital system; and to confirm whether any formal legal advice has been obtained by her Department regarding the permissibility of allocating publicly funded hospital resources to such procedures. — Ken O’Flynn. [15976/26]

*585. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has conducted, commissioned, or received any review assessing whether decisions by the six HSE health regions to authorise elective procedures without medical indication are applied consistently nationwide; and if she will provide details of any such review. — Ken O’Flynn. [15977/26]

*586. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has conducted any assessment of the impact on waiting lists, theatre utilisation, or paediatric surgical capacity arising from the allocation of theatre time to elective procedures undertaken without medical indication; and if she will publish any such assessment. — Ken O’Flynn. [15978/26]

*587. To ask the Minister for Health to state under which programme headings, service plans, or budget subheads expenditure on elective procedures undertaken without medical indication is recorded; whether such expenditure is separately identifiable within Departmental or HSE accounts; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15979/26]

*588. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has conducted any internal policy or distributional analysis of the impact of maintaining current medical card income thresholds for persons aged 70 years and over following the 2025 State Pension increase; if so, the date of such analysis; whether the findings were submitted to her for decision; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15980/26]

*589. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department sought advice from the ESRI in relation to the projected distributional impact of increasing medical card income thresholds for persons aged 70 years and over by €10 per week in line with the 2025 State pension increase; whether a policy recommendation was made to her arising from that modelling exercise; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [15981/26]

*590. To ask the Minister for Health whether any consideration was given in Budget 2026 to adjusting medical card income thresholds for persons aged 70 years and over in line with pension increases; whether this option was costed by her Department; and if she will outline the policy rationale for maintaining existing thresholds. — Ken O’Flynn. [15982/26]

*591. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has assessed the number of persons aged 70 years and over whose income exceeds the Department of Social Protection State Pension by less than €20 per week and who are therefore at potential risk of medical card ineligibility under current thresholds; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O'Flynn. [15983/26]

*592. To ask the Minister for Health the number of External Governance Reviews undertaken pursuant to Sections 38 and 39 of the Health Act 2004 between 2022 and 2024 that identified material financial, governance, procurement, safeguarding or internal control deficiencies; the number in each year that resulted in enhanced monitoring arrangements, revised service level agreements, funding conditions or restrictions, recovery of funds, suspension or withholding of payments; and if she will provide a breakdown by category of action taken. — Ken O'Flynn. [15984/26]

*593. To ask the Minister for Health the number of External Governance Reviews commenced between 2022 and 2024 that remain open; the average duration of review completion; and whether any review has resulted in referral to internal audit, external audit, or An Garda Síochána. — Ken O'Flynn. [15985/26]

*594. To ask the Minister for Health whether all non-statutory bodies in receipt of direct HSE funding, including those in receipt of less than €3 million annually, are subject to a structured governance review cycle; and if not, the criteria used to determine inclusion or exclusion. — Ken O'Flynn. [15986/26]

*595. To ask the Minister for Health whether summary findings of External Governance Reviews are published; and if not, the reasons for the absence of public transparency in respect of governance findings in publicly funded bodies. — Ken O'Flynn. [15987/26]

*596. To ask the Minister for Health the total funding allocated in Budget 2026 for the provision of eating disorder services; the breakdown of this allocation, including funding for existing specialist eating disorder teams, funding for the development of new teams, funding for training and professional development of staff, and funding for inpatient and community-based services; the number of whole-time equivalent staff currently funded under this allocation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Murphy. [15988/26]

*597. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons under 18 years-of-age admitted to adult approved psychiatric centres in 2025 for the treatment of eating disorders due to the unavailability of age-appropriate inpatient CAMHS beds; the average and longest duration of such admissions; whether the Department or the HSE has undertaken any review, audit, or impact assessment of the psycho-social or clinical effects of such admissions on minors; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Murphy. [15989/26]

*598. To ask the Minister for Health the number of deaths recorded in 2024 and 2025 in which an eating disorder, including anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, or other specified feeding or eating disorders, was listed as the primary or contributory cause of death; the source of this data; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Murphy. [15990/26]

