



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 16 Meán Fómhair, 2026
Wednesday, 16th September, 2026

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

Chun an Taoiseach: To the Taoiseach

1. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will meet next.
PQ64344/26 | SÉAMUS MCGRATH
2. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet.
PQ64294/26 | RYAN O'MEARA
3. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet.
PQ64265/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE
4. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet.
PQ64827/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN
5. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet.
PQ64905/26 | PAUL LAWLESS
6. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet.
PQ65085/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT
7. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Justice, Migration and Social Affairs will meet next.
PQ64288/26 | ALBERT DOLAN
8. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Justice, Migration and Social Affairs will meet next.
PQ64345/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN
9. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Justice, Migration and Social Affairs will next meet.
PQ64291/26 | TOM BRABAZON
10. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Justice, Migration and Social Affairs will next meet.
PQ64266/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE
11. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Justice, Migration and Social Affairs will next meet.
PQ64814/26 | DARREN O'ROURKE
12. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Justice, Migration and Social Affairs will meet next.
PQ64832/26 | LOUIS O'HARA
13. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Justice, Migration and Social Affairs will next meet.
PQ65610/26 | MARK WARD
14. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Northern Ireland will meet next.
PQ64350/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN
15. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Northern Ireland will meet next.
PQ64347/26 | BRENDAN SMITH
16. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Northern Ireland will meet next.
PQ64301/26 | CATHAL CROWE
17. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Northern Ireland will next meet.
PQ64937/26 | CORMAC DEVLIN
18. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet.
PQ64293/26 | SHAY BRENNAN
19. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet.
PQ64278/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL
20. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on EU and International Affairs will next meet.
PQ65515/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ
21. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy, Trade and Competitiveness will meet next.

PQ64289/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

22. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy, Trade and Competitiveness will meet next.

PQ64285/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

23. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on the Economy, Trade and Competitiveness will next meet.

PQ64292/26 | SHAY BRENNAN

24. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on the Economy, Trade and Competitiveness will next meet.

PQ64280/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

25. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy, Trade and Competitiveness will meet next.

PQ64831/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

26. To ask the Taoiseach when the next meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Investment will meet.

PQ65509/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

27. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on the Economy, Trade and Competitiveness will next meet.

PQ65514/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

28. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next.

PQ64284/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

29. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next.

PQ64283/26 | AISLING DEMPSEY

30. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next.

PQ64282/26 | CATHAL CROWE

31. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next.

PQ64281/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

32. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet.

PQ64373/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

33. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will meet next.

PQ65174/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

34. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet.

PQ65219/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

35. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet.

PQ65369/26 | PAUL MURPHY

36. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet committee on Children and Education will next meet.

PQ65614/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

37. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Children and Education will next meet.

PQ65407/26 | MARY LOU MCDONALD

38. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure will meet next.

PQ64287/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

39. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure will meet next.

PQ64343/26 | SÉAMUS MCGRATH

40. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure will next meet.

PQ64308/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

41. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure will meet next.

PQ64833/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

42. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Shared Island unit in his Department.

PQ64349/26 | BRENDAN SMITH

43. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Shared Island unit in his Department.

PQ64352/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

44. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Shared Island unit in his Department.

PQ64302/26 | CATHAL CROWE

45. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on the work of the Shared Island unit.

PQ64936/26 | CORMAC DEVLIN

46. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Water Quality will meet next.

PQ64305/26 | AINDRIAS MOYNIHAN

47. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Water Quality will meet next.

PQ64303/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

48. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Climate Action, Environment and Energy will meet next.

PQ64307/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

49. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Climate Action, Environment and Energy will next meet.

PQ64306/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

50. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Climate Action, Environment and Energy will next meet.

PQ64374/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

51. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Climate Action, Environment and Energy will next meet.

PQ65218/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

52. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Climate Action, Environment and Energy will next meet.

PQ65371/26 | PAUL MURPHY

53. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Environment and Climate Action will next meet.

PQ65374/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

54. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will meet next.

PQ64346/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

55. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will meet next.

PQ64511/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

56. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet.

PQ64526/26 | SÉAMUS MCGRATH

57. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health will next meet.

PQ65609/26 | MARK WARD

58. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Disability will meet next.

PQ64353/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

59. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Disability will meet next.

PQ64348/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

60. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Disability will next meet.

PQ65608/26 | MARK WARD

61. To ask the Taoiseach for a report on the work of the Child Poverty and Well-Being Programme Office in his Department.

PQ64502/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

62. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the economic division of his Department.

PQ64813/26 | DARREN O'ROURKE

63. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the Climate Action Unit of his Department.

PQ65376/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

64. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on his recent engagement with President Trump.

PQ64826/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

65. To ask the Taoiseach if he will provide an update on his recent engagement with President Trump.

PQ64904/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

66. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent meeting with US President Trump.

PQ65173/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

67. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent meeting with the US President Donald Trump.

PQ65368/26 | PAUL MURPHY
68. To ask the Taoiseach to report on recent engagement he has had with the President of the United States of America.

PQ65511/26 | RUTH COPPINGER
69. To ask the Taoiseach for an update on the implementation of the Dublin City Task Force Report.

PQ65408/26 | MARY LOU MCDONALD
70. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the programme plan for his Department's new disability unit for 2025-2027.

PQ65409/26 | MARY LOU MCDONALD
71. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent meeting with UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham and the matters discussed.

PQ65526/26 | LIAM QUAIDE
72. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the visit of Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney to Ireland in June 2026.

PQ65513/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ
73. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent meeting with the Chancellor of Germany.

PQ65510/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

CEISTEANNA LE HAGHAIDH FREADRAI SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoiseach: To the Taoiseach

74. To ask the Taoiseach the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64862/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT
75. To ask the Taoiseach in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65355/26 | BARRY WARD
76. To ask the Taoiseach the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control.

PQ65325/26 | BARRY WARD

Chun an Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála: To the Foreign Affairs and Trade

77. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if her attention has been drawn to the delays in processing a first-time passport application (details supplied); the actions she will take to ensure that it is processed in a timely manner; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64440/26 | BARRY WARD
78. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade when a renewal child passport application (details supplied) will be finalised.

PQ64460/26 | PÁDRAIG MAC LOCHLAINN
79. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the status of the printing of passport cards; the average current processing time for passport card applications; the number of passport cards that have been printed in each month of 2026 to date; and if she will provide advice on an application for a passport card for an individual (details supplied).

PQ64741/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL
80. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the details of any contracts in place between her Department and agencies under her remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64836/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT
81. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the number of passports that have been issued from the years 2020-2026 which included a gender marker that was not M (male) or F (female).

PQ64971/26 | RUTH COPPINGER
82. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the basis for any delay in the opening of thematic clusters related to accession of Moldova into the EU.

PQ65142/26 | BARRY WARD
83. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the position regarding the opening of thematic clusters related to accession of Moldova into the EU.

PQ65141/26 | BARRY WARD

84. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the position regarding any engagement she has had with her EU counterparts in relation to the opening of thematic clusters related to accession of Moldova into the EU.

PQ65143/26 | BARRY WARD

85. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if she will report on relations between Egypt and Ireland.

PQ65410/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

86. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if her attention has been drawn to the delays in processing a first-time passport application (details supplied); the actions she will take to ensure that it is processed in a timely manner; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65436/26 | BARRY WARD

87. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade in cases in which a building under her control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; her plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65347/26 | BARRY WARD

88. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade whether her Department is publishing the 'Ireland's EU Presidency: Ní neart go cur le chéile' book; if so, the number of copies being produced; and the total cost of same.

PQ65455/26 | PAUL MURPHY

89. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the position regarding the total level of funding that has been provided to the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) programme, broken down by year, in tabular form.

PQ65554/26 | BARRY WARD

90. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the position regarding the total level of funding that has been provided to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) programme, broken down by year, in tabular form.

PQ65553/26 | BARRY WARD

91. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade her views on the importance of Ireland's continued support for the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) programme.

PQ65552/26 | BARRY WARD

92. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade her views on the importance of Ireland's continued support for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) programme.

PQ65551/26 | BARRY WARD

93. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under her control; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65317/26 | BARRY WARD

94. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the position regarding any plans to continue Ireland's support for the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) programme.

PQ65556/26 | BARRY WARD

95. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the position regarding any plans to continue Ireland's support for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) programme.

PQ65555/26 | BARRY WARD

Chun an Aeráide, Fuinnimh agus Comhshaoil: To the Climate, Energy and the Environment

96. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if a further funding call is expected under the Community Climate Action Fund; and when he envisages this call to be made.

PQ64183/26 | NOEL MCCARTHY

97. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures being developed to enable households, electric vehicles, heat pumps and domestic batteries to participate in demand-response, aggregation and electricity-system flexibility services; whether publicly supported technologies will be required to include smart and flexible controls; and the timeline for their introduction.

PQ64263/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

98. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the current average waiting time from application to survey under the SEAI warmer homes scheme; the measures being taken to reduce waiting times; and whether any priority arrangements exist for households experiencing significant dampness or mould.

PQ64253/26 | JOHN LAHART

99. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures being developed to enable households, electric vehicles, heat pumps and domestic batteries to participate in demand-response, aggregation and electricity-system flexibility services; whether publicly supported technologies will be required to include smart and flexible controls; and the timeline for their introduction.

PQ64318/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

100. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he has considered a review of the eligibility criteria under the SEAI warmer homes scheme in respect of homes with a room-in-roof construction that are currently excluded from insulation measures; and the technical basis for the exclusion of such properties.

PQ64249/26 | JOHN LAHART

101. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the extent to which the SEAI warmer homes scheme takes into account the age, degradation, and material inefficiency of existing cavity wall insulation when assessing a home's eligibility for fully funded upgrades.

PQ64370/26 | CHRISTOPHER O'SULLIVAN

102. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures being developed to enable households, electric vehicles, heat pumps and domestic batteries to participate in demand-response, aggregation and electricity-system flexibility services; whether publicly supported technologies will be required to include smart and flexible controls; and the timeline for their introduction.

PQ64496/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

103. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if Ireland is advocating at EU level for the introduction of either a de minimis threshold exempting micro-enterprises placing only small quantities of packaging on the market in other EU member states from certain packaging Extended Producer Responsibility registration and reporting requirements, or a single EU-wide packaging compliance registration system with fees scaled according to the volume of packaging placed on the market; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64489/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

104. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment further to his recent comments to provide an update on any proposals under consideration by his Department to roll out solar panels and insulation grants to low-income households.

PQ64485/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

105. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures being pursued by Ireland at EU level to simplify packaging extended producer responsibility compliance requirements for micro and small enterprises engaged in cross-border e-commerce within the European Union (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64483/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

106. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether consideration is being given, at national or EU level, to a simplified or exempt compliance regime for micro and small enterprises placing very small quantities of packaging on markets in other EU member states (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64484/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

107. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the engagement his Department has had with representatives of Irish micro and small businesses regarding the impact of packaging extended producer responsibility obligations on cross-border online trade within the European Union; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64487/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

108. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether Ireland supports the establishment of an EU-wide packaging compliance registration system or one-stop-shop mechanism to replace multiple national registration requirements for businesses engaged in cross-border e-commerce; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64486/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

109. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether any assessment has been undertaken of the potential for geothermal energy projects in County Cork; and if any Cork locations are being considered for future geothermal district heating schemes.

PQ64553/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

110. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he has evaluated the concerns of the liquid fuel sector that the proposed obligation rates in the forthcoming renewable heat obligation scheme are too low to have any impact in reducing carbon emissions.

PQ64737/26 | CAROL NOLAN

111. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if consideration has been given in relation to implementing grants for solar panel battery storage.

PQ64729/26 | CHRISTOPHER O'SULLIVAN

112. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he is aware that the obligation rates proposed in the forthcoming renewable heat obligation scheme will see no additional low carbon liquid fuel being used for home heating.

PQ64739/26 | CAROL NOLAN

113. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64846/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

114. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the position regarding any further initiatives proposed by his Department to increase the support for offshore wind infrastructure in coastal communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64945/26 | BARRY WARD

115. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the position regarding any incentives or obligations under review within his Department that would support data centres in the use of renewable energy systems to minimise their reliance on the grid; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64944/26 | BARRY WARD

116. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his current plans regulate increases in prices from energy suppliers.

PQ64969/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

117. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to consider the introduction of supplementary energy credits that take into account the current rate of increase in energy prices.

PQ64968/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

118. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the steps being taken to address delays in accessing BER assessments, particularly for homeowners seeking to apply for SEAI grants; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65196/26 | SORCA CLARKE

119. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the preparation of the Energy Affordability Action Plan.

PQ65227/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

120. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the recommendations that have been made from the National Energy Affordable Taskforce to date; and the progress of their implementation

PQ65226/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

121. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he can advise on the full list of current schemes in place which are administered by the SEAI to assist businesses in improving their energy efficiency.

PQ65225/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

122. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he is aware that the obligation rates proposed in the forthcoming renewable heat obligation scheme will see no additional low carbon liquid fuel being used for home heating.

PQ65434/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

123. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he has evaluated the concerns of the liquid fuel sector that the proposed obligation rates in the forthcoming renewable heat obligation scheme are too low to have any impact in reducing carbon emissions.

PQ65432/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

124. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65341/26 | BARRY WARD

125. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65311/26 | BARRY WARD

126. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his views on the difficulty small businesses are facing to comply with packaging obligations that differ in each EU member state they export to; if his Department is working on a meaningful exemption or simplified regime for micro and small businesses placing very small quantities of packaging on other EU markets; if he is aware of work being done to achieve an EU-wide registration (details supplied); the measures to prevent authorised-representative and administrative costs becoming disproportionate to the environmental liability involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65171/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

127. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the total value of financial support provided to wind energy generation in the State in each of the years 2021 to 2025 and to date in 2026, including all subsidies, grants, guaranteed or supported electricity prices, Renewable Electricity Support Scheme supports and any other financial support provided directly or indirectly through the State or borne by electricity consumers; to provide a breakdown by support scheme and year; the estimated total value of these supports over the period concerned; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65500/26 | CATHAL CROWE

128. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for a further update on the timelines for consultation on, and publication of, Ireland's Social Climate Plan and the drawdown of EU funding.

PQ65563/26 | EMER CURRIE

129. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the work of the working group established to address technical, safety and other issues, in advance of delivering plug-in solar systems in Ireland, which is due to report its recommendations to his Department this month; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65583/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

130. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment in relation to small-scale renewable electricity generation (SRESS), to report on the tariff review; when it will be complete; if he is satisfied with the rate of community projects that are becoming energised; the measures he is taking to address the roadblocks they face; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65742/26 | PA DALY

131. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will report on the work of the NEAT; if he is satisfied it is sufficient to tackle the high cost of energy; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65740/26 | PA DALY

132. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he has met with Bord Gais or SSE Airtricity to discuss their latest price hikes; if not, when he met them; if there are plans to meet in the future; the dates which these meetings took place or will take place; and to provide a detailed breakdown of the dates on which he met each energy supplier since his time in office began, in tabular form.

PQ65739/26 | PA DALY

133. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his views on the latest report on the CRU which proposed that data centres should be offered cut price gas in return for supply disruption; his views on whether is fair; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65756/26 | PA DALY

134. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures in Budget 2027 to reduce the cost of energy; when supports will be provided to ease the burden now; when energy market reforms will be delivered; and if he will make statement on the matter.

PQ65755/26 | PA DALY

135. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to provide an update on the work of the NEAT; when their report will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65754/26 | PA DALY

136. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will detail in tabular format on a county by county basis the number of businesses in each county that have received solar PV grants since 2022.

PQ65697/26 | CATHAL CROWE

137. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the number of homes that received solar PV grants since 2020, by county, in tabular form.

PQ65696/26 | CATHAL CROWE

138. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will confirm that Ireland has agreed to co-host, alongside Tuvalu, the second Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels summit in 2027; if Ireland is also participating in the coordination group established to ensure continuity between the first and second conferences, alongside Colombia, the Netherlands and Tuvalu; the resources, personnel or funding that have been allocated to date to prepare for Ireland's co-hosting role; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65858/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

139. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will clarify how, and at what level, Ireland participated in the Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels summit held in Santa Marta, Colombia, from 24-29 April 2026; if a Minister or Minister of State represented Ireland at the high-level segment; if not, if Ireland's participation was at official/civil servant level only; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65857/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

140. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he is aware that the obligation rates proposed in the forthcoming renewable heat obligation scheme will see no additional low carbon liquid fuel being used for home heating.

PQ65873/26 | WILLIAM AIRD

141. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he has evaluated the concerns of the liquid fuel sector that the proposed obligation rates in the forthcoming renewable heat obligation scheme are too low to have any impact in reducing carbon emissions.

PQ65871/26 | WILLIAM AIRD

142. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment further to the Arklow bank wind farm report (details supplied); the progress made to deliver offshore wind energy; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65764/26 | PA DALY

143. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will provide an update of the grid as outlined as part of PR6; if he has met with EirGrid and ESB to discuss and programme of works planned out to 2030; if he has been or expects to be presented with a timework of works for delivery; if not, when he expects to see a programme and timeline for project delivery; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65760/26 | PA DALY

144. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the steps he is taking to prepare for COP 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65759/26 | PA DALY

145. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the protections he has put in place for households to withstand increasingly extreme weather as we head into the winter months since he entered Government, including protections against storms and flooding; to provide a detailed breakdown of the actions delivered to date, in tabular form.

PQ65757/26 | PA DALY

146. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the additional measures for example, WAM he had planned to address Ireland's emissions (details supplied); to provide a detailed breakdown of these measures; the timeline for delivery; the projected emissions savings; and the impact on overall sectoral ceilings, in tabular form.