*599. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of apprentices employed by the Health Service Executive in 2025 and projected for 2026 in (a) social work, (b) social care work, and (c) dietetics; and if she will provide a breakdown by programme and year of intake. — Ken O'Flynn. [16010/26]

*600. To ask the Minister for Health the total gross expenditure incurred by the Health Service Executive in 2025 and the projected expenditure for 2026 in respect of apprenticeship programmes in social work, social care work, and dietetics, including salary costs, academic costs, employer PRSI, and any grant income received from the National Apprenticeship Office; and if she will provide a programme-level breakdown. — Ken O’Flynn. [16011/26]

*601. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has approved any workforce planning model or projection which quantifies the projected staffing shortfall to 2030 in social work, social care work, and dietetics; if so, to provide the projected shortfall figures by year; and how current apprenticeship intake levels align with those projections. — Ken O’Flynn. [16012/26]

*602. To ask the Minister for Health whether any formal policy decision has been taken to fund apprenticeship expansion in the health and social care professions without a dedicated subhead or ring-fenced allocation within the Vote for the Health Service Executive; and the governance rationale for funding apprenticeship costs from within existing service budgets. — Ken O’Flynn. [16013/26]

*603. To ask the Minister for Health whether any evaluation has been undertaken by her Department to assess the value-for-money and workforce impact of the Level 9 Social Work apprenticeship programme since its commencement; if so, to provide details of the methodology and findings; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16014/26]

*604. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a current hospital-by-hospital list of all publicly funded chronic pain management services; to specify in respect of each hospital whether a dedicated multidisciplinary chronic pain service is in operation; to detail the disciplines available within each service, including pain medicine consultants, psychology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and nursing; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16015/26]

*605. To ask the Minister for Health to provide, by HSE Health Region, the average waiting time and the longest waiting time for a first outpatient appointment in a publicly funded chronic pain service as of the most recent available date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16016/26]

*606. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients, by Health Region, referred outside their region of residence in the past 24-months due to the absence of a local chronic pain service or insufficient local capacity; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16017/26]

*607. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of approved consultant posts in the specialty of Pain Medicine and Consultant Anaesthesiologist with a special interest in Pain Medicine; the number currently filled on a whole-time equivalent basis; the number vacant; the duration of each vacancy; and the recruitment measures in place to address same. — Ken O’Flynn. [16018/26]

*608. To ask the Minister for Health whether all publicly funded chronic pain services operate in accordance with a nationally approved clinical model mandating multidisciplinary care; if not, to identify which services do not meet such standards; and the timeframe for compliance. — Ken O’Flynn. [16019/26]

*609. To ask the Minister for Health whether, following publication of the final Cass Review into gender identity services for children and young people in the United Kingdom, her Department conducted any formal policy review of the continued referral of minors from Ireland to NHS gender identity services under the Treatment Abroad Scheme; if so, to provide the date, terms of reference, and outcome of that review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16025/26]

*610. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department sought or obtained independent clinical advice, evidence appraisal, or risk assessment regarding the appropriateness of continuing referrals of minors to NHS gender identity services following the Cass Review; and if she will outline the governance framework under which such advice was considered. — Ken O’Flynn. [16026/26]

*611. To ask the Minister for Health whether any revised safeguarding guidance, policy circular, or written direction has been issued by her Department to the HSE concerning referral pathways for children and young people to gender identity services abroad since publication of the Cass Review; and if she will provide details of any such direction. — Ken O’Flynn. [16027/26]

*612. To ask the Minister for Health whether she or her officials were formally briefed on the findings and recommendations of the Cass Review in the context of Irish referral practices; the date of any such briefing; and whether any policy decision was taken arising from that consideration. — Ken O’Flynn. [16028/26]

*613. To ask the Minister for Health the number of minors referred from Ireland to NHS gender identity services under the Treatment Abroad Scheme in each of the years 2023, 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the total expenditure incurred in each year; and the policy basis upon which such referrals continue to be authorised. — Ken O’Flynn. [16029/26]

*614. To ask the Minister for Health whether the evaluation of the iPain Centre pilot at Beaumont Hospital has been completed; the date on which it was finalised; whether the evaluation has been submitted to her Department; whether she will publish the evaluation report in full; the total Sláintecare Integration Innovation Fund allocation provided to the project over its three-year pilot period; the current annualised cost of the service; and the policy decision taken, if any, regarding the continuation, mainstreaming, or national rollout of community-based chronic pain programmes arising from that pilot. — Ken O’Flynn. [16030/26]

*615. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has approved or endorsed any maximum acceptable waiting time threshold for access to primary care occupational therapy services; whether a waiting period of up to 39 weeks is considered clinically appropriate at national level; and if she will outline the evidence, clinical guidance, or policy framework underpinning that position. — Ken O’Flynn. [16031/26]

*616. To ask the Minister for Health whether she accepts that operating a service at 75% of funded ceiling constitutes a failure of workforce planning at departmental level; and the specific corrective actions that have been mandated by her Department in response. — Ken O’Flynn. [16032/26]

*617. To ask the Minister for Health if the drug sky clarys (omaveloxolone) used for the treatment of Friedreichs ataxia will be made available under licence in Ireland; if she will outline the process to licence the drug; the timeline involved; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [16033/26]

*618. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has approved a workforce planning model quantifying the additional whole-time-equivalent occupational therapy posts required in Cork South-West primary care services to achieve a maximum waiting time of 12-weeks for adults and children; and if she will provide the number of additional posts identified under that model. — Ken O’Flynn. [16034/26]

*619. To ask the Minister for Health whether the Health Service Executive has submitted, in 2024 or 2025, a formal funding request to her Department seeking approval for additional occupational therapy whole-time-equivalent posts in Cork South-West primary care services; if so, the number of posts requested, the estimated annual cost, and the decision taken by her Department on that request. — Ken O’Flynn. [16035/26]

*620. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has set a policy standard for maximum waiting times in adult and paediatric primary care occupational therapy services; whether 12-weeks remains the intended benchmark; and if not, the revised benchmark now accepted by her Department. — Ken O’Flynn. [16036/26]

*621. To ask the Minister for Health the funded whole-time-equivalent ceiling for occupational therapy posts in Cork South-West primary care services for each of the years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025; the actual whole-time-equivalent staffing level in each of those years; and the variance between funded ceiling and actual staffing. — Ken O’Flynn. [16037/26]

*622. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has conducted or commissioned any assessment of the impact of primary care occupational therapy waiting times exceeding 39-weeks on child development outcomes and adult rehabilitation; and if she will provide details of any such assessment. — Ken O’Flynn. [16038/26]

*623. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department or the Health Service Executive maintains data on medical card refusal rates disaggregated by age cohort; if so, whether she will provide the refusal rate for applicants aged 70 years and over in each of the years 2020 to 2025; and if not, the reason such data is not maintained. — Ken O’Flynn. [16039/26]

*624. To ask the Minister for Health the gross and net weekly income thresholds applicable to applicants aged 70 years and over for a full medical card in each of the years 2020 to 2025; whether any interim administrative adjustments, circulars, or guidance notes altered the application of those thresholds during that period; and if she will provide copies of any such policy directions. — Ken O’Flynn. [16040/26]

*625. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department currently receives routine, standardised reports from the Health Service Executive on gender identity services for minors, including referral numbers, waiting list numbers, assessment outcomes, numbers progressing to medical intervention, and associated expenditure; if so, the frequency and format of such reporting; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16053/26]

*626. To ask the Minister for Health the specific safeguarding and clinical governance standards that currently apply to gender identity services for minors pending the completion of the new Model of Care; whether these standards require full psychiatric assessment, comprehensive developmental history, screening for autism spectrum conditions, and documented differential diagnosis prior to consideration of any medical intervention; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16054/26]

*627. To ask the Minister for Health whether any internal audit, clinical audit, external review, or governance assessment has been conducted since 2020 in respect of gender identity services provided to minors, including referrals abroad where applicable; if so, to provide the date and high-level findings of such reviews; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16055/26]

*628. To ask the Minister for Health what national dataset currently exists for the purposes of planning, oversight and evaluation of gender identity services for minors; whether this dataset captures referral source, diagnostic profile, co-morbidities, intervention pathway, outcomes, and costs; whether any data gaps have been formally identified by her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16056/26]