PQ65805/26 | PA DALY

147. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment when the climate action plan will be delivered; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65807/26 | PA DALY

148. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to provide an update on the land use review; when it will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65806/26 | PA DALY

149. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to assure the people of East Clare that his Department will not issue prospecting licences in the local area for gold, silver and base metals; if he is aware of the potential impacts of mining and prospecting in relation to water quality and the proposed injection of chemicals into the land in some cases; to give an assurance that the proposed Investor Courts under the Canada Trade Agreement will not be allowed impact residents' rights to take legal action against these licences.

PQ65949/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

150. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment when the Grid Options Report for the South Coast will be finalised and published.

PQ65963/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

151. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will report on the demands data centres place on Ireland's critical infrastructure; the plans to increase this demand; if he is satisfied with our infrastructure's ability to withstand this increased demand; the way in which this will be paid; the contributions data centres have made to finance existing and increased demand; his views on whether access to this infrastructure should operate on a first come, first served model; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65799/26 | PA DALY

Chun an Cosanta: To the Defence

152. To ask the Minister for Defence further to Parliamentary Question No. 585 of 14 April 2026, the number and total value of contracts awarded through Office of Government Procurement frameworks in each of the years 2022 to 2025, disaggregated from drawdowns under OGCIO, HSE and OPW arrangements, in circumstances where the reply provided a combined figure for all four bodies; the number and value of drawdowns below the €25,000 threshold applied in the reply; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64325/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

153. To ask the Minister for Defence further to Parliamentary Question No. 35 of 4 March 2026, if she will reconcile the figures provided for 2024, in circumstances where the sum of the individual country amounts set out for that year appears to fall short of the stated total of €99,779,395.62 by approximately €5.48 million; if she will confirm the correct figures; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64324/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

154. To ask the Minister for Defence further to Parliamentary Question No. 35 of 4 March 2026, whether any preference, weighting or set-aside was applied in favour of Irish-based or EU-based suppliers in the award of defence procurement contracts since February 2022; if so, the nature and value of same; if not, whether her Department has considered introducing such measures within the scope permitted by national and EU procurement rules; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64323/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

155. To ask the Minister for Defence further to Parliamentary Question No. 35 of 4 March 2026, the total value of defence equipment procurement contracts awarded since February 2022, by the country of origin of the supplier as originally requested (details supplied); the value in each year since 2022 awarded to suppliers whose goods or services originate in the State, as distinct from Irish-registered agents or distributors of goods manufactured abroad; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64322/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

156. To ask the Minister for Defence further to Parliamentary Question No. 103 of 6 May 2026, if she will provide the average maintenance downtime per aircraft type as originally requested (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64321/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

157. To ask the Minister for Defence further to Parliamentary Question No. 103 of 6 May 2026, the number of aircraft in the Air Corps fleet currently classified as fully operational; the number under scheduled maintenance; the number unavailable for operational use, in circumstances where this breakdown was not provided in the reply; the aggregate fleet availability figures which are routinely published in comparable jurisdictions without compromising operational security; the reason a breakdown of overall fleet availability is considered to engage operational security; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64320/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

158. To ask the Minister for Defence the engagement the Air Corps has had in Medivac provision in Galway; the sites being considered for same; if there has been engagement with Galway's local authorities on the use of the Galway Airport site at Carnmore which has an existing lit runway and could facilitate fixed wing air ambulance; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64382/26 | SEÁN KYNE

159. To ask the Minister for Defence her plans to provide the State with its own interceptor jets to better police our airspace and the threats therein; her plans to retire existing PC9 trainers; the plans under level of ambition 2 and the move to level of ambition 3 for the Air Corps; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64380/26 | SEÁN KYNE

160. To ask the Minister for Defence if the 'be emergency ready' booklets have been published; and if consideration is being given to the inclusion of advice related to breastfeeding in the context of infant feeding, considering the information only refers to formula feeding.

PQ64576/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

161. To ask the Minister for Defence the way in which the Government intends to deliver all of the projects outlined in the National Development Plan within the €1.7 billion funding allocation and within the timeframes highlighted in the plan, given the level of funding already committed to

existing projects; and, in light of these commitments, whether the Government accepts that there does not appear to be sufficient funding available to deliver all of the proposed projects; and the way in which this shortfall will be addressed.

PQ64793/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

162. To ask the Minister for Defence to identify, by threat category, the military threats against which Ireland currently has a fully sovereign national response capability, those against which Ireland has only a partial capability, and those against which Ireland is dependent on assistance from other States; and if she will provide the information, in tabular form.

PQ64794/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

163. To ask the Minister for Defence when the Government first identified that the Defence Forces would be unable to provide all of the security and military capabilities required for Ireland's 2026 Presidency of the Council of the EU; when the decision was taken to seek assistance from foreign governments; the capability gaps that were identified; and the reason these gaps had not been addressed in advance of the Presidency.

PQ64795/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

164. To ask the Minister for Defence the way in which her claim that Irish defence spending has increased by 43% over the last two years was calculated; and if she can provide the figures to the House.

PQ64796/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

165. To ask the Minister for Defence to provide an update on the purchase and use of sonobuoys on C295MPA aircraft and around areas of strategic importance; has the project commenced.

PQ64797/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

166. To ask the Minister for Defence if the purchase of 155mm artillery systems will be included as part of the armoured vehicle replacement programme.

PQ64798/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

167. To ask the Minister for Defence the details of any contracts in place between her Department and agencies under her remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64847/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

168. To ask the Minister for Defence if the memorandum of understanding between Ireland and the Britain on Defence and Security Co-operation has been formally laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas as committed to on 13 March 2026; if so, the date; if a copy of same will be provided; and if the document references potential Irish involvement in NATO's ITPP or the UK JEF, including via JEF+.

PQ64925/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

169. To ask the Minister for Defence to provide an update on the work her Department has undertaken to address the ongoing encampments on the Curragh.

PQ64989/26 | MARK WALL

170. To ask the Minister for Defence to provide an update on the work her Department has undertaken to address the dereliction on the Curragh Camp.

PQ64990/26 | MARK WALL

171. To ask the Minister for Defence the reason the words "if breastfeeding, continue feeding on demand" were omitted from the 'Be Emergency Ready' document published by her Department; and if she will reconsider the exclusion of this public health advice.

PQ65037/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

172. To ask the Minister for Defence in cases in which a building under her control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; her plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65343/26 | BARRY WARD

173. To ask the Minister for Defence if the Defence Forces plan to put out expression of interest tender to shipping companies worldwide in quarter four this year regarding the replacement of both L.É. Róisín and L.É. Niamh naval ships during 2027.

PQ65522/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

174. To ask the Minister for Defence the nature of refurbishment works that were carried out at Aiken Barracks, Dundalk in the years of 2025 and to date in 2026; if each refurbishment works project is completed or still ongoing at present, in tabular form.

PQ65521/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

175. To ask the Minister for Defence the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under her control; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65903/26 | BARRY WARD

Chun an Iompair: To the Transport

176. To ask the Minister for Transport the obligations on app dispatch operators to show a taxi driver the exact final fare charged to their passenger (details supplied); the protections that exist for the driver who correctly entered the lower meter amount in an event where a passenger claims to have been charged more than the meter; which document is the authoritative expense record where the app transaction and taximeter receipt contain different amounts; and if issues relating to these questions will be addressed in the current review of dispatch-operator regulation.

PQ64175/26 | AENGUS Ó SNODAIGH

177. To ask the Minister for Transport Whether his Department has received any recent traffic monitoring data from Cork County Council, the National Transport Authority or Transport Infrastructure Ireland concerning the R630 between Ballinacurra and the N25 Lakeview Roundabout; if so, whether the data indicates any material deterioration in traffic flow or journey times; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64199/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

178. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware and supportive of the plans for a redeveloped Port in Galway (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64185/26 | SEÁN KYNE

179. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide a list of the current local link services in each county.

PQ64179/26 | CATHY BENNETT

180. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to increase the local link services in counties Cavan and Monaghan.

PQ64178/26 | CATHY BENNETT

181. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has considered introducing statutory limits on dispatcher commission fees for regulated metered SPSV trips.

PQ64214/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

182. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the development of the Galway Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (GMATS); the current stage of work being undertaken by the National Transport Authority and partner agencies on the strategy; the timeline for completion of the draft strategy; when he expects the draft GMATS to be published and opened for public consultation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64215/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

183. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of the Luas Lucan project; whether the emerging preferred route has now been identified as anticipated in 2026; when the non-statutory public consultation is expected to commence; and whether the target delivery timeframe of 2031-2036 remains achievable.

PQ64217/26 | GRACE BOLAND

184. To ask the Minister for Transport the up-to-date position in relation to the CIÉ pension scheme; if the process has been completed; the date for payments under this agreement to be paid; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64154/26 | SEAN FLEMING

185. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the requirement for a medical fitness certificate for professional driving licence applicants to be completed by a medical practitioner practising in the State arises from primary legislation, statutory regulations, EU requirements, departmental policy or administrative practice; and whether the requirement applies equally to medical certificates issued by registered practitioners in Northern Ireland.

PQ64231/26 | CHARLES WARD

186. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will clarify whether a medical certificate completed by a registered GP in Northern Ireland, including an NHS GP, is legally acceptable for the purposes of applying for a bus driver licence in the State; and if not, the legislative or regulatory basis for requiring the certificate to be completed by a GP practising under the HSE.

PQ64230/26 | CHARLES WARD

187. To ask the Minister for Transport to consider the introduction of an additional bus on a route (details supplied).

PQ64141/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

188. To ask the Minister for Transport whether he and his Department are planning a new grant or incentive scheme following the closure of the ICE to EV Grant in July 2026 which supported motorists in replacing older diesel engine cars with electric vehicles.

PQ64202/26 | GRACE BOLAND

189. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the National Transport Authority has a workforce and skills plan to address identified capability gaps; the recruitment targets and timelines contained in the plan; and the extent to which it is intended to build and retain these skills directly within the Authority rather than through consultants, agency or outsourced personnel.

PQ64271/26 | GRACE BOLAND

190. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department or the National Transport Authority has assessed the impact of shortages of experienced engineers, planners, surveyors, project managers and other specialist personnel on the cost and delivery timelines of major transport projects; the projects considered most exposed to such shortages; and the measures being taken to mitigate these risks.

PQ64275/26 | GRACE BOLAND

191. To ask the Minister for Transport the specific skills and capability gaps currently identified within the National Transport Authority, including in project management, engineering, procurement, information technology, digital systems, contract management and major infrastructure delivery; the number of additional personnel required in each identified area; and the measures and timelines in place to address these gaps.

PQ64270/26 | GRACE BOLAND

192. To ask the Minister for Transport the actions being taken by his Department and the National Transport Authority to address skills and capacity constraints affecting delivery of the transport capital programme; whether an implementation or workforce plan has been agreed; and the actions, targets, responsible bodies and timelines contained therein.

PQ64274/26 | GRACE BOLAND

193. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the National Transport Authority achieved its objective of an 80:20 ratio of directly employed staff to outsourced placements in business as usual roles by the end of 2024; the current ratio; and, if the objective was not achieved, the reasons for this and the revised timeline for achieving it.

PQ64269/26 | GRACE BOLAND

194. To ask the Minister for Transport the specific skills shortages and capacity constraints identified as posing a risk to delivery of the State's transport infrastructure programme; the estimated additional requirement for project managers, engineers, planners, surveyors, skilled tradespeople and other specialist personnel over the period 2026 to 2030; and whether these requirements have been quantified, by occupation and major project.

PQ64273/26 | GRACE BOLAND

195. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of additional permanent posts sought by the National Transport Authority in each of the years 2019 to 2026; the number sanctioned in each year; the number subsequently filled; the number remaining vacant; and the average time taken to fill sanctioned posts, in tabular form.

PQ64272/26 | GRACE BOLAND

196. To ask the Minister for Transport the total expenditure by the National Transport Authority on permanent employees and outsourced placements respectively in each of the years 2019 to 2025 and to date in 2026; the expenditure on outsourced placements to be further broken down between business as usual and project based roles; and the current average annual cost of a permanent employee and an outsourced placement respectively, in tabular form.

PQ64268/26 | GRACE BOLAND

197. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of permanent employees employed by the National Transport Authority and the number of outsourced placements engaged, broken down between business as usual and project based roles, at year end in each of the years 2019 to 2025 and currently in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64267/26 | GRACE BOLAND

198. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will take steps to reverse the recently announced bus and rail fare increases; the engagement he had with the National Transport Authority before the announcement of the bus and rail fare increases.

PQ64394/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

199. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding research carried out by his Department into the merit of promoting the use of HVO fuel for transport to support a reduction in emissions; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64393/26 | BARRY WARD

200. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the use of HVO fuel for transport as an alternative to diesel; if his Department is carrying out research into the merits of promoting its use at a national level; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64392/26 | BARRY WARD

201. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the price volatility of HVO fuel for transport; if he is concerned that if the price per litre is consistently more than the price of diesel it will act as a disincentive; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64391/26 | BARRY WARD

202. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding any engagement he had with the NTA prior to the announcement of forthcoming price increases on public transport (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64447/26 | BARRY WARD

203. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps he will take to provide for an increase in CIÉ pensions to reflect the significant increases in the cost-of-living in recent years; whether such an increase is currently under consideration; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64410/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

204. To ask the Minister for Transport the current position regarding outstanding increases under the CIÉ pension schemes; the progress made in resolving this matter following previous commitments that it would be addressed; the timeframe for a resolution; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64409/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

205. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding any research carried out into the potential impact of price increases on public transport (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64453/26 | BARRY WARD

206. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is concerned regarding the potential impact on passenger numbers due to price increases on public transport (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64452/26 | BARRY WARD

207. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to negative passenger feedback in relation to the proposed price increases on public transport (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64451/26 | BARRY WARD

208. To ask the Minister for Transport the actions he will take to engage with the NTA in relation to the proposed price increases on public transport (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64449/26 | BARRY WARD

209. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on the NTA's decision to implement price increases on public transport fares; his views on whether this goes against the Government aims to incentivise the use of public transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64448/26 | BARRY WARD

210. To ask the Minister for Transport to reconsider the introduction of a 15% increase in adult public transport fares given the current cost-of-living crisis.

PQ64459/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

211. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will intervene to stop fare hikes of 15% hitting public transport users in 2027, considering cost of living pressures, the recent tax break to motorists, and the imperative from a climate perspective to promote sustainable transport.

PQ64505/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

212. To ask the Minister for Transport the details of all defects for national roads logged on to the TII defect management system in 2025 and to date in 2026 for each local authority; the details of whether those defects have been approved or refused for funding and the amount of funding allocated for each, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64523/26 | JOE COONEY

213. To ask the Minister for Transport the timeline for the provision of the Letterkenny town bus service in County Donegal that has been promised since September 2025,

PQ64535/26 | PÁDRAIG MAC LOCHLAINN

214. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the proposed new Knock Airport bus service would supplement, will replace or extend existing routes 440, 442 or MY42; the way in which it would connect with route 22 at Charlestown; if its timetable will be coordinated with flights at Ireland West Airport; and if the NTA or Department officials have engaged with Ireland West Airport to ensure the timetable is of greatest benefit to passengers.

PQ64528/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

215. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the present planning and approval status of the proposed Charlestown, Ireland West Airport, Kiltimagh, Castlebar bus service; whether procurement or contractual discussions have commenced; and the earliest anticipated operational date.

PQ64527/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

216. To ask the Minister for Transport if a road transporters support scheme applicant (details supplied) will be allowed to request payment for additional months or will be able to appeal this decision.

PQ64560/26 | BRIAN BRENNAN

217. To ask the Minister for Transport to reconsider the increase on fares on public transport.

PQ64561/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

218. To ask the Minister for Transport when the appeals process under the road transporters support scheme will open to applicants who wish to make an appeal on their case.

PQ64558/26 | BRIAN BRENNAN

219. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures he is taking to address the concerns that the recently announced rise in public transport fares will discourage the use of public transport; the measures he is taking to ensure that the use of public transport is affordable; and the engagements he had with the NTA on the matter.

PQ64566/26 | PA DALY

220. To ask the Minister for Transport to report on the engagements he had with the NTA to discuss the recently announced increase in public transport fares; to report on all meetings including the times he met with the NTA to discuss this issue in person; and the dates of these meetings including a breakdown of the dates he attended as opposed to a meeting taken by his officials.

PQ64569/26 | PA DALY

221. To ask the Minister for Transport the work that has been carried out by his Department to analyse the impact of the recently announced fare increase on the affordability of public transport; if he will publish this analysis; and to outline a date for publication.

PQ64568/26 | PA DALY

222. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on whether the recently announced increase in public transport fares is justified; and if he will consider reversing this increase and ensure that it does not go ahead in January 2027.

PQ64567/26 | PA DALY

223. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the National Transport Authority has submitted a request for funding in 2027 for the proposed bus service connecting Charlestown, Ireland West Airport, Kiltimagh and Castlebar; and the estimated annual cost and proposed frequency of that service.

PQ64525/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

224. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has engaged with the NTA on correspondence (details supplied); and to provide an update on the concerns raised by residents.

PQ64638/26 | PA DALY

225. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department plans to establish a local link route to serve Mourneabbey; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64611/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

226. To ask the Minister for Transport if Bus Éireann has a dedicated phone line available for people, particularly older people, who are unable to purchase bus tickets online; if not, if he will consider introducing one.

PQ64676/26 | CATHY BENNETT

227. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department will undertake a feasibility study on the development of a North Drogheda railway station and a new railway station in Mid-Louth; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64685/26 | PAULA BUTTERLY

228. To ask the Minister for Transport to urgently reconsider the increase in public transport fares by 15% in 2027 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64709/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

229. To ask the Minister for Transport regarding the recent purchase of 132 buses by the NTA, the number of publicly-owned buses that are currently not being used; when they will come into use; and the cost of storage and servicing any unused buses, both cumulatively and per-week.

PQ64718/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

230. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will address the issues raised in correspondence (details supplied) concerning recent rail fare increases and operations within Iarnród Éireann.

PQ64730/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

231. To ask the Minister for Transport the average waiting time for an NCT appointment, by county; the number of vehicles currently overdue an NCT due to a lack of available appointments; and the measures being taken to reduce waiting times.

PQ64772/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

232. To ask the Minister for Transport the total amount collected in motor tax from vehicles registered in County Clare in each of the past five years; and the amount invested by the State in the maintenance and improvement of roads in County Clare in each of those years.

PQ64773/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

233. To ask the Minister for Transport the way in which the decision to increase the Public Service Obligation fares by an average of 15% from January 2027 is consistent with the target in the National Sustainable Mobility Policy, as updated by the Climate Action Plan 2023, of a 130% increase in daily public transport journeys by 2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64817/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

234. To ask the Minister for Transport if an assessment was made of the impact of the January 2027 fare increase on low income commuters, on rural passengers and on users of TFI Local Link services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64825/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

235. To ask the Minister for Transport the criteria that will govern the annual review of fares to apply from 2027; whether each annual adjustment will be subject to Ministerial approval; whether it will be laid before the Oireachtas for scrutiny; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64824/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

236. To ask the Minister for Transport if alternatives to the January 2027 fare increase were considered, including the estimated cost to the Exchequer of maintaining Public Service Obligation fares at 2026 levels; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64823/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

237. To ask the Minister for Transport if any modelling or assessment was carried out by his Department or the National Transport Authority of the projected impact of the January 2027 fare increase on passenger numbers and on progress toward national public transport journey targets; if so, if that modelling will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64822/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

238. To ask the Minister for Transport the additional fare revenue projected to be raised in a full year by the average 15% increase in Public Service Obligation fares taking effect in January 2027; the current annual Public Service Obligation subvention; the proportion of the operating cost of PSO services currently met by fare revenue; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64821/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

239. To ask the Minister for Transport to instruct his Department to take account of recent weather conditions when issuing road repair budgets due to the negative impacts on roads; to increase the road repair budgets in Clare from 4% of overall budgets to 10%; and to allocate additional funding in areas where felling licences have been granted by the Dept of Agriculture, Food and the Marine so that roads damaged in felling and transportation operations can be promptly repaired.

PQ64828/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

240. To ask the Minister for Transport the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64848/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

241. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will review the case of a person (details supplied); if he will provide an update on the driving licence application which has remained under review for over two months; if the matter will be expedited given the circumstances.

PQ64913/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

242. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider increasing funding to the National Transport Authority to support the expansion of public transport services in underserved rural areas, including communities such as Glencar, County Kerry, where there are currently no plans for a regular TFI bus service; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64867/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

243. To ask the Minister for Transport if CIÉ has received compensation in relation to an insurance claim arising from two bridge strikes on the Barrow Bridge, New Ross in County Wexford in 2022; the current status of spending plans to upgrade the opening mechanism of the Barrow Bridge in line with previous commitments given by the Chief Executive of Irish Rail and when a schedule of works will be available.

PQ64864/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

244. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to expand parking at Clara train station to meet increased demand.

PQ64935/26 | SORCA CLARKE

245. To ask the Minister for Transport to estimate the cost of eliminating public transport fares for student Leap Card holders and for under-25 Leap Card holders; and the cost of eliminating fares for both together.

PQ64963/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

246. To ask the Minister for Transport the motor tax status of Ukrainian registered vehicles currently driving in the State; when the temporary exemptions from Motor Tax and NCT for Ukrainian vehicles will be abolished; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64965/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

247. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason skilled workers from the Philippines cannot exchange their driving licences (details supplied).

PQ64972/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

248. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider extending the Dublin Commuter Zone to include Athy and Monasterevin so that workers and commuters can avail of more affordable public transport.

PQ64983/26 | MARK WALL

249. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the enhancement of the 130 bus in Kildare South.

PQ64988/26 | MARK WALL

250. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the provision of new bus routes for Kildare South.

PQ64984/26 | MARK WALL

251. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the provision of a bus lane on the M7/N7 from J2 Kingswood to J4 Rathcoole.

PQ64985/26 | MARK WALL

252. To ask the Minister for Transport his views on correspondence (details supplied); if he is aware of these concerns; the measures he is taking to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64977/26 | PA DALY

253. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the provision of a priority bus lane on the M4.

PQ64986/26 | MARK WALL

254. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on a Sunday service for the 883 local link bus in Kildare South.

PQ64987/26 | MARK WALL

255. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide detailed reasoning for the announced increase to public transport fares from January 2027; if any engagement has taken place between the NTA and his Department regarding how increased fares could be avoided; and if the increase will be reviewed.

PQ65045/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

256. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to the high cost of public transport between Galway and Limerick; there are plans to develop a faster, express bus services between Galway and Limerick for commuters; if work is being carried out to increase the TaxSaver benefits of commuting along this route; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65076/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

257. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will request Iarnród Éireann and the Railway Safety Commission to carry out an urgent review of the crossing at Kiltybo, Ballyhaunis, County Mayo following the fatal collision between a train and a car at the crossing on 3 September 2026; if he will consider having the existing crossing replaced with a fully automated barrier crossing with appropriate warning systems and safety measures at similar crossings; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65049/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

258. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of concerns raised by residents of Lacken, County Mayo regarding increased aircraft noise and reports of low-flying aircraft since 16 August 2026; whether any noise impact assessment has been conducted in respect of the area; if the Irish Aviation Authority has received complaints relating to aircraft noise over Lacken; and the measures that can be taken to mitigate the impact on local residents.

PQ65084/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

259. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of flights that have crossed over or in the immediate vicinity of Lacken, County Mayo since 16 August 2026; the daily and weekly average number of flights recorded during this period; whether the Irish Aviation Authority has undertaken any monitoring of air traffic movements in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65083/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

260. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason a number of flight routes were amended from 16 August 2026 resulting in aircraft operating over the village of Lacken, County Mayo; whether these changes are temporary or permanent in nature; which authority approved the amendments; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65081/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

261. To ask the Minister for Transport if funding will be provided for a local link service in County Kerry for the active retired group in the Abbeydorney/Kilflynn area.

PQ65079/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

262. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will engage with Bus Éireann, Cork County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding the provision of suitable bus stopping or lay-by facilities at congestion points in East Cork, so that buses can pull clear of the main carriageway when stopping and avoid obstructing traffic; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65119/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

263. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the National Transport Authority carried out an assessment of the cumulative impact on passengers at Balbriggan and Skerries of the April 2025 Dublin Commuter Zone fare changes and the further fare increases due in 2027; and whether affordability and the scale of the cumulative increase were considered in determining the 2027 fares.

PQ65118/26 | GRACE BOLAND

264. To ask the Minister for Transport if Bus Éireann has plans for a wheelchair accessible stop in Donegal town, County Donegal; and the timeframe for this.

PQ65133/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

265. To ask the Minister for Transport if Irish Rail has received insurance money with respect to Barrow Bridge, counties Wexford and Kilkenny; if so, when works will commence to protect the bridge; the cost breakdown of works carried out on the bridge; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65135/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

266. To ask the Minister for Transport whether Transport Infrastructure Ireland has assessed the compatibility of the Ballinacurra to Midleton Pedestrian and Cycle Route with the N25 Midleton to Youghal Transport Project, given TII's concerns regarding the N25 Lakeview Roundabout and future national-road plans during the 2021 Part 8 process; if so, when the assessment was undertaken; the principal findings; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65130/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

267. To ask the Minister for Transport whether Transport Infrastructure Ireland received the Road Safety Audit or other road-safety assessment relating to the Ballinacurra to Midleton Pedestrian and Cycle Route which TII identified as potentially necessary during the 2021 Part 8 process; if so, when it was received; whether any issues relating to the N25 Lakeview roundabout were identified; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65129/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

268. To ask the Minister for Transport whether his Department has received recent traffic-monitoring data from Cork County Council, the National Transport Authority or Transport Infrastructure Ireland concerning the R630 between Ballinacurra and the N25 Lakeview Roundabout; if so, the traffic volumes, queue lengths or journey times recorded; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65128/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

269. To ask the Minister for Transport the passenger numbers at Balbriggan and Skerries railway stations in each of the years 2024 and 2025 and to date in 2026, the projected passenger demand for 2027; and the assessment undertaken of whether existing peak time capacity is sufficient to meet current and projected demand, in tabular form.

PQ65116/26 | GRACE BOLAND

270. To ask the Minister for Transport the assessment of traffic capacity, congestion and road safety that was undertaken by the National Transport Authority before funding was approved for the Ballinacurra to Midleton Pedestrian and Cycle Route; whether the assessment considered the R630 and N25 Lakeview Roundabout; and if he will provide details of the assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65125/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

271. To ask the Minister for Transport the additional peak and off peak services proposed for the Northern Commuter line in the 2027 timetable; the additional passenger capacity that will be provided; and the expected commencement date of any such improvements.

PQ65114/26 | GRACE BOLAND

272. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will request an assessment of the existing traffic light arrangements at Lakeview, East Cork, in light of concerns regarding their operation and the impact they may be having on traffic flow and pedestrian safety; if consideration will be given to whether the current arrangements remain appropriate, including whether the lights could operate as pedestrian-only crossings where this would improve traffic flow and safety; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65124/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

273. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will engage with Cork County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding the current restriction on vehicles turning right when exiting the Circle K service station at Lakeview, East Cork, with a view to reinstating this movement where it can be safely facilitated; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65112/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

274. To ask the Minister for Transport the way in which the additional fare revenue expected to be generated in 2027 will be used; the amount expected to fund existing services; the amount expected to fund additional or enhanced services; and the specific service improvements or additional capacity, if any, that are expected to be funded from this additional revenue.

PQ65111/26 | GRACE BOLAND

275. To ask the Minister for Transport the total passenger fare revenue received in 2024 and 2025, the projected passenger fare revenue for 2026 and the projected passenger fare revenue for 2027 following implementation of the NTA Fares Determination 2026, broken down by operator, in tabular form.

PQ65110/26 | GRACE BOLAND

276. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will engage with Cork County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland to introduce an immediate interim arrangement at the Lakeview junction in East Cork, including consideration of switching the traffic lights to a pedestrian-demand or pedestrian-only phase where appropriate, in order to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65109/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

277. To ask the Minister for Transport the estimated additional fare revenue to be generated in 2027 as a result of the NTA Fares Determination 2026, broken down by operator and service type and the assumptions underpinning these estimates, including projected passenger numbers and any anticipated impact of the fare increases on passenger demand, in tabular form.

PQ65108/26 | GRACE BOLAND

278. To ask the Minister for Transport whether his Department has received from Transport Infrastructure Ireland an assessment of the interaction between the Ballinacurra to Midleton Pedestrian and Cycle Route and the N25 Lakeview Roundabout, as requested by TII during the 2021 Part 8 process; when any such assessment was received; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65107/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

279. To ask the Minister for Transport if Bus Éireann has plans for a wheelchair accessible stop in Donegal town, County Donegal; and the timeframe for same.

PQ65155/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

280. To ask the Minister for Transport the actions he is taking to ensure that all public transport services are fully accessible without the requirement for wheelchair users or those with mobility issues to call ahead of time to request additional assistance.

PQ65185/26 | BARRY WARD

281. To ask the Minister for Transport his views regarding the new DART carriages that are coming on stream; whether they are fully wheelchair accessible without the need for a separate ramp to be put in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65184/26 | BARRY WARD

282. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding engagement he has had with LUAS operators in relation to ensuring that their services are fully accessible for wheelchair users or people with mobility issues.

PQ65183/26 | BARRY WARD

283. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding the engagement he has had with all public transport bus operators in relation to ensuring that their services are fully accessible for wheelchair users or people with mobility issues.

PQ65182/26 | BARRY WARD

284. To ask the Minister for Transport the position regarding engagement he has had with Irish Rail in relation to ensuring that their services are fully accessible for wheelchair users or people with mobility issues.

PQ65181/26 | BARRY WARD

285. To ask the Minister for Transport if Irish Rail will engage with local communities over the impact of electrification of the railway line and closures of level crossings at Coolmine, Clonsilla and Ashtown; and if so, if this will be held in Q4 2026.

PQ65197/26 | EMER CURRIE

286. To ask the Minister for Transport when an application (details supplied) submitted on 20 May 2026 under the road transport support scheme will be finalised.

PQ65200/26 | PÁDRAIG MAC LOCHLAINN

287. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of additional passenger services that could have been operated had the 98 battery electric buses currently in storage been available for service; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65202/26 | GRACE BOLAND

288. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures being taken by his Department and the National Transport Authority to ensure future electric bus procurements are aligned with the delivery of charging infrastructure.

PQ65203/26 | GRACE BOLAND

289. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide the analysis and assessment underpinning the assertion that purchasing battery electric buses while the necessary charging infrastructure was in train represented better value for the State than deferring or adjusting the timing of their purchase to more closely align delivery of the buses with completion of that infrastructure, including the methodology, assumptions and projected inflation or indexation costs used in that assessment.

PQ65204/26 | GRACE BOLAND

290. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the assessment of the financial implications of purchasing battery electric buses while the necessary charging infrastructure was in train included depreciation in the value of buses during periods in which they remained in storage and unavailable for operational service; if so, the depreciation amount included; and if not, the reason this cost was excluded.

PQ65205/26 | GRACE BOLAND

291. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the assessment of the financial implications of purchasing battery electric buses while the necessary charging infrastructure was in train included the opportunity cost or cost of capital associated with Exchequer funding being committed to assets before they could enter operational service; if so, to provide the methodology and amount attributed to this cost; and if not, the reason this cost was excluded.

PQ65206/26 | GRACE BOLAND

292. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide the costs incurred to date as a consequence of battery electric buses being purchased but remaining unavailable for operational service pending completion of the necessary charging infrastructure, including storage, servicing, maintenance, insurance and any other associated costs, by year and cost category, in tabular form.

PQ65207/26 | GRACE BOLAND

293. To ask the Minister for Transport the full value for money comparison undertaken between purchasing battery electric buses while the necessary charging infrastructure was in train and adjusting the timing of bus purchases to more closely align their delivery with completion of that infrastructure, including purchase price inflation or indexation, depreciation, storage, servicing, maintenance, insurance, opportunity or financing costs and any other costs included in the assessment, in tabular form.

PQ65208/26 | GRACE BOLAND

294. To ask the Minister for Transport whether a comprehensive financial assessment has been undertaken of the impact of delayed deployment of battery electric buses purchased by the National Transport Authority while the necessary charging infrastructure was in train; the date on which any such assessment was completed; whether his Department considered the full economic cost of holding buses which were not available for operational service, including depreciation and opportunity cost; and to provide a copy of the assessment.

PQ65209/26 | GRACE BOLAND

295. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will give a commitment to a numbered, dated camera deployment plan, and the introduction of the National Vehicle and Driver File, Road Traffic and Roads Bill 2026 before the end of 2026.

PQ65293/26 | ANN GRAVES

296. To ask the Minister for Transport his plans to include American driving licences in the exchange process for an Irish licence for Americans who come home to Ireland.

PQ65335/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

297. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of daily services in each direction on the Ballina to Galway corridor that the National Transport Authority determined would be required following the withdrawal of Expressway Route 52; whether the authority is satisfied that the current level of service on the corridor meets the needs identified in its determination report; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65395/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

298. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the National Transport Authority has assessed passenger demand and capacity on the Ballina to Galway corridor since the withdrawal of Expressway Route 52 on 24 May 2026; whether reports of passengers being unable to board services due to capacity constraints have been examined; and the measures planned to increase capacity and service frequency on the corridor.

PQ65396/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

299. To ask the Minister for Transport to report on the Claregalway Bypass Relief Road Programme; the progress made to date; the next stages in the project lifecycle; the expected timelines for those stages; the estimated cost range; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65406/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

300. To ask the Minister for Transport the amount of funding paid to date with regard to the road transporters support scheme; the number and percentage of applications which have been refused; and the grounds for refusal.

PQ65380/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

301. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of drivers currently employed under PSO routes in Waterford; and the number considered a full cohort.

PQ65416/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

302. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the N72/N73 Mallow Relief Road remains on schedule for submission of a planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála in Quarter 4 of 2026; whether any outstanding design, environmental, business case or other matters could delay that submission; and if he will provide the current anticipated date for lodgement of the application.

PQ65440/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

303. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of the N72/N73 Mallow Relief Road Project; whether Cork County Council has submitted the Preliminary Business Case to Transport Infrastructure Ireland as part of Approval Gate 1; if so, the date on which it was submitted; when a decision on Approval Gate 1 is expected; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65439/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

304. To ask the Minister for Transport in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65356/26 | BARRY WARD

305. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 268 of 26 February 2026 and further correspondence in relation to same, the way in which the National Transport Authority obtains value-for-money assurance in respect of bus shelter vandalism repairs given that it does not hold full cost information for such repairs; and what the national monitoring of vandalism trends consists of in the absence of a vandalism frequency target in the contract.