*629. To ask the Minister for Health the total annual expenditure incurred by the Health Service Executive in respect of gender identity services for minors in each year since 2020, including domestic services, overseas referrals, and ancillary supports; whether expenditure is subject to specific budget ceilings or value-for-money review; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O’Flynn. [16057/26]

*630. To ask the Minister for Health if there are plans to return oncology services to Saint Luke’s Hospital, Kilkenny from UPMC; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [16073/26]

*631. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the development of a model for a vaccine damage scheme; the timeframe for the commencement of a scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Eoin Ó Broin. [16075/26]

*632. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a HSE webpage is currently unavailable (details supplied); the length of time that it has been down; the timeline for it going live again; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig Rice. [16085/26]

*633. To ask the Minister for Health the process put in place to arrange for property registered to Cork County Council to be transferred to Cork City Council after the extension of the city boundary; the reason three houses in an area (details supplied) which are vacant for over ten years remain registered to Cork County Council but are now in Cork City Council area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [16094/26]

*634. To ask the Minister for Health the contingency plan in place for the provision of general practitioner services in Ratoath and Dunboyne County Meath, pending the retirement of general practitioners from the provision of medical services in these towns, during the first quarter of 2026; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Gillian Toole. [16104/26]

*635. To ask the Minister for Health the number of capital projects submitted to the HSE estates for Waterford city and county from acute, primary, community, mental health and other services over the past ten years; the status of each project; whether they are at appraisal, design, planning or construction or any other phase codified by HSE estates; the current status of each project, by year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16111/26]

*636. To ask the Minister for Health if she is committed to delivering full 24/7 PPCI services at UHW; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16117/26]

*637. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE staffing positions working in the cardiac services at UHW; the number assigned to each of the cath labs; the breakdown of the staff, by clinical grade; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16118/26]

*638. To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional WTE positions required to deliver 24/7 PPCI services at UHW, broken down by clinical grade; the timeline for delivering same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16119/26]

*639. To ask the Minister for Health the number of new acute inpatient hospital beds delivered at UHW over the past ten years, broken down by year and location of beds; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16120/26]

*640. To ask the Minister for Health the number of new acute inpatient hospital beds to be delivered at UHW over the next five years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16121/26]

*641. To ask the Minister for Health the number of capital projects submitted to the HSE Estates from acute, primary, community, mental health and other services over the past ten years, the status of each project, whether they are at appraisal, design, planning or construction or any other phase codified by HSE estates, the breakdown by year and the current status of each project; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16122/26]

*642. To ask the Minister for Health the total capital funding allocated to health projects to each hospital over the past ten years, broken down by year, by hospital and the total amount, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16123/26]

*643. To ask the Minister for Health the total funding allocated to developing a new adult mental health unit at UHW; what the development will consist of; when plans for a new unit were first presented to the HSE; the current status of the project and the projected timeline for delivery; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16124/26]

*644. To ask the Minister for Health if any plans to build a multi-story car park at UHW have been submitted to her Department or the HSE; if so, the nature of any plans; the current status of any application; the timeline for delivery; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16125/26]

*645. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 571 of 19 February 2026, if the information requested can be provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16138/26]

*646. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1072 of 21 January 2026, the number of incidents reported against service users by level of reported harm by year 2021-2025, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [16142/26]

*647. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1072 of 21 January 2026, the number of incidents reported against staff, by level of reported harm by year 2021-2025, inclusive, in tabular form. — David Cullinane. [16143/26]

*648. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department have conducted a study of mortality of serving or former members of the Air Corps to ascertain if they are in line with

the general population; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [16169/26]

*649. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department have ever conducted a study of the health of serving or former members of the Air Corps to ascertain whether there is a greater concentration or a clustering of unusual or uncommon cancers or other ailments among this cohort of the public; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [16170/26]

*650. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department receives routine comparative reports from the HSE detailing recruitment clearance timelines, vacancy duration metrics, and regional variance across the six Health Regions; if so, the frequency and format of such reports; and if she will confirm whether these metrics are reviewed at Departmental Corporate Governance Committee level. — Ken O'Flynn. [16171/26]