PQ65451/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

306. To ask the Minister for Transport in respect of the new BusConnects Cork bus network, whether funding for the commencement of the first phase has been secured in the 2027 Estimates; the routes included in that first phase; and the expected start date for the rollout.

PQ65449/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

307. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 367 of 10 February 2026, the specific delivery milestones and the mechanism by which his Department monitors the compliance of the National Transport Authority in respect of the Blarney, Glanmire and Ballyvolane growth corridors to 2030.

PQ65450/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

308. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 369 of 10 February 2026, the specific bus priority measures for the Glanmire growth corridor that have secured funding approval under BusConnects Cork; and the timeframe for their advancement through planning and delivery.

PQ65448/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

309. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 370 of 10 February 2026, to state clearly whether the Ballyvolane growth corridor is included in or excluded from committed bus and rail public transport investment to 2030, as distinct from active travel schemes; and the policy basis for that position.

PQ65447/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

310. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 368 of 10 February 2026, whether funding has been approved in principle or allocated for the proposed Blarney or Stoneview rail station, as distinct from its inclusion in the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy 2040; and the indicative year in which the station is expected to enter construction.

PQ65446/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

311. To ask the Minister for Transport the steps taken by his Department to monitor and enforce compliance by the National Transport Authority with the acknowledgement and reply timeframes set out in Circular 25/2016; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65445/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

312. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the current design for the N72/N73 Mallow Relief Road continues to include the proposed active travel elements outlined during the environmental assessment process, including the approximately 2.6 kilometre walking and cycling link and proposed connection to Mallow Train Station; whether there have been any material changes to the project design since the Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report published in June 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65441/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

313. To ask the Minister for Transport the current anticipated programme for delivery of the N72/N73 Mallow Relief Road; the expected commencement of advance works; the anticipated year for award of the main construction contract and the estimated construction period; and if the indicative programme previously provided by Transport Infrastructure Ireland of advance works in late 2027 and award of the main construction contract in 2029 remains unchanged.

PQ65442/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

314. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of Parliamentary Questions referred to the National Transport Authority for direct reply during 2026 that remain outstanding beyond the 15 working day standard set out in Circular 25/2016; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65444/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

315. To ask the Minister for Transport the current assessment of the reliability and remaining operational life of the existing train control systems; the expenditure incurred and forecast to maintain and support those systems pending delivery of a replacement traffic management system, by year; and whether the existing systems can accommodate planned increases in rail services and capacity pending delivery of the replacement system.

PQ65427/26 | GRACE BOLAND

316. To ask the Minister for Transport the rail investment projects, programmes or service improvements expected to be delayed, rephased or reprioritised as a consequence of the costs associated with the failed traffic management system and its replacement; and the details of each affected project or programme, its previous delivery timeframe and its revised delivery timeframe, in tabular form.

PQ65426/26 | GRACE BOLAND

317. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of the procurement of a replacement traffic management system; the estimated cost of same; and the current estimated date by which the replacement system will be fully operational.

PQ65425/26 | GRACE BOLAND

318. To ask the Minister for Transport the total expenditure to date on the National Train Control Centre programme; the current estimated final outturn cost; and the additional expenditure now estimated to be required to procure and implement a replacement traffic management system, by the figures and principal cost component, in tabular form.

PQ65424/26 | GRACE BOLAND

319. To ask the Minister for Transport whether the independent review of the National Train Control Centre and Traffic Management System Project is examining the adequacy of Iarnród Éireann's internal technical expertise and project leadership, its reliance on external consultants, the

documentation and transfer of existing network knowledge, the involvement of operational end users, and the governance, oversight and challenge exercised by the National Transport Authority throughout the project.

PQ65423/26 | GRACE BOLAND

320. To ask the Minister for Transport when the independent review of the National Train Control Centre and Traffic Management System Project commissioned by the National Transport Authority will be completed; whether the report will be published in full; and the expected publication date.

PQ65422/26 | GRACE BOLAND

321. To ask the Minister for Transport the technical and safety basis which was relied upon for treating e-scooters differently under the new regulations from electrically assisted bicycles, including heavier utility or cargo e-bikes that may provide assistance up to 25 km/h.

PQ65483/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

322. To ask the Minister for Transport the scientific, engineering, collision-safety or risk-assessment evidence that was used to select 25 kg as Ireland's maximum permissible e-scooter weight; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65482/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

323. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the introduction of a Transport Security Force, as committed to in the Programme for Government; and when he expects it to be implemented.

PQ65459/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

324. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the provision of a town bus for Newbridge, County Kildare.

PQ65458/26 | MARK WALL

325. To ask the Minister for Transport if the traffic modelling and preliminary business case for the N72/N73 Mallow relief road will take account of the existing and planned residential development and projected population growth in Mallow; the population and traffic growth assumptions being used in the appraisal of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65469/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

326. To ask the Minister for Transport the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65326/26 | BARRY WARD

327. To ask the Minister for Transport if the NTA intends to have USB-C charging points installed on all new PSO Bus Éireann fleet.

PQ65576/26 | TOM BRABAZON

328. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of new buses that entered into Dublin Bus fleet in 2025 and to-date in 2026; the number of buses withdrawn from Dublin Bus fleet during same period, in tabular form.

PQ65574/26 | TOM BRABAZON

329. To ask the Minister for Transport if the National Aviation Safeguarding Framework, led by the Irish Aviation Authority (public consultation period ended on 31 October 2025) has resulted to the publication of a final framework document; if he will outline where such a document can be obtained; if he will explain the intention of the document; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65537/26 | CATHAL CROWE

330. To ask the Minister for Transport if Irish Rail plans to replace user-operated gated level crossings with automatic barriers, bridges, or other grade separated solutions and if he will provide a timeline for any proposed works, particularly at crossings in County Mayo.

PQ65584/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

331. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of user-operated railway crossings currently in operation on the national rail network; the number identified as high risk by Irish Rail; and the measures being taken to improve safety at these locations.

PQ65581/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

332. To ask the Minister for Transport whether he has requested a review of all user-operated railway level crossings nationwide following recent fatal incidents; and if he will provide details of any such review.

PQ65580/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

333. To ask the Minister for Transport whether consideration will be given to revisiting previously approved infrastructure proposals for the replacement of level crossings at Knockaphunta (XM250) and Kilnageer (XM240) in County Mayo, where planning permission for bridge infrastructure was previously granted but the projects did not proceed.

PQ65579/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

334. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide a list of all hybrid vehicles currently approved by the National Transport Authority (NTA) for licensing as Small Public Service Vehicles (SPSVs) under the reduced luggage-capacity requirement that applies to certain hybrid and electric vehicles in place of the standard 420-litre luggage-capacity rule; whether a vehicle (details supplied) is included on the NTA Suitable Vehicle List and eligible for SPSV licensing; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65604/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

335. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the Claregalway relief road project; the current stage of development of the project; the work completed to date; the next steps required to advance the project; and the anticipated timeline for progression through the remaining planning and statutory processes.

PQ65617/26 | PETER ROCHE

336. To ask the Minister for Transport the passenger numbers recorded on rail services operating between Ballinasloe, Athenry, Oranmore and Galway over the past three years; whether capacity reviews have been undertaken in respect of these services; and whether additional rolling stock is planned for commuter services in the Galway area.

PQ65624/26 | PETER ROCHE

337. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department is aware of capacity constraints and overcrowding on the morning commuter rail service between Oranmore and Galway, particularly the 8am service; the engagement that has taken place with Iarnród Éireann regarding passenger demand on the route; and the measures being considered to increase capacity and improve passenger comfort and safety.

PQ65622/26 | PETER ROCHE

338. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures being considered by his Department to improve public transport connectivity for growing towns and rural communities in County Galway; the way in which current transport policy is addressing increased commuter demand from areas surrounding Galway City; and the plans in place to encourage greater use of public transport during the working week and reduce reliance on cars.

PQ65620/26 | PETER ROCHE

339. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on a pension issue (details supplied); and the timeframe for payment to members.

PQ65639/26 | EMER CURRIE

340. To ask the Minister for Transport if a viable public transport link between Connolly Station and Dublin Airport can be prioritised and put in place given a similar direct link already exists between Heuston Station and Dublin Airport.

PQ65684/26 | ROBERT TROY

341. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on a pension issue (details supplied); and the timeframe for payment to members.

PQ65669/26 | EMER CURRIE

342. To ask the Minister for Transport if his attention has been drawn to reports of recurring difficulties with ticket validation gates at Ceannt Station; the number of complaints received regarding the operation of these gates; the corrective actions that have been taken; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65730/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

343. To ask the Minister for Transport if Irish Rail has considered increasing capacity on the 8am train service from Oranmore to Galway through the provision of an additional carriage or longer train sets; if discussions have taken place regarding such measures; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65717/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

344. To ask the Minister for Transport if he is aware of significant overcrowding on the 8am rail service from Oranmore to Galway; whether Irish Rail has conducted any recent passenger capacity assessments on this service; the average passenger numbers recorded on the service over the past three years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65716/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

345. To ask the Minister for Transport when he expects all local authorities to have completed the implementation of revised urban speed limits under the national programme; and whether a target date has been set for nationwide implementation

PQ65708/26 | GRACE BOLAND

346. To ask the Minister for Transport the assessment undertaken by his Department of the potential road safety benefits arising from the introduction of default 30 km/h speed limits in urban areas; and the expected impact on pedestrian and cyclist safety.

PQ65706/26 | GRACE BOLAND

347. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the introduction of a Transport Security Force, as committed to in the Programme for Government; to outline any coordinated efforts he or his Department has undertaken on the matter; and to outline when he expects it to be implemented.

PQ65460/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

348. To ask the Minister for Transport the current status of the national urban speed limit review and implementation programme.

PQ65702/26 | GRACE BOLAND

349. To ask the Minister for Transport if incidents of fainting on public transport are recorded; if so, the number of people who have fainted on public transport and details; if he is aware of commuters fainting on the morning Iarnród Éireann commuter rail service from Clondalkin & Fonthill to Dublin Connolly; the steps that are being taken to increase capacity on this line; and if he will outline the safe capacity level for carriages.

PQ65698/26 | MARK WARD

350. To ask the Minister for Transport if there are plans to introduce integrated ticketing for passengers travelling across Bus Éireann and TFI Local Link services, particularly in rural areas where passengers may be required to use more than one operator to complete a journey; and whether consideration has been given to introducing a daily fare cap or integrated day ticket for such journeys.

PQ65886/26 | PA DALY

351. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider including Athgarvan as part of the 126 Go-Ahead bus route, given the increased demand in the local area for additional public transport.

PQ65761/26 | MARK WALL

352. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of persons that have used each Local-Link bus services within Louth in the years of 2024, 2025 and to-date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65517/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

353. To ask the Minister for Transport for the cost of accessibility works related to Dart+ West (details supplied).

PQ65801/26 | EMER CURRIE

354. To ask the Minister for Transport if a driving test will be expedited for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65787/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

355. To ask the Minister for Transport if the National Transport Authority has assessed passenger demand and capacity on the Ballina to Galway corridor since the withdrawal of Expressway Route 52 on 24 May 2026; if reports of passengers being unable to board services due to capacity constraints have been examined; and the measures that are planned to increase capacity and service frequency on the corridor.

PQ65813/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

356. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of daily services in each direction on the Ballina to Galway corridor that the National Transport Authority determined would be required following the withdrawal of Expressway Route 52; whether the authority is satisfied that the current level of service on the corridor meets the needs identified in its determination report; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65812/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

357. To ask the Minister for Transport for an update on the delivery of Kellystown Train Station.

PQ65921/26 | EMER CURRIE

358. To ask the Minister for Transport when outstanding payments under the road transporters support scheme will be paid to eligible haulage operators; the number of approved applicants still awaiting payment; and the total value of payments yet to issue, particularly in light of the renewed increase in fuel prices.

PQ65796/26 | FIONNTÁN Ó SÚILLEABHÁIN

359. To ask the Minister for Transport the timeline for the completion of the new National Ports Policy; and will he make a statement on the matter.

PQ65962/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

360. To ask the Minister for Transport if the OPW will install public toilets and a flag pole with an OPW flag at the coastguard station in Ballydavid County Kerry given the OPW has taken over the coastguard station.

PQ65307/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

Chun an Airgeadais: To the Finance

361. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the cost of increasing the annual capital gains tax exemption to €3,000.

PQ64164/26 | EMER CURRIE

362. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance when recommendation 11.2 of the November 2022 Retail Banking Review will be implemented; the reasons for the delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64163/26 | EMER CURRIE

363. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he supports the removal of the €100,000 savings limit per credit union which is contained in Regulation 35 of Statutory Instrument 1 of 2016.

PQ64162/26 | EMER CURRIE

364. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if credit unions will be allowed roll out personal investment accounts.

PQ64161/26 | EMER CURRIE

365. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he is concerned about the potential for deposit flight from credit unions with the introduction of the personal investment accounts; the analysis that has been carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64158/26 | EMER CURRIE

366. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will consider introducing a threshold of €5,000 of savings before deposit interest retention tax is paid in light of the introduction of the personal investment accounts; the cost; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64156/26 | EMER CURRIE

367. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance for an update on discussions within Government regarding supports for the rural pub sector in advance of Budget 2027.

PQ64155/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

368. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the financial, economic or other advice his Department has received regarding the operation and impact of the deemed disposal regime; the recommendations that have been made arising from this advice; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64233/26 | TOM BRABAZON

369. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the reasons reform of the deemed disposal regime for investment funds is not expected to take effect until Budget 2028; whether consideration was given to introducing reforms at an earlier date; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64232/26 | TOM BRABAZON

370. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether he is considering the abolition or substantial reform of the current deemed disposal regime, including alternatives to the requirement for investors to account for tax on unrealised gains at prescribed intervals; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64236/26 | TOM BRABAZON

371. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the changes he plans to make to the taxation of investment funds and the deemed disposal regime in advance of Budget 2028; whether any interim reforms are under consideration; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64235/26 | TOM BRABAZON

372. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether consideration will be given to permitting an individual property assessment where a town-centre building is outside a special regeneration area because of general flood-risk considerations but has no recorded history of flooding; and whether appropriate site-specific flood-risk evidence could support its inclusion following a boundary review.

PQ64259/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

373. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the statutory and administrative mechanism by which the boundary of a special regeneration area under the Living City Initiative may be reviewed, extended or amended; whether Louth County Council may submit a revised proposal for Drogheda; and if he will invite the council to review the exclusion of parts of Shop Street and the River Boyne area.

PQ64258/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

374. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether flood risk or proximity to the River Boyne was used to exclude any properties or areas from the Drogheda special regeneration area; the maps, assessments, datasets and advice relied upon; the bodies consulted; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64255/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

375. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether a location (details supplied) was included in the special regeneration area proposed by Louth County Council; the reason it was not included in the final designated area; and if the exclusion of this property and the surrounding area will be reviewed.

PQ64256/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

376. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the process and criteria used to determine the final boundary of the Drogheda special regeneration area under the Living City Initiative; whether the final designation differed from the area proposed by Louth County Council; the reasons for each material alteration; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64254/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

377. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he supports the introduction of a regional uplift to Section 481; whether officials in his Department have commenced engagement with the Department of Culture, Communications and Sport and an organisation (details supplied) on the proposal.

PQ64338/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

378. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether he will review the application of the 23% VAT rate to medical devices and essential medical equipment, particularly where such products are required by people to manage a medical condition or disability; whether consideration will be given to applying a reduced VAT rate to eligible medical devices in order to reduce the financial burden on patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64369/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

379. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance his views on the merits of financially incentivising the use of HVO fuel instead of diesel to support achieving our climate emission targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64390/26 | BARRY WARD

380. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance to address the increase in pricing across the board.

PQ63633/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

381. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the estimated annual cost of extending health expense tax relief to counselling and psychotherapy fees; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64476/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

382. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether he will consider extending health expense tax relief to counselling and psychotherapy fees in Budget 2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64475/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

383. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the estimated annual Exchequer cost of removing VAT from counselling and psychotherapy services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64474/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

384. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will consider as part of Budget 2027, removing VAT from counselling and psychotherapy services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64472/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

385. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he intends to repeat the RZLT exemption and deferral measures provided for in the Finance Acts of the past two years; if similar provisions will be included in Budget 2027 and the forthcoming finance Bill, given the ongoing need for relief for landowners who are actively progressing development or who were affected by mapping or zoning anomalies; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64522/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

386. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if his Department has assessed the proposal to proceed with planned carbon-tax increases while reducing excise duty by an equivalent amount (details supplied); the status of his Department's consideration of the paper presented by an organisation in June 2026; when a substantive response will issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64532/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

387. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will review inconsistencies in the taxation of fuels, including the loss of eligibility for the diesel rebate scheme when hauliers move from fossil diesel to certain renewable fuels and the application of 13.5% VAT to home heating oil compared with 9% on gas, particularly given rural households' greater dependence on oil heating; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64531/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

388. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will establish an independent expert group to examine the cumulative impact of excise duty, carbon tax, VAT, renewable-fuel obligations, energy-efficiency obligations and strategic stockholding requirements on fuel prices, household affordability, business competitiveness, emissions reduction, Exchequer revenue and energy security; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64530/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

389. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will review matters raised in correspondence (details supplied); if the issues outlined will be addressed

PQ64562/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

390. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he has considered the removal of Value Added Tax (VAT) on counselling and psychotherapy services as a targeted mechanism to instantly increase the availability and affordability of therapy; and whether he will consider extending tax relief to counselling and psychotherapy fees to establish true parity of esteem between mental and physical health.

PQ64690/26 | SEÁN KYNE

391. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he plans to review the disabled drivers and disabled passengers tax relief scheme and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64775/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

392. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64849/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

393. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to Budget 2027 requests by an organisation (details supplied) in relation to removal of VAT on counselling and psychotherapy services.

PQ64914/26 | BARRY WARD

394. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance his views on the merits of extending standard health expense tax relief to counselling and psychotherapy fees to make these services more affordable.

PQ64922/26 | BARRY WARD

395. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the position regarding any engagement he had with the Department of Health in relation to the proposal by an organisation (details supplied) to extend standard health expense tax relief to counselling and psychotherapy fees to make these services more affordable.

PQ64926/26 | BARRY WARD

396. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the position regarding any engagement he has had with the Department of Health in relation to the proposal by an organisation (details supplied) to remove VAT on counselling and psychotherapy services to make these services more affordable.

PQ64924/26 | BARRY WARD

397. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance his views on the merits of removing VAT on counselling and psychotherapy services to make these services more affordable.

PQ64918/26 | BARRY WARD

398. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance to confirm that tax relief will be made available on counselling and psychotherapy fees, thereby establishing parity with other healthcare expenses; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64587/26 | COLM BURKE

399. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the policy rationale behind the €3,000 disregard amount threshold for third-level tuition fees tax relief, given that the student contribution charge has been capped at €2,500 following Budget 2026 measures; his views that this structural gap completely excludes middle-income families paying for a single student, from receiving tax relief on their out-of-pocket costs; and if he will review the threshold in upcoming budgets to provide meaningful cost-of-living relief to middle-class households who do not qualify for means-tested grants but must pay their own way.

PQ64441/26 | RICHARD O'DONOGHUE

400. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the policy rationale behind the €3,000 disregard amount threshold for third-level tuition fee tax relief (details supplied); if he acknowledges that this structural gap completely excludes middle-income families paying for a single student from receiving any tax relief on their out-of-pocket costs; and if his Department will review this threshold in upcoming budgets to provide meaningful cost-of-living relief to the middle-class households who do not qualify for means-tested grants but must pay their own way.

PQ64468/26 | RICHARD O'DONOGHUE

401. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if his attention has been drawn to Budget 2027 requests by an organisation (details supplied) in relation to their proposal to extend standard health expense tax relief to counselling and psychotherapy fees.

PQ64915/26 | BARRY WARD

402. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will seek to suspend the €3 customs duty on low-value parcels from outside the European Union; if he will seek an exemption to this duty in relation to goods originating in Britain; his views on whether these charges disproportionately affect Irish consumers due to the distribution hubs for many large retailers and ecommerce which supply the Irish market being located in Britain; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64967/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

403. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the number of pubs licensed in Ireland in each of the years 2000 to 2026 inclusive; the number of off-licences licenced in Ireland in each year in the same period, in tabular form.

PQ65043/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

404. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if his Department is currently considering any new measures to support the viability of Ireland's pub sector in Budget 2027.

PQ65034/26 | SEÁN KYNE

405. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if his Department has undertaken economic or Exchequer revenue modelling of the abolition of the eight-year deemed disposal regime for investment funds and ETFs and its replacement with taxation on actual disposal; if so, the estimated Exchequer impact over ten, 20, 30 and 40-year periods; and the principal assumptions underpinning such modelling (details supplied).

PQ65048/26 | EMER CURRIE

406. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the conflict-of-interest, disclosure, recusal and post-employment safeguards apply in circumstances (details supplied); if any cooling-off period applies; and the procedures that exist to ensure that confidential information or relationships acquired during State employment cannot subsequently be used for private commercial advantage.

PQ65033/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

407. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance given the increasing role of ISIF in making investments on behalf of the State, the policies and safeguards to ensure the State extracts maximum value from these transactions; the conflict-of-interest and post-employment policies which apply where an ISIF/NTMA employee involved in assessing, recommending or progressing an investment subsequently takes up a senior position as a fund manager on behalf of a company that has received that investment.

PQ65017/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

408. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he plans for the establishment of a working group to review and propose changes to the taxation of funds, life assurance policies and other investment products, as recommended by the Welfare and Taxation Commission; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65014/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

409. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the engagement he has had with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage on expanding financial powers to local councillors.

PQ65064/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

410. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the financial package of measures he has discussed with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to the local Government taskforce and the forthcoming Budget.

PQ65065/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

411. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the number of persons who claimed the single person child carer credit in the latest year for which data are available.

PQ65103/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

412. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the estimated full-year Exchequer cost of increasing the standard rate income tax band available to recipients of the single person child carer credit from €48,000 to €53,000; and the cost of increasing the value of the single person child carer credit from €1,900 to €1,950.

PQ65104/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

413. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the projected income from any new excise duties on novel nicotine products; the rates would apply per product type, including e-cigarettes, nicotine pouches or other smoking tobacco products, such as heated tobacco products, in a full calendar year, in tabular form for each novel nicotine product.

PQ65176/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

414. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he is considering introducing new taxes or excise on novel nicotine products in Budget 2027.

PQ65175/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

415. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance to examine the way in which a reduction in VAT on home heating oil would off-set the impact on consumers of the increased use of low carbon liquid fuel in home heating, such as HVO.

PQ64740/26 | CAROL NOLAN

416. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether consideration is being given, in advance of Budget 2027 and the winter heating season, to introducing a subsidy or other financial support to reduce the cost of kerosene for households dependent on home heating oil.

PQ65190/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

417. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he has considered amending the capital acquisitions tax dwelling house exemption by reducing the current six-year post-inheritance occupancy requirement; if he has assessed the impact that the existing rule may have on housing mobility and the availability of larger family homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65268/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRI

418. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the total carbon tax revenue collected in respect of kerosene and other oils used for home heating in each of the years 2020 to 2025 and to date in 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65379/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

419. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 63386/26 of 7 September 2026, the current total amount of carbon tax, inclusive of VAT, applied at present to a 500 litre fill and to a 1,000 litre fill of home heating kerosene, before any further scheduled increase; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65378/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

420. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65346/26 | BARRY WARD

421. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65316/26 | BARRY WARD

422. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the estimated revenue that would be raise by implementing a new third rate of income tax of 43% on incomes above €140,000.

PQ65494/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

423. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the progress to date designating psychotherapy and counselling services as VAT exempt.

PQ65512/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

424. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will consider undertaking a fresh assessment of the potential introduction of personalised vehicle registration numbers in Ireland, including the potential demand for such a scheme, the costs associated with its introduction and the additional revenue that could be generated for the Exchequer.

PQ65546/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

425. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will provide an update on his Department's consideration of requests to amend section 626B of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 to align the substantial shareholding exemption more closely with the dividend participation exemption to address the disparity with other jurisdictions who have both exemptions and address the risk of Ireland missing out on investment.

PQ65564/26 | EMER CURRIE

426. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance for a further update on any consideration of discussions between his Department and the Department of Transport regarding a review of the TaxSaver scheme to cover further forms of sustainable travel; and if he will consider commissioning a policy review of the scheme.

PQ65561/26 | EMER CURRIE

427. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will consider greater flexibility in repayment arrangements for businesses with warehoused tax debt, including extending or restructuring payment plans where necessary to prevent otherwise viable small businesses being forced to close; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65726/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

428. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the position regarding the insurability of wheelchairs in Ireland in terms of the liability for wheelchair users for any damage that may be caused by the use of their wheelchair; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65358/26 | BARRY WARD

429. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the position regarding any engagement he has had with the insurance sector in relation to the insurability of wheelchairs in Ireland in terms of the liability for wheelchair users for any damage that may be caused by the use of their wheelchair.

PQ65361/26 | BARRY WARD

430. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance to examine the way in which a reduction in VAT on home heating oil would off-set the impact on consumers of the increased use of low carbon liquid fuel in home heating such as HVO.

PQ65435/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

431. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the outcome of the review of the disabled drivers and disabled passengers scheme; the rationale for each of the major changes being proposed; if the current scheme will remain in place until the new scheme is agreed by all stakeholders; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65868/26 | JOHN MCGUINNESS

432. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance for an update on any planned changes to the primary medical cert for disabled passengers and drivers system; to give a guarantee that changes will not effect peoples ability to obtain disability adapted vehicles and change them when necessary, that the rebate of VAT on the fuel used in such vehicles will not be reduced or removed.

PQ65890/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

433. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if consideration will be given to increasing the help-to-buy ceiling to reflect current prices in counties such as Wicklow; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65897/26 | JOHN BRADY

434. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the estimated savings from removing tax credits from incomes above €100,000 on a tapered basis until they are fully removed at €140,000.

PQ65817/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

435. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the number of Ukrainian registered vehicles currently in the State; the number of Ukrainian vehicles that have been registered for VRT in the State; the length of time after which a Ukrainian vehicle must be registered in the State; the checks being carried out on Ukrainian registered vehicles in the State; when the temporary exemptions from VRT for Ukrainian vehicles will be abolished; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65932/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

436. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance to examine how a reduction in VAT on home heating oil would off-set the impact on consumers of the increased use of low carbon liquid fuel in home heating such as HVO.

PQ65874/26 | WILLIAM AIRD

437. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance to confirm that consideration will be given to removing the VAT on counselling and psychotherapy services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64586/26 | COLM BURKE

438. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance further to Parliamentary Question No. 316 of 9 October 2025, if he is aware that same sex couples cannot apply for tax relief unless they meet two specific tests as set out by Revenue; to examine the case of persons (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65616/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

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

439. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if the Office of Public Works is involved in the maintenance, refurbishment or capital development of Carrick-on-Suir and Cashel courthouses; whether the OPW has been requested by the Courts Service or any other body to assess or undertake works at either property; and whether the OPW would be available to assist in progressing necessary improvement works.

PQ64573/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

440. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64850/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

441. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the percentage of the OPW capital budget that has been spent in the first eight months of 2026; if he will provide the same figures for 2024 and 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65162/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

442. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the number of persons who have visited Athenry Castle in the first eight months of 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65327/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

443. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the alternative application processes available for older people who are unable to access or use online application systems; whether an assessment has been carried out on the impact that the increasing digitisation of public services may have on older persons who do not have access to smartphones, email accounts, broadband services or the necessary digital skills; and the measures being taken to ensure that such individuals are not excluded from accessing essential public services and supports.

PQ65229/26 | FIONNTÁN Ó SÚILLEABHÁIN

444. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation further to Parliamentary Question No. 61402/26, to provide an update on his meeting with the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration on 19 July 2026 to discuss the new Garda station at Northern Cross; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65329/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

445. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the number of WTE staff, by job title employed by OPW currently working at Portumna Castle and Gardens.

PQ65309/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

446. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the total amount allocated and amount expended to date across all votes in respect of Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65398/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

447. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65352/26 | BARRY WARD

448. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if the Government has assessed the effectiveness of the current protected disclosures framework where a safeguarding or operational concern involves more than one public body, including Tusla, the HSE, and An Garda Síochána; and the mechanism that exists to ensure that a cross-agency disclosure routed through the Office of the Protected Disclosures Commissioner is investigated as a cohesive, systemic issue rather than being fractured and returned to individual single-agency prescribed persons.

PQ65253/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

449. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65322/26 | BARRY WARD

450. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation for an update on the Claregalway flood relief scheme; the current stage of the project; the works completed to date; the expected commencement date for further works; and the projected timeline for delivery of the scheme.

PQ65630/26 | PETER ROCHE

451. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation to provide an update on the progress made to date with the implementation of a scheme (details supplied).

PQ65763/26 | NOEL MCCARTHY

452. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if his Department will explore the possibility of installing a river level gauge at a location (details supplied).

PQ65944/26 | NOEL MCCARTHY

Chun an Fiontar, Turasóireachta agus Fostaíochta: To the Enterprise, Tourism and Employment

453. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the engagement there has been with Aer Lingus and an organisation (details supplied) over recent announcements on staff cuts.

PQ64152/26 | DUNCAN SMITH

454. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether his Department is considering the development of new supports, grants, or advisory services to assist SMEs in adopting artificial intelligence technologies; the measures currently under consideration; and the timeline for their introduction.

PQ64243/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

455. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether his Department has conducted an analysis of Ireland's competitiveness in attracting and retaining artificial intelligence talent compared with other EU member states; the main challenges identified; and the policy measures under consideration to address them.

PQ64242/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

456. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether the Government intends to introduce a regulatory framework governing artificial intelligence tools that market themselves as mental health, counselling, or psychotherapy services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64482/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

457. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the role of the Irish National Accreditation Board in accrediting conformity-assessment bodies under Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/370; whether INAB has established the required accreditation programme under ISO/IEC 17065; the date on which applications were opened; the number of applications received, assessments completed and accreditations granted; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64658/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

458. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment his plans to deal with the proposed job cuts at a company (details supplied); and the measures he plans to assist displaced workers and safeguard the regional enterprise base.

PQ64686/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

459. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the number and total value of grant supports, including priming grants, feasibility grants, business expansion grants and trading online vouchers, awarded by each of the 31 local enterprise offices to businesses whose primary activity is the retail of vaping products, e-cigarettes or nicotine inhaling products, in each of the years 2020 to date, by local enterprise office; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64768/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

460. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64851/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

461. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment for an update on the current status of Dunguaire Castle; the actions that have been taken by his Department so far; whether any progress has been made regarding the future ownership, designation, restoration or tourism development of the castle; the engagements that have taken place with stakeholders in this regard.

PQ65102/26 | PETER ROCHE

462. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment to clarify the position on motor vehicle warranties where servicing is carried out by an independent garage rather than a main dealer; whether a manufacturer or dealer may refuse a warranty claim solely because servicing was completed by a third party where the required specifications and appropriate parts were used; and the redress available to consumers where a warranty is refused on this basis.

PQ65338/26 | ROBERT O'DONOGHUE

463. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65345/26 | BARRY WARD

464. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether his Department has undertaken an assessment of the way in which the productivity gains arising from AI adoption are being distributed between employers and employees.

PQ65485/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

465. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether his Department has identified sectors with comparatively low levels of AI adoption or readiness; the sectors identified; the metrics used in making that determination; and the interventions being considered to address any identified gaps.

PQ65487/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

466. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment if assistance will be provided with an application (details supplied) and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65547/26 | NIALL COLLINS

467. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65315/26 | BARRY WARD

468. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the level of funding provided by local enterprise offices (LEOs) to businesses to assist with the impact of tariffs and tariff-related costs in each of the years 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the total amount committed and paid out in each year; the number of businesses that received such support; the amount provided by each individual LEO; and the schemes or funding streams through which this support was provided, by county and by sector.

PQ65560/26 | EMER CURRIE

469. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment if he has plans to review the €600 weekly earnings cap used for calculating statutory redundancy payments which was set over 20 years ago.

PQ65391/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

470. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether the AI Office of Ireland has examined the findings of an investigation by an organisation (details supplied) into AI chatbots directing users towards anti-abortion content; whether it will assess if similar risks arise in Ireland and engage with the chatbot providers concerned; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65530/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

471. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the steps that Fáilte Ireland are taking to promote fishing related tourism within Ireland.

PQ65593/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

472. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the reason the new right to repair law does not apply to hobs; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65615/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

Chun an Oideachais agus Óige: To the Education and Youth

473. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the latest update on an application for additional school accommodation for a school (details supplied).

PQ64167/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

474. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide a breakdown of the amount of funding allocated to youth organisations in each county in each of the years 2021 to 2025 and to date in 2026, by county, and year, in tabular form.

PQ64181/26 | CATHY BENNETT

475. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the basis upon which there is a limitation on the ability of teachers who job-share to participate in substitute teaching; and if her Department has given consideration to reforming this.

PQ64180/26 | CATHY BENNETT

476. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is aware of reports that a number of students residing in Bohernabreena, Dublin 24, have been unable to secure a place on school bus services due to capacity constraints; the number of applications received, approved and refused for the area for the current school year; and if additional services are being considered

PQ64216/26 | JOHN LAHART

477. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department has a representative on the cross-departmental working group on young carers; if so, whether the working group has yet met; and if not, the expected timeframe for such a meeting.

PQ64224/26 | JEN CUMMINS

478. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether her Department collects data on the number of special needs assistants and other school-based support staff who subsequently enter initial teacher education programmes; and if she will provide such data for the past five years.

PQ64148/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

479. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether she has considered directing the Teaching Council and higher education institutions to examine flexible, part-time, or employment-based initial teacher education programmes for individuals already employed within schools; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64147/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

480. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth her plans to undertake a review of barriers faced by experienced (para)professionals working in special education settings who wish to qualify as teachers; and the timeframe for such a review.

PQ64146/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

481. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether consideration has been given to the introduction of accelerated or postgraduate teacher training routes for persons that have relevant qualifications and substantial professional experience in special education settings.

PQ64145/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

482. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of vacancies for special education teachers currently recorded across primary and post-primary schools; and the measures being taken to address recruitment challenges in this area.

PQ64144/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

483. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether her Department is considering expanding the use of recognition of prior learning mechanisms, for persons with significant professional experience working with children with additional educational needs who wish to pursue a teaching qualification.

PQ64143/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

484. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether her Department has examined the feasibility of developing alternative qualification pathways for experienced education professionals, including special needs assistants, therapists, and other specialists, who wish to become special education teachers.

PQ64142/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

485. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether caring responsibility will be included within The DEIS Strategy (details supplied); and if not, the way in which her Department will determine whether the recognition of children "caring for others" in the Strategy has led to any practical change.

PQ64228/26 | JEN CUMMINS

486. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of the interim improvement and emergency works planned for a school (details supplied) pending delivery of the school's new permanent building.