*651. To ask the Minister for Health whether any assessment has been undertaken by her Department of the potential impact of the absence of nationally standardised recruitment clearance timelines on workforce shortages, service capacity, and patient access; and if she will outline any measures being considered to ensure consistent, transparent recruitment performance measurement at national level. — Ken O'Flynn. [16172/26]

*652. To ask the Minister for Health the devolution of recruitment autonomy to the six health regions under Sláintecare is reconciled with the constitutional principle of ministerial accountability to Dáil Éireann in circumstances where no national clearance benchmarks apply; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ken O'Flynn. [16173/26]

*653. To ask the Minister for Health the current status of the proposed new maternity hospital development at University Hospital Kerry, including provision of direct theatre access from the delivery suite; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [16217/26]

*654. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the maternity and neonatal unit project at University Hospital Kerry, previously approved at capital submission stage in 2018, has reportedly been removed from the Regional Executive Officer's priority list; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [16218/26]

*655. To ask the Minister for Health whether it has been brought to her attention that women requiring emergency caesarean section at University Hospital Kerry must currently be transferred via a public corridor and lift to access theatre facilities; the steps being taken to address this issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pa Daly. [16219/26]

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

*656. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the total capital allocation approved to date for the National Demonstration Park for Modern Methods of Construction at Mount Lucas; the amount drawn down to date; whether a formal Stage 1 and Stage 2 approval under the Capital Works Management Framework was completed prior to commencement of enabling groundworks; and if he will provide the dates on which such approvals were granted. — Ken O'Flynn. [16020/26]

*657. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the current status of the performance and evaluation framework for the National Demonstration Park for Modern Methods of Construction; the date on which the framework is expected to be formally approved; whether draft metrics have been agreed by the Project Advisory Group; and whether the framework will be published. — Ken O’Flynn. [16021/26]

*658. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the baseline data identified for measuring the impact of the National Demonstration Park for Modern Methods of Construction; the specific quantitative target indicators to be used in assessing uptake of MMC in public housing delivery, training throughput, and cost and time efficiencies; and if he will provide the numerical targets adopted. — Ken O’Flynn. [16022/26]

*659. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the policy rationale for commencing capital works on the National Demonstration Park for Modern Methods of Construction prior to finalisation of the performance and evaluation framework; whether a written risk assessment was undertaken in relation to this sequencing decision; and if so, whether he will provide details. — Ken O’Flynn. [16023/26]

*660. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reporting structures applicable to the National Demonstration Park for Modern Methods of Construction, including the frequency of reporting to his Department; whether performance data will be laid before the Oireachtas; and whether the Project Advisory Group minutes are recorded and retained for audit purposes. — Ken O’Flynn. [16024/26]

*661. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the total capital funding allocated to each technological university since they were established, broken down by TU, by year, a list of the projects funded; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16112/26]

*662. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the current status of all capital projects submitted to her Department from SETU; the status the projects are at including appraisal, design, planning and so on; the projected timeline for delivery for each project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [16113/26]

*663. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science further to Parliamentary Question No. 686 of 19 February 2026, if the information requested can be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Geoghegan. [16130/26]

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

*664. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht when details of the next CLÁR programme will be announced; the proposed changes to the criteria; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere. [15962/26]

*665. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht when an opportunity might next exist for organisations to apply for funding under the outdoor recreational investment scheme; the categories of schemes which might apply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16063/26]

*666. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht when an opportunity might next exist for organisations to apply for funding under the Clár scheme; the categories of schemes which might apply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16064/26]

*667. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht when an opportunity might next exist for organisations to apply for funding under the town and village renewal scheme; the categories of schemes which might apply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16065/26]

*668. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the list of projects in County Galway funded under the town and village renewal scheme in 2024 and 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16066/26]

*669. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the list of projects in County Galway funded under the Clár scheme in 2024 and 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16067/26]

*670. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the list of projects in County Galway funded under the outdoor recreation investment scheme in 2024 and 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Connolly. [16068/26]