PQ64136/26 | EAMON SCANLON

487. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the action in the DEIS Implementation Plan 2026–2028 or the DEIS Plus plan which gives practical effect to the DEIS Strategy to 2035 objective that it will align with Government approaches supporting children and young people who are 'caring for others'; and the way in which she will ensure that young carers are identified and supported through DEIS school improvement planning, school self-evaluation, Student Support Teams and HSCL or School Completion Programme referrals.

PQ64227/26 | JEN CUMMINS

488. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update regarding the completion of Stage 2B review for a school (details supplied); and to provide the timeframe for progression to tender and construction.

PQ64286/26 | JEN CUMMINS

489. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of an application for additional school accommodation (details supplied); the timeline for same; if the application will be prioritised given the current conditions in the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64337/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

490. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will consider providing financial recognition to teachers who completed recognised postgraduate qualifications in special educational needs education following the discontinuation of the qualification allowance in 2012.

PQ64279/26 | PA DALY

491. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will consider reinstating a qualification allowance for teachers who complete recognised postgraduate qualifications in special educational needs education.

PQ64277/26 | PA DALY

492. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if permanent teachers who are job sharing will be permitted to undertake substitute teaching on their non-rostered days during 2026-2027; and if her Department intends to continue the relaxation of the previous restriction for the coming school year.

PQ64247/26 | FIONNTÁN Ó SÚILLEABHÁIN

493. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the breakdown of the number of children in primary and secondary school who left the Donabate and Portrane peninsula to avail of school places outside the area in September 2025 and the schools attended, to also include children travelling to special schools.

PQ64371/26 | DUNCAN SMITH

494. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of teachers allocated to each post-primary school in 2025-2026, including the school roll-number, in tabular form.

PQ64387/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

495. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she plans to revisit the school standardised calendar and have all schools opening and closing on the same dates, beginning and end of year; and if she acknowledges that afterschool care does not start in the main until 1 September which can mean that there can be childcare issues in those first days between school starting and afterschool starting.

PQ64416/26 | SEÁN KYNE

496. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of an application for additional accommodation by a school (details supplied); her proposals to address the severe pressure on the school; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64442/26 | MATT CARTHY

497. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of teachers allocated to each post-primary school including the school roll-number, in 2025 and 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64379/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

498. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the current status of an emergency funding applications (details supplied) for the provision of a wastewater treatment system; the date on which the application was received by her Department; the reason the application remains listed as "referred to technical"; the stage of assessment that has been reached; and when a decision is expected to issue.

PQ64469/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

499. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will review the case of a person (details supplied); the steps that can be taken to address the lack of concessionary school bus places for children on the Baileborough Road.

PQ64488/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

500. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department will provide an estimated cost comparison between incorporating permanent SEN classrooms into the new school buildings at a school (details supplied) and providing prefab classrooms; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64491/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

501. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether consideration is being given to placing the counselling in Primary Schools Pilot Programme on a permanent footing and expanding it nationally; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64478/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

502. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the current status of the Counselling in Primary Schools Pilot Programme; the number of schools participating and pupils supported to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64477/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

503. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an update on the special school place for a student (details supplied).

PQ64524/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

504. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will review the case of a person (details supplied); the reason the school bus route in question has not been amended despite repeated requests; if the proposed route amendment could be considered; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64534/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

505. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the new school building project (details supplied).

PQ64563/26 | TOM BRABAZON

506. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the reason job-sharing teachers are not permitted to undertake substitute teaching in primary schools during the 2026-2027 school year; if this policy will be urgently reviewed given the ongoing difficulty schools face in securing qualified substitute teachers; and if job-sharing teachers will be permitted to undertake substitute work on days when they are not rostered to work in their job-sharing position.

PQ64546/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

507. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if a school (details supplied) with an exceptionally high concentration of socio-economic disadvantage and complex educational needs can be reassessed for DEIS status given it has been a number of years since an assessment has taken place; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64520/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

508. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the reason a school (details supplied) with an exceptionally high concentration of socio-economic disadvantage and complex educational needs was excluded from DEIS; if she will review this decision; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64519/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

509. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if the case of a person (details supplied) will be reviewed; the status of the school bus ticket application; and if the decision will be reconsidered given the circumstances.

PQ64517/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

510. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if school bus tickets will be issued to a family (details supplied).

PQ64574/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

511. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to consider a summer works application (details supplied) given this is a major child health and safety concern; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64580/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

512. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the Counselling in Primary Schools Pilot; the number of schools and pupils participating; the evaluation undertaken to date; and if she will consider extending or placing school-based counselling services on a permanent and wider national footing.

PQ64583/26 | COLM BURKE

513. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to confirm that further investments will be made and strategies developed in the area of school counselling, particularly in the areas of prevention and early intervention; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64588/26 | COLM BURKE

514. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of an application for a refurbishment grant for a school (details supplied) in County Clare; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64633/26 | CATHAL CROWE

515. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on school transport provision for students (details supplied).

PQ64625/26 | EMER CURRIE

516. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of schools that have compulsory fees in both primary and secondary level; and the number of schools that take children out of class to ask them the reason they are not paying fees.

PQ64613/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

517. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth If she will review correspondence (details supplied); if she will clarify the circumstances under which a school transport ticket can be offered to a parent before payment has been made, given that the terms and conditions of the scheme require advance payment; and whether this practice is consistent with departmental policy.

PQ64609/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

518. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department and the National Council for Special Education will grant a request from a school (details supplied) to open an additional special class; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64644/26 | CATHAL CROWE

519. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will urgently review the case of persons (details supplied); if she will intervene with Bus Éireann to allow the existing taxi service to accommodate the two children concerned without further delay; and the reason administrative approval has not yet been granted given that transport has already been sanctioned by her Department.

PQ64599/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

520. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of special classrooms to be delivered in the new school building for a school (details supplied); if this number has been reduced due to a withdrawal of funding; the way in which this decision was made; and the consultation process with the school on the matter.

PQ64597/26 | MARK WARD

521. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to intervene to ensure a school (details supplied) can open a second ASD class as soon as possible; if the NCSE will carry out a school visit during this term; if the recent cut to SET hours is reversed; and if their DEIS status will be reviewed.

PQ64665/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

522. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth her current plans to introduce permanent formal therapeutic infrastructure in schools.

PQ64693/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

523. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the curriculum content in place at primary and post-primary schools regarding factual material concerning vaping and nitrous oxide.

PQ64687/26 | JOHN LAHART

524. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to consider issues raised regarding the review of the Leaving Certificate mathematics curriculum (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64708/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

525. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will respond to assertions that the content of mathematics higher paper 2026, was not a reasonable examination of the syllabus set by her Department with many questions considered obscure and challenging, particularly in the tight timeframe of the exam; and the analysis or response that has been actioned within her Department arising from concerns raised by both teachers, students and former teachers.

PQ64716/26 | JOHN LAHART

526. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth If she will personally review the application made by a school (details supplied); if she is aware that in the last school year this school had a significant enrolment of children with higher needs and were not granted additional SNA support, resulting in 15 children who require SNA support left with no support; and if she is aware that Tusla Children in Care have had to step in to address the situation.

PQ64717/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

527. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth If she will review correspondence (details supplied); the steps that can be taken to increase capacity on the school bus serving the Swellan area of Cavan town; if she will consider the deployment of a double decker bus on this route given that approximately 15 children are currently without school transport and no viable alternative exists.

PQ64738/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

528. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the stage 2A review of a school accommodation project at a school (details supplied); if she will include the project for priority consideration in the next tranche of the school building programme; to provide a clear and realistic timeline to tender and construction; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64747/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

529. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will review correspondence (details supplied); the steps that can be taken to increase capacity on school bus routes A26 and 1703 serving the Banaho and Crosskeys area; if she will consider replacing the existing 24-seater bus on route 1703 with a larger vehicle to accommodate all students; and if the area will be considered for inclusion in the pilot scheme reviewing the concessionary and nearest school transport model.

PQ64745/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

530. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the tendering for EWS for a school (details supplied).

PQ64801/26 | EMER CURRIE

531. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth If she will urgently review the case of persons (details supplied); if she will sanction the use of a double decker bus on the school transport route serving the Swellan area of Cavan town to St Patrick's College and Breifne College; if she will outline when a decision on this matter can be expected.

PQ64792/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

532. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will review the case of a person (details supplied); if she will provide an update on the school transport applications; if the decision to refuse will be reconsidered given the circumstances.

PQ64835/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

533. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the plans currently in place to establish new gaelscoileanna and gaelcholáistí over the next five years; and the locations being considered.

PQ64841/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

534. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the current enrolment and approved pupil capacity of each gaelscoil and gaelcholáiste in the State; and the number operating at or above capacity.

PQ64840/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

535. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will review the case of a person (details supplied); the reason the school transport applications were cancelled; and if she will reinstate the applications as a matter of urgency.

PQ64830/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

536. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an update on the delayed opening of the new special school in Balbriggan; the reasons for the delay; the steps being taken by her Department to ensure that the school opens as soon as possible; the reason parents and families were not adequately or promptly informed of the delay; the reason alternative educational provision, including temporary home tuition, was not put in place for children who are unable to attend school as a result of the delay; and the supports that are currently available to affected children and their families.

PQ64839/26 | ROBERT O'DONOGHUE

537. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of Irish-medium primary schools (gaelscoileanna) and Irish-medium post-primary schools (gaelcholáistí) currently operating in the State, by county.

PQ64838/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

538. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the details of any contracts in place between her Department and agencies under her remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64852/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

539. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth which body or bodies have legal responsibility for ensuring that teachers employed in voluntary secondary schools have their employment rights protected and are provided with a safe working environment.

PQ64920/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

540. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if a teacher pursuing a complaint before the Workplace Relations Commission, the Labour Court, or under protected disclosures legislation is required to exhaust or engage with internal school complaints procedures in order to avail of statutory protections.

PQ64919/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

541. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth who is the legal employer of teachers in voluntary secondary schools; and if the employer is deemed to be the board of management, the school patron, the Department of Education, or another body.

PQ64917/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

542. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if Professional Master of Education pathways are currently available to graduates of the BA Home Economics programme at St Angela's College; and if she will provide details of the number of available places on such programmes.

PQ64929/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

543. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the application by a school (details supplied) to transition to a Gaelscoil; and when a decision will be made on this application.

PQ64880/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

544. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to review correspondence (details supplied) and advise on the steps to take on the matter; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64865/26 | NIALL COLLINS

545. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will ensure that a child (details supplied) with additional needs secures an appropriate local school place to allow her to complete her leaving certificate; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64845/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

546. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of applications for places in Irish-medium post-primary schools that were unsuccessful in each of the past five years, by school and county; and the measures being taken to ensure sufficient gaelcholáiste places are available to meet demand.

PQ64842/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

547. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any assessment of the pilot programme for mental health supports in primary schools (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64949/26 | BARRY WARD

548. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any proposal to roll out mental health supports in primary schools following the findings of a pilot programme (details supplied).

PQ64950/26 | BARRY WARD

549. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding the provision of counselling and mental health supports in secondary schools.

PQ64951/26 | BARRY WARD

550. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any engagement she has had with an organisation (details supplied) in relation to the provision of counselling and mental health supports in secondary schools.

PQ64952/26 | BARRY WARD

551. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any engagement she has had with an organisation (details supplied) in relation to the provision of counselling and mental health supports in primary schools.

PQ64953/26 | BARRY WARD

552. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth If she will review the case of a person (details supplied); if she will provide an update on the school bus ticket application; and if she will outline whether the minibus serving the Drung/Bunnoe area could be replaced with a larger vehicle to accommodate all children requiring transport a school (details supplied).

PQ64869/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

553. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the Stage 2A review of a school accommodation project (details supplied); whether she will include the project for priority consideration in the next tranche of the school building programme; to provide a clear and realistic timeline to tender and construction; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64981/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

554. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will review the case of a teacher (details supplied); and if she will outline the measures being considered to retain experienced teachers in the profession, particularly in rural schools, amid the ongoing teacher shortage.

PQ64979/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

555. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to give consideration to an ongoing problem (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65024/26 | DANNY HEALY-RAE

556. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to give urgent consideration to an ongoing issue (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65046/26 | DANNY HEALY-RAE

557. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 29722/26, to provide a list of the frameworks of providers of digital devices recommended to schools.

PQ65042/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

558. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the steps she will take to accommodate a small number of concessionary students (details supplied) who did not receive seats for an existing school bus route from Ballymacarbery to Dungarvan, County Waterford; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65047/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

559. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the transport arrangements that can be implemented for a child (details supplied) to get them to and from school.

PQ65028/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

560. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to strongly consider an emergency works scheme appeal by a school (details supplied) to repair hazardous and unsafe roofing which is in need of repair from a health and safety perspective.

PQ65078/26 | COLM BURKE

561. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide the current enrolment, permanent building capacity, temporary accommodation capacity and projected enrolment for each primary and post-primary school serving County Louth; and to identify whether any schools are currently operating at or above their permanent capacity.

PQ65095/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

562. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department has completed a strategic review of primary and post-primary school capacity across north Louth, having regard to the substantial population growth experienced in recent years and the further housing development expected; the additional capacity identified as necessary; and the actions and timelines arising from that review.

PQ65094/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

563. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide an update on the staffing resources appeal of a school (details supplied).

PQ65093/26 | ROBERT TROY

564. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the engagement that has taken place between her Department, Louth County Council, the Housing Agency and relevant utility and infrastructure providers regarding the reservation or acquisition of suitable sites for new schools in the Dundalk south area; and if she will provide details of any sites currently under consideration.

PQ65092/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

565. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the work that has been undertaken by her Department's forward planning section to assess the effect of completed, approved and proposed residential development in Blackrock, Haggardstown and the wider Dundalk south area on future demand for primary and post-primary school places; and if the findings of this work will be published.

PQ65091/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

566. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide the current and projected primary and post-primary school enrolment figures for Dundalk south and Dundalk Carlingford LEA's school planning area for each of the next ten years; the number of available school places currently identified in the area; and the year in which demand is expected to exceed existing permanent capacity.

PQ65090/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

567. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide an update on the AEN appeal for a school (details supplied).

PQ65089/26 | ROBERT TROY

568. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department will assess the need for a new post-primary school in the Dundalk south local electoral area, particularly to serve Blackrock, Haggardstown and surrounding communities, given the significant recent and projected increase in population and residential development; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65088/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

569. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide a breakdown of a payment made to a school transport operator for a person (details supplied).

PQ65106/26 | EMER CURRIE

570. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the provisions for school secretaries who retired between the commencement of the dispute and the date of the acceptance of the July 2026 Labour Court recommendations of an ex-gratia lump sum at retirement for school secretaries and caretakers; the consideration that has been given to recognising service prior to 1 May 2015 in the calculation of that payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65134/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

571. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any initiative in place that seeks to meet the demand for Irish medium secondary schools at a national level.

PQ65145/26 | BARRY WARD

572. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any initiative in place that seeks to meet the demand for Irish medium primary schools at a national level.

PQ65144/26 | BARRY WARD

573. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any initiative in place that seeks to meet the demand for Irish medium primary schools at a local level in areas where demand has been proven.

PQ65146/26 | BARRY WARD

574. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is aware of a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65154/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

575. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any mechanism in place within her Department that seeks to specifically increase the provision of Gaelscoileanna; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65153/26 | BARRY WARD

576. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding any mechanism in place within her Department that seeks to specifically increase the provision of Gaelcholáistí; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65152/26 | BARRY WARD

577. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth her views on the importance of promoting the provision of Gaelscoileanna and Gaelcholáistí; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65151/26 | BARRY WARD

578. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding the percentage of children attending Gaelscoileanna as a percentage of overall primary school children, by county, in tabular form.

PQ65150/26 | BARRY WARD

579. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding Department led assessment of demand for Irish medium secondary schools.

PQ65149/26 | BARRY WARD

580. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding Department led assessment of demand for Irish medium primary schools.

PQ65148/26 | BARRY WARD

581. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the position regarding initiatives in place that seek to meet the demand for Irish medium secondary schools at a local level in areas where demand has been proven.

PQ65147/26 | BARRY WARD

582. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if persons who previously received a small settlement, in respect of abuse suffered while attending school will be eligible to apply for redress under the new scheme; and if a previous settlement will affect their eligibility or the amount of redress available.

PQ65172/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

583. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the transport arrangements that can be implemented for a child (details supplied) to get them to and from school.

PQ65027/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

584. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the steps that can be taken to ensure that a student (details supplied) can access a school.

PQ65189/26 | ANN GRAVES

585. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is aware of the limited availability of moderate ASD class places at post-primary level in County Carlow; whether her Department has assessed the future demand for such places in advance of September 2028; and if consideration will be given to establishing a moderate ASD special class in a school (details supplied) given the existing ASD provision in the school and the need for additional local places.

PQ65265/26 | CATHERINE CALLAGHAN

586. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the average proceeding time for an application for the redress scheme for survivors of institutional abuse; the number of staff allocated to work on such applications and the proportion of these allocated on a full time basis; and her plans to accelerate the processing time for applications, grant of payment and payment of monies.

PQ65247/26 | IVANA BACIK

587. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to provide an update on the construction and anticipated opening timeline for the new special school in the Loughshinny area of County Dublin (details supplied); the current expected date for completion of construction and handover of the building; the anticipated date on which the school will open to pupils; and when pupils and staff are expected to transfer from the existing school premises.

PQ65243/26 | ROBERT O'DONOGHUE

588. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to ensure a child (details supplied) has a school transport place for the forthcoming school year.

PQ65180/26 | ANN GRAVES

589. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if the number of sraithpictiúr for the Leaving Certificate oral Irish exam will remain at ten for examinations taking place in 2027 and 2028; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65294/26 | CHARLES WARD

590. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to review school bus transport for a child with special needs (details supplied).

PQ65292/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

591. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the actions she will take in response to the PISA 2025 findings that 24.2% of students in Ireland are performing below Level 2 in mathematics and 16.5% below Level 2 in reading, and the decline in performance in both areas over the past decade.

PQ65231/26 | GRACE BOLAND

592. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if a late application can be accepted from a family in circumstances where one parent in recently deceased and the remaining parent now requires school transport; if so the process which must be followed; and how late an application can be submitted.

PQ65228/26 | ROBERT TROY

593. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether her Department has put in place provisions to ensure that there is a place in an Irish-medium second level school for those who have attended a Irish-medium primary school.

PQ65213/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

594. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth when a school (details supplied) can expect a decision on its application under the additional school accommodation scheme in light of the school's stated health and safety and accommodation pressures.

PQ65337/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

595. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether her Department has carried out a review into the mathematics higher level papers 1 and 2 in this year's Leaving Certificate, which was poorly received by students, parents and teachers (details supplied); whether the drop in grades in mathematics in 2026 could be partly answered by the difficulties in the papers; the changes she envisages in preparation for Leaving Certificate 2027; and whether similar changes and difficulties could appear without warning in other subjects.

PQ65236/26 | SEÁN KYNE

596. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether she will review the guidance and professional development provided to teachers and special education teachers on evidence informed approaches to supporting students with literacy and numeracy difficulties, including dyslexia and dyscalculia, in view of the PISA 2025 findings.

PQ65235/26 | GRACE BOLAND

597. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the measures in place to ensure that students with dyslexia and dyscalculia are identified and supported at the earliest possible stage, including access to evidence informed interventions, assistive technology and appropriate examination accommodations.

PQ65234/26 | GRACE BOLAND

598. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether she is satisfied that schools have sufficient special education teaching resources to provide appropriate literacy and numeracy interventions for students experiencing persistent difficulties, including students with dyslexia and dyscalculia; and whether these allocations will be reviewed following the PISA 2025 results.

PQ65233/26 | GRACE BOLAND

599. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the actions she will take to address the PISA 2025 attainment gap between students in DEIS and non-DEIS schools, including the 49 point gap in reading and 46 point gap in mathematics.

PQ65232/26 | GRACE BOLAND

600. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 62819/26 of 7 September 2026, the current status of the review of Circular 0032/2017 on the cost of school uniforms referred to in the reply; the date on which that review is expected to conclude; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65403/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

601. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 62835/26 of 7 September 2026, the total value of voluntary contributions collected by schools in the most recent year for which data is available; whether her Department has set any target for reducing compulsory or unavoidable costs to parents; and the reason her Department does not gather data on school level compliance with Circular 0032/2017 on school uniform costs; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65402/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

602. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 62819/26 of 7 September 2026, if her Department will begin to collect data on the total cost of sending a child to school, including voluntary contributions, uniforms, books and digital devices, given that this data is not currently collected; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65401/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

603. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 62819/26 of 7 September 2026, if her Department will begin to collect data on the total cost of sending a child to school, including voluntary contributions, uniforms, books and digital devices, given that this data is not currently collected; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65400/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

604. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether a special class is planned for a school (details supplied) as part of the proposal to construct a new building for the school; if a special class is included in the plans; and if it will be operational by September 2029.

PQ65387/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

605. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department will give funding for bus transport for students attending a school (details supplied).

PQ65382/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

606. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth in cases in which a building under her control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; her plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65344/26 | BARRY WARD

607. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under her control; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65314/26 | BARRY WARD

608. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will ensure that future surveys conducted by her Department include an option for respondents to submit observations without requiring a MyGovID account, thereby improving accessibility and recognising that many people do not have an account.

PQ65484/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

609. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for clarity on an issue regarding DEY Circular 38/26 (details supplied).

PQ65497/26 | EMER CURRIE

610. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on a project (details supplied).

PQ65498/26 | EMER CURRIE

611. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the commencement of a project (details supplied).

PQ65496/26 | EMER CURRIE

612. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to confirm when special schools will receive formal approval to appoint the additional Senior Cycle Level 1 and Level 2 Learning Programmes Co-ordinator post of responsibility provided for under Circular 0038/2026; to outline the reason for the delay in providing this confirmation to special schools, particularly given that mainstream post-primary schools have already been facilitated to appoint to these additional posts; to provide a specific date by which eligible special schools will be notified of their entitlement and permitted to commence the recruitment and appointment process.

PQ65501/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

613. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to confirm the action she and her Department are taking with regards to the review of the Leaving Certificate mathematics curriculum following resignations from the Subject Development Group.

PQ65613/26 | COLM BURKE

614. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on school transport for a student (details supplied).

PQ65686/26 | EMER CURRIE

615. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of the planned new school building project for a school in County Clare (details supplied); the timeline for the progression of this project; when it is expected to advance to the formal planning and design stages; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65715/26 | CATHAL CROWE

616. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if a school bus driver (details supplied) who was driving school buses up until June of 2025 will be permitted to drive school transport under the new over 70 rules

PQ65752/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

617. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if Bus Éireann will increase the capacity on a post primary school transport route to cater for the 11 students (details supplied) who have were on this service last year.

PQ65751/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

618. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the criteria used by Bus Éireann when allocating concessionary seats; and the reason children living further from school on dangerous rural roads are being refused while others living closer are granted places.

PQ65870/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

619. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the policy basis for allocating school transport scheme seats to temporary foreign exchange students on private programmes in Mayo; if they are prioritised ahead of local concessionary applicants; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65869/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

620. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the annual cost of providing school transport for temporary exchange students; and if Bus Éireann will review current allocations to free up seats for local children.

PQ65872/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

621. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth If she will consider the issues raised in correspondence (details supplied) relating to assistive technology supports for a primary school student.

PQ65516/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

622. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status of a school bus ticket application (details supplied); and if the ticket can be issued in the circumstances.

PQ65818/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

623. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if permanent teachers on job share will continue to be permitted to take on substitute teaching, when they are otherwise available to work this year.

PQ65925/26 | SHAY BRENNAN

624. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department intends to lift the restriction on job-sharing teachers substituting during their non-working days for 2026/2027.

PQ65929/26 | SHAY BRENNAN

625. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth when teachers can expect a formal announcement on the restriction on job-sharing teachers substituting during their non-working days for 2026/2027.

PQ65938/26 | SHAY BRENNAN

626. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if a decision has already been made on the restriction on job-sharing teachers substituting during their non-working days for 2026/2027; and if not, if it is currently being discussed with an organisation (details supplied).

PQ65935/26 | SHAY BRENNAN

627. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the reason qualified job-sharing teachers are being prevented from substituting in 2026/2027, that unqualified or not-yet-qualified people can be working in classrooms while qualified teachers who are available and willing to work are being excluded.

PQ65943/26 | SHAY BRENNAN

628. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is considering refusing the extension for job-sharing teachers substituting during their non-working days for 2026/2027; the justification for preventing qualified and experienced teachers from filling substitute vacancies at a time when schools need them.

PQ65941/26 | SHAY BRENNAN

629. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the amount of incremental credit a Teaching Council-registered teacher with 15 years verified experience abroad in the UK and Singapore could receive under the current rules.

PQ65945/26 | SHAY BRENNAN

630. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether she is satisfied that current Leaving Certificate subject-access arrangements provide students with dyslexia and other additional educational needs with an equitable opportunity to maximise their CAO points; whether she has considered circumstances in which a student with an Irish exemption who also experiences significant difficulty with English may effectively have fewer viable examination subjects available to them than their peers; and whether she will review the relevant guidance to ensure appropriate flexibility is available to schools.

PQ65956/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

631. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether schools have discretion to facilitate a Leaving Cert student with dyslexia and an exemption from Irish to study an additional subject, where the student is likely to experience significant difficulty achieving the required standard in English and where studying an additional subject would provide the student with six subjects in which they can realistically compete for CAO points; whether Departmental guidance requiring a focus on additional educational needs restricts a school's discretion in this regard; and the reasonable accommodations or flexibility are available to such students.

PQ65954/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

632. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the implementation of the 1% local bargaining provision due to post-primary teachers from 1 September 2025.

PQ65710/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

Chun an Cultúir, Cumarsáide agus Spóirt: To the Culture, Communications and Sport

633. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the timeframe for An Post pensioners to receive the payment rise that was agreed in May 2026.

PQ64196/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

634. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the reason microsites for the National Archives are currently down; and whether security risks were identified.

PQ64310/26 | THOMAS GOULD

635. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the cost of moving microsites belonging to the National Archive.

PQ64309/26 | THOMAS GOULD

636. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if National Broadband Ireland will contact a person (details supplied) regard connecting their residence to the fibre line that runs by the residence; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64614/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

637. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport when the new national guidelines for the per cent for art scheme will be published.

PQ64645/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

638. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport his Department's policy regarding the national Gaeltacht gallery; the funding awarded to the national Gaeltacht gallery in Gaoth Dobhair over the past five years; if there have been changes to the funding provided to the gallery; and if so, the reason for this.

PQ64744/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

639. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64853/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

640. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the amount expended by Galway County Council and Galway City Council under the per cent for art scheme in each of the past ten years; and the projects to which the expenditure related.

PQ65021/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

641. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the total funding allocated to Galway County Council under the per cent for art scheme in each of the past ten years, by year; the projects in respect of which funding was approved; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65020/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

642. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the total funding allocated to Galway City Council under the per cent for art scheme in each of the past ten years, by year; and the projects in respect of which funding was approved.

PQ65019/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

643. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if his Department intends to introduce a national emergency alert system for natural-disaster incidents such as wildfires, flooding, or severe weather events; if proposals are currently under consideration; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65217/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

644. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport his views on the recent decision by a person (details supplied) to resign as Chair of the Integration committee; and if he will make a statement.

PQ65362/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

645. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65342/26 | BARRY WARD

646. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65312/26 | BARRY WARD

647. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport whether he is concerned by reports suggesting a loss of momentum in the planned integration of organisations (details supplied) and by allegations that women may not be afforded an equal role in decision-making structures within Gaelic games; whether his Department has assessed the potential impact of any delay or reversal of integration on female participation and representation in sport.

PQ65476/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

648. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the extent of State funding provided to the GAA and related Gaelic games bodies through the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme, large-scale sports infrastructure funding and other State supports in each of the past five years; and whether compliance with national sports policy objectives relating to gender equality and participation is considered when allocating such funding.

PQ65475/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

649. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if he has engaged with the organisations (details supplied) regarding the ongoing integration process following the resignation of the Chairperson of the Steering Group on Integration; and the assurances, he has sought from the organisations regarding their continued commitment to full integration

PQ65474/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

650. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the position regarding any engagement he has had with an organisation (details supplied) in relation to an agreed roadmap.

PQ65543/26 | BARRY WARD

651. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the position regarding any engagement he has had with an organisation (details supplied) in relation to the agreed roadmap for integrating organisations.

PQ65549/26 | BARRY WARD

652. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the position regarding any engagement he has had with an organisation (details supplied) in relation to the agreed roadmap for integrating other organisations.

PQ65548/26 | BARRY WARD

653. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the position regarding the mechanisms being put in place to ensure the committed timeline for the agreed roadmap for integrating organisations (details supplied).

PQ65545/26 | BARRY WARD

654. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the position regarding any assessment or review of the circumstances related to the recent resignation of the Chairperson Integration Committee overseeing the amalgamation of organisations (details supplied).

PQ65544/26 | BARRY WARD

655. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport his Department's plans to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the election of Daniel O'Connell in County Clare in 1828; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65586/26 | CATHAL CROWE

656. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if his Department will assist a person (details supplied) in getting access to fibre broadband in their home in Portmarnock; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65618/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

657. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the actions being taken by Government to strengthen Ireland's position as a host location for major international golf championships.

PQ65725/26 | GRACE BOLAND

658. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if discussions have taken place regarding the hosting of a major women's golf championship at a club (details supplied) in advance of any men's championship.

PQ65724/26 | GRACE BOLAND

659. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if an economic impact assessment has been undertaken in relation to hosting a major championship at a club (details supplied); and the estimated tourism, employment and regional economic benefits identified.

PQ65720/26 | GRACE BOLAND

660. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the status of discussions between his Department, and organisations (details supplied) regarding the hosting of a major international golf championship; the key milestones remaining before a Government decision is made; and the anticipated timeline for that decision.

PQ65719/26 | GRACE BOLAND

661. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if he will establish a dedicated, ring-fenced and multi-annual local authority swimming pool fund in Budget 2027, as the first phase of a ten-year national programme of investment in Ireland's swimming and community leisure infrastructure.

PQ65906/26 | PÁDRAIG MAC LOCHLAINN

662. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if he will intercede in a case (details supplied) in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65797/26 | CATHAL CROWE

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

663. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department assessed, prior to requesting local authorities to undertake development plan variations concerning additional land for residential development, the potential for those variations to conflict with existing development plans, regional spatial and economic strategies, the National Planning Framework or other statutory planning requirements; and, if so, to provide details of that assessment.

PQ64191/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

664. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of draft or final Ministerial directions which have arisen from development plan variations undertaken following the recent Ministerial request concerning additional land for residential development; the local authorities concerned; and the reason for each direction and its current status, in tabular form.

PQ64190/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

665. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of development plan variations undertaken by local authorities arising from the recent Ministerial request concerning additional land for residential development in respect of which the Office of the Planning Regulator has identified issues, made recommendations or recommended a Ministerial direction; and to provide a breakdown by local authority and the nature of the issue identified, in tabular form.

PQ64189/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

666. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the guidelines in place regarding the commercial rates exemption for farm buildings used for the temperature-controlled storage, cleaning, sorting, grading and packing of potatoes, onions and other crops grown on associated land.

PQ64356/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

667. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of agricultural or horticultural properties that have been assessed for commercial rates since 2020 because produce grown on associated land was stored, washed, sorted, graded or packed within farm buildings, broken down by county and year.

PQ64357/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

668. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will amend the Valuation Act 2001 to provide greater clarity and certainty regarding the exemption from commercial rates for agricultural and horticultural buildings.

PQ64386/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

669. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he plans to introduce legislation clarifying that the storage, temperature control, cleaning, sorting, grading and packing of produce grown on associated land are normal agricultural or horticultural activities and do not, by themselves, constitute commercial processing.

PQ64385/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

670. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has reviewed the effect of the Nangles Nurseries judgment on the interpretation of agricultural and horticultural activities for commercial-rating purposes; and the guidance that has subsequently been provided to Tailte Éireann.

PQ64384/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

671. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the mechanisms in place to ensure that there are sufficient community and green spaces in place as part of the wider community in conjunction with the construction of new housing developments; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64417/26 | BARRY WARD

672. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding the mechanisms in place to ensure that any green or community spaces in new housing developments are available as soon as tenants move in and there is no crossover delay before it is available for use; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64415/26 | BARRY WARD

673. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the proposed national territorial mapping, being progressed through the three regional assemblies to identify areas suitable onshore wind energy development is expected to be completed and published; whether he is satisfied that there is sufficient alignment between national renewable energy objectives, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies, local authority development plans and renewable energy strategies; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64433/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

674. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding the mechanisms in place to ensure that any green or community spaces in new housing developments are maintained and kept clean to ensure continued community use; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64413/26 | BARRY WARD

675. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding the mechanisms in place to ensure that any green or community spaces in new housing developments are usable and accessible to all residents; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64412/26 | BARRY WARD

676. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the National Planning Statement relating to onshore wind energy is expected to be published; whether its publication will be expedited as a priority in 2026, having regard to the Government's renewable electricity targets and the need to facilitate the required expansion of onshore wind generation capacity; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64432/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

677. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the actions that have been taken to ensure that relevant decisions of the Valuation Tribunal concerning farm-building exemptions are consistently reflected in subsequent valuations undertaken by Tailte Éireann.

PQ64378/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

678. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of appeals involving the rating of agricultural or horticultural buildings have been brought before the Valuation Tribunal since 2020; the number that were successful; and the average length of time taken to determine these appeals.

PQ64367/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

679. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether consideration will be given to reducing or removing commercial rates applied to farm buildings used solely for storing, preserving, cleaning, grading and packing produce grown on the associated agricultural or horticultural land.

PQ64363/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

680. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether he intends to amend the Valuation Act 2001 to clarify the distinction between normal agricultural or horticultural activities and the commercial processing of produce.

PQ64361/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

681. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures in place to ensure consistency in the application of the farm-building exemption under section 3 and schedule 4 of the Valuation Act 2001, particularly where modern machinery and temperature-control systems are used to preserve and prepare produce for sale.

PQ64359/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

682. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether the valuation office will review comparable agricultural and horticultural properties to ensure that buildings qualifying for the farm-building exemption are not incorrectly classified as rateable.

PQ64358/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

683. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the enforcement mechanisms available to the RTB to identify, investigate and prosecute landlords who fail to register tenancies; to address the reported discrepancy between CSO estimates of private rentals and the number of tenancies registered with the RTB; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64516/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

684. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider allowing micro-companies to apply for the vacant above-the-shop grant scheme; and the timeline for the potential inclusion of micro-companies in the scheme.

PQ64554/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

685. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps being taken and the resources being made available to reduce the current waiting time for planning decisions with An Coimisiún Pleanála.

PQ64544/26 | BRIAN BRENNAN

686. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of housing units which could potentially be delivered through the conversion of vacant and derelict buildings in town and city centres; the estimated number of such buildings suitable for residential conversion; and if he will set out the Government's strategy for maximising this source of housing supply.

PQ64680/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

687. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures his Department is taking to ensure that vacant, derelict and disused buildings in towns and cities are brought back into residential use; whether consideration has been given to introducing stronger obligations on owners of suitable disused buildings to return them to productive use.

PQ64679/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

688. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of vacant and derelict residential and potentially residential properties identified nationally; the number of these properties which have been brought back into use in each of the past five years, 2021 to date in 2026; and the number currently being progressed for residential use.

PQ64678/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

689. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of vacant and derelict buildings in Limerick city that have been identified as potentially suitable for residential use; the number that have been brought back into use for housing in each of the past five years; and the schemes available to assist owners in converting such properties.

PQ64684/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

690. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department is aware of the European Citizens' Initiative being organised by an organisation (details supplied) concerning the rejuvenation of disused buildings and their return to the housing supply; and whether the Government supports the objectives of this initiative.

PQ64683/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

691. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department has examined the potential cost of converting vacant and derelict buildings into residential accommodation compared with the construction of new housing; whether barriers to such conversions have been identified, including planning, building regulations and funding; and the measures that are being considered to overcome these barriers.

PQ64682/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

692. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the National Nature Restoration Plan.

PQ64706/26 | EMER CURRIE

693. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if any financial support has been provided to businesses whose primary activity is the retail of vaping products, e-cigarettes or nicotine inhaling products under any scheme funded in whole or in part by his Department, including but not limited to town centre first measures and the croí cónaithe towns fund; if his Department will request from each local authority the number and value of any such supports awarded in each of the years 2020 to date, by local authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64769/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

694. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware that the exemption in the Social Housing Assessment Regulations 2011 in circumstances (details supplied); the supports available to such a household while the ownership of the property remains unresolved; if he will consider amending the regulations to treat such a cohabiting parent on the same basis as a separated spouse; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64758/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

695. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the income, the income expenditure and net surplus or profit generated by the Cliffs of Moher visitor experience in each of the past five years; the corresponding figures for any other local authority-operated tourist attractions; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64774/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

696. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has assessed the risk posed by the proposed development adjoining Dún Dealgan to the monument, its visual setting, associated archaeology and wider historic and mythological landscape.

PQ64784/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

697. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the fact that a proposed development is subject to the planning process prevents or restricts the Minister from separately considering the exercise of statutory powers under the National Monuments Acts; the legislative basis for any such restriction; and if he retains the power to make a preservation order or take another protective measure before a final planning determination or the commencement of development.

PQ64783/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

698. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the precise legal, archaeological or policy reasons that the powers relating to guardianship, preservation orders or temporary preservation orders under the National Monuments Acts were not considered applicable or appropriate in the case of Dún Dealgan; if legal advice was sought on the possible use of those powers; and if he will provide a detailed account of the statutory criteria that were applied in reaching this conclusion.

PQ64782/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

699. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he or his Department considered exercising any statutory power under the National Monuments Acts 1930–2014 to protect Dún Dealgan Motte, National Monument No. 388, and its surrounding archaeological and historic landscape following the proposed development on adjoining lands; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64781/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

700. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64854/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

701. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to clarify whether all transitional applicants who reach the grant cap are eligible to have their original engineers' fees reimbursed up to €7,000, regardless of whether they exceed the cap due to the rebuild grant and the ancillary grant together, or due to reaching the cap with the rebuild grant alone; and if not if it take an administrative change in order to allow this reimbursement to take place.

PQ64898/26 | CHARLES WARD

702. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider as part of the ongoing review of the enhanced defective concrete blocks grant scheme, increasing the financial supports available to affected homeowners (details supplied); and the options under consideration by his Department.

PQ64912/26 | CHARLES WARD

703. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage given his responsibility for the defective concrete blocks grant scheme and for the statutory framework governing appeals, the information available to his Department regarding the manner in which appeals are prioritised and processed by the Housing Agency; if appeals are determined in chronological order of receipt; and if not, the criteria used to determine priority.

PQ64911/26 | CHARLES WARD

704. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will confirm that no homeowner will be disadvantaged under the defective concrete blocks grant scheme solely because their original determination was made under an earlier version of I.S. 465 or because they are now outside an appeal period that applied before the introduction of the current technical review process; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64889/26 | CHARLES WARD

705. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the way in which homeowners whose recommended remediation option was subsequently downgraded are being dealt with; if such cases will be automatically reassessed under I.S. 465:2026; if affected homeowners must separately request a review; and if that the statutory appeal period has been paused for these homeowners.

PQ64888/26 | CHARLES WARD

706. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether the timely publication of the National Planning Statement relating to onshore wind energy is considered necessary to support the Government's target of generating 80% of electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and the delivery of the stated 4,333 MW of required onshore wind capacity; whether he has engaged with the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment regarding its publication as a priority in 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64434/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

707. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the Housing Agency has proactively identified and contacted all homeowners whose original determinations may be affected by changes introduced under I.S. 465:2026 and the current technical review process.

PQ64887/26 | CHARLES WARD

708. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether he is satisfied that national renewable electricity and onshore wind targets are adequately reflected in Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies, local authority development plans and county renewable energy strategies; the engagement his Department has undertaken with the three regional assemblies and relevant local authorities to ensure consistency between national targets and regional and local planning policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64435/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

709. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if sections 13 and 14 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 have been commenced; and if not, his plans to commence them.

PQ64927/26 | PAUL MURPHY

710. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the approach being taken by the Housing Agency in respect of historical damage assessments under the defective concrete blocks grant scheme (details supplied); the way in which such cases will be reconsidered in light of the revised I.S. 465:2026 and the current technical review process.

PQ64883/26 | CHARLES WARD

711. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of homeowners under the defective concrete blocks grant scheme whose original determination was made under an earlier version of I.S. 465 and who were assessed as either falling below the threshold for demolition or qualifying for a lower remediation option; whether the Housing Agency has reviewed these cases in light of I.S. 465:2026 and the operation of the current technical review process; the mechanism available to homeowners who are now outside the statutory appeal period; and whether affected homeowners will be proactively identified and contacted by the Housing Agency.

PQ64894/26 | CHARLES WARD

712. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of historical determinations made under the defective concrete blocks grant scheme where the outcome was below demolition; the number of homeowners whose remediation option was subsequently downgraded; the number of such cases identified by the Housing Agency as potentially requiring reassessment under I.S. 465:2026; the number contacted by the Housing Agency in this regard, by county and year, in tabular form.

PQ64892/26 | CHARLES WARD

713. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the reason that the Dún Dealgan Castletown Motte & Bailey site has not had special protection status conferred on it under the Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023.

PQ64954/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

714. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether any service standards, target timelines or prioritisation criteria have been agreed between his Department and the Housing Agency in respect of appeals under the defective concrete blocks grant scheme; and whether these have been published.

PQ64964/26 | CHARLES WARD

715. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the progress to date on the apartment and duplex remediation scheme and the associated legislation; whether all required regulations, guidance and operational arrangements have been finalised; the expected commencement date of the scheme; and when affected owners' management companies and apartment owners can expect to access the scheme.

PQ64995/26 | CHARLES WARD

716. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when a scheme will commence to relocate nine families, living in defective concrete block homes away from the dangerous flood plain at Elm Park, Buncrana, County Donegal; and when his Department officials will consult with the homeowners on the design of the scheme.

PQ64992/26 | PÁDRAIG MAC LOCHLAINN

717. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the options available to homeowners under the defective concrete blocks grant scheme who received a determination under an earlier version of I.S. 465 that resulted in a lower remediation option than may be applicable under I.S. 465:2026, but whose statutory appeal period has since expired; whether such homeowners are eligible to seek a technical review; and the process for doing so.

PQ64998/26 | CHARLES WARD

718. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his current plans to legislate a clear pathway for those individuals who have finished rehabilitation to gain access to housing.

PQ65041/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

719. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to clarify the requirements that will apply from 31 December 2026 to products already being supplied or installed in Ireland that do not hold a certificate meeting the criteria for the transitional arrangements; whether existing stocks may continue to be sold or used; the way in which products already installed will be treated; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64656/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

720. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the criteria Ireland will use to determine whether a product holds a valid national conformity certificate on 31 December 2026 for the purpose of the transitional arrangements operating until 31 December 2032; when these criteria will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64654/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

721. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide the detailed implementation timetable for Article 11 of Directive (EU) 2020/2184 between now and 31 December 2026, including the dates for the designation of the notifying authority and market-surveillance authority; the accreditation and notification of conformity-assessment bodies; the publication of national guidance, engagement with industry and commencement of enforcement; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64651/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

722. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to identify the authority that will act as Ireland's notifying authority for conformity-assessment bodies under Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/370; whether that authority has been formally designated; the date on which its designation took effect or is expected to take effect; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64650/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

723. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to detail the engagement undertaken with manufacturers, importers, merchants, plumbing and construction representatives, consulting engineers, certification bodies, local authorities and Uisce Éireann regarding the implementation of Article 11 of Directive (EU) 2020/2184; when comprehensive guidance will be published for those sectors; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64657/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

724. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to identify the Department, agency or public body with lead responsibility for implementing the product conformity and certification requirements under Article 11 of Directive (EU) 2020/2184; to provide a complete

breakdown of the responsibilities assigned to his Department, the EPA, Uisce Éireann, the CRU, the Irish National Accreditation Board, local authorities and any other relevant body; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64647/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

725. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to confirm which body or bodies will be authorised to assess and certify products intended to come into contact with drinking water under Article 11 of Directive (EU) 2020/2184 from 31 December 2026; whether any conformity-assessment body based in Ireland has been accredited or notified for this purpose; whether Irish manufacturers and suppliers will be able to use a notified body established in another EU Member State; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64649/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

726. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether Ireland intends to apply the harmonised EU requirements for materials and products in contact with drinking water without additional national requirements; whether his Department or any agency intends to introduce additional Irish testing, certification, registration, positive-list, marking, installation or approval requirements; the legal and technical basis for any such additional requirements; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64652/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

727. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether Uisce Éireann, local authorities or other public water suppliers will be permitted to require tests, approvals or product certifications in addition to those required under the harmonised EU drinking-water product regime; whether guidance will be issued to ensure that procurement specifications do not unnecessarily restrict products carrying the required EU conformity marking; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64653/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

728. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to confirm whether products holding approvals from the Drinking Water Inspectorate for England and Wales, WRAS approval, or an equivalent approval issued in another European jurisdiction will be regarded as holding a valid national conformity certificate in Ireland on 31 December 2026; whether such products may continue to be placed on the Irish market until 31 December 2032; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64655/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

729. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the way in which he envisages the secretarial scheme for councillors will look like as laid out in the local government taskforce implementation plan.

PQ65072/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

730. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will meet with all current chief executives of local authorities and direct them to implement the non-legislative action points in the local Government taskforce in line with the dates established in the implementation report.

PQ65069/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

731. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the administrative and statutory justification for the Housing Agency requiring further core testing on a dwelling entering the technical review of their enhanced defective concrete blocks grant scheme application, in cases where a full suite of independent engineering tests and assessments have already been comprehensively carried out; and the reasons this duplication of structural testing is necessary given the financial and administrative burden it places on the State.

PQ65198/26 | CHARLES WARD

732. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding grant measures available to support persons with mobility issues that need to upgrade their homes to make them more accessible, in tabular form.

PQ65193/26 | BARRY WARD

733. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the position regarding proposals to review the means testing parameters related to grant support for people with mobility issues to make private homes accessible.

PQ65192/26 | BARRY WARD

734. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on whether the existing grant supports for people with mobility issues to make private homes accessible are fair, specifically in terms of the means testing applied; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65191/26 | BARRY WARD

735. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he supports all actions identified in the local government taskforce; and if he intends to prioritise legislation and Government time in the 31 areas identified for legislative action.

PQ65068/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

736. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the timeframe for homeowners affected by defective concrete can expect formal clarification on the operation of the technical review mechanism following the publication of I.S. 465:2026; whether revised guidance and eligibility criteria have been finalised; when they will be published; and whether a target date has been set for the implementation of a revised review process.

PQ64897/26 | CHARLES WARD

737. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65350/26 | BARRY WARD

738. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to clarify whether testing undertaken on defective concrete properties under I.S. 465:2018 remains valid for the purposes of assessing eligibility and remediation under the enhanced defective concrete blocks scheme instead of needing a building condition assessment where the testing already exists.

PQ65490/26 | CHARLES WARD

739. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether properties that were utilised as pilot properties under the defective concrete blocks scheme, and which have already been confirmed as containing defective concrete blocks, can proceed directly to the determination of the appropriate remediation option without any further testing requirements; and if not, whether legislative amendments are required to facilitate such progression.

PQ65489/26 | CHARLES WARD

740. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details of the pilot properties/houses being used in connection with the implementation or assessment of the revised defective concrete framework, including the number and location of properties involved, the local authorities concerned, the nature of the testing or assessment undertaken.

PQ65486/26 | CHARLES WARD

741. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65320/26 | BARRY WARD

742. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if a company (details supplied), the Irish Aviation Authority and State-owned airports have been asked to contribute to the drafting of new planning guidelines relating to wind energy.

PQ65559/26 | CATHAL CROWE

743. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if officials from his Department, who are overseeing the drafting of new windfarm guidelines, have begun factoring for aviation safeguarding (details supplied)

PQ65558/26 | CATHAL CROWE

744. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the expected timeline for the issuing of an initial draft of new planning guidelines relating to wind energy.

PQ65557/26 | CATHAL CROWE

745. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department will consider changes to the housing aid for older people scheme which would allow applications where a pensioner has already signed their home over to a son or daughter who does not reside at the address (details supplied).

PQ65671/26 | ROBERT TROY

746. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated the size and value of the residential-zoned land bank.

PQ65845/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

747. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is satisfied that the proposed designation of certain pre-1700 roads, field boundaries and structures under the draft Historic and Archaeological Heritage (Prescribed Monuments) Regulations 2026 will not result in unnecessary archaeological referrals, additional costs or delays to housing and infrastructure projects; and the safeguards that will be provided to prevent unintended consequences.

PQ65844/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

748. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his Department has undertaken, or plans to undertake, a regulatory impact assessment of the draft Historic and Archaeological Heritage (Prescribed Monuments) Regulations 2026, specifically examining their potential impact on housing delivery, town-centre regeneration, agricultural development and the delivery of transport and utility infrastructure; and if the potential additional workload and associated costs and delays for local authorities, his Department, developers and property owners have been quantified.

PQ65842/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

749. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his Department's best estimation as to the contribution of site value to the cost of delivering housing in Ireland, by county; and whether any reports drafted by his Department, or agencies under its remit, consider the contribution of zoning changes to site values and therefore housing delivery costs.

PQ65841/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

750. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the estimated total area of vacant or underutilised residential zoned land in the State, broken down by county; and the estimated cost of purchasing this land at market rates; and the contribution made by residential zoning to the valuation of the land.

PQ65839/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

751. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will increase the amount provided to local authorities to carry out essential housing adaptations for medical needs in 2027 (details supplied).

PQ65968/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

752. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the timeline for the finalisation and completion of the Regional Renewable Energy Strategies.

PQ65961/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

753. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the commitment to introduce solar planning guidelines in the Programme for Government; the timeline for delivery; if they will be delivered by the end of the year; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65753/26 | PA DALY

754. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the financial package of measures planned in relation to the local Government taskforce and the forthcoming Budget.

PQ65066/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

755. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he supports devolving more powers from his office and from State agencies to local authorities to be commensurate with the implementation plan to the local Government taskforce.

PQ65071/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

756. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the onshore wind energy guidelines; if they will be published in Q3 2026; and if not, if they will be published by the end of the year; the reason for the ongoing delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65762/26 | PA DALY

Chun an Coimirce Sóisialaí: To the Social Protection

757. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will consider increasing the prices paid to suppliers of school meals.

PQ64388/26 | FRANKIE FEIGHAN

758. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will consider increasing prices paid to suppliers of school meals.

PQ64383/26 | FRANKIE FEIGHAN

759. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a reduction in the weekly overpayment of the pandemic payment will be allowed for a person (details supplied).

PQ64464/26 | BRIAN BRENNAN

760. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of illness benefit claimants deemed unfit for work due to chronic migraine, based on the latest data available to his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64606/26 | JOE NEVILLE

761. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which the Department is considering measures in Budget 2027 to address the impact of rising living costs on vulnerable households, including increases to core social welfare rates, enhanced supports for children, people with disabilities and one-parent families, improvements to the fuel allowance scheme, and other measures advocated by an organisation (details supplied) in its Pre-Budget Submission 2027.

PQ64732/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

762. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will review the case of a person (details supplied); the reason the disability benefit application was refused on three separate occasions despite full medical evidence being submitted; if he will provide an update on the partial capacity benefit application now submitted.

PQ64788/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

763. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64855/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

764. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his Department will confirm the pension (non contributory) amount and not the pension (contributory) amount a person will receive if the person reaches 66 years-of-age on 1 January 2036 with no stamps, having not worked; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64734/26 | JOE NEVILLE

765. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his Department will provide details of the pension for a person who commences work as a nurse in Ireland at 36 years-of-age in 2006 and retires on 1 January 2036 at 66 years-of-age with 30 years of stamps (1,560 in total); the amount their COAP will be; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64733/26 | JOE NEVILLE

766. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of the publication of the successor Pathways to Work Strategy, which was anticipated early this year; the reason for the delay in its launch; and the timeline for its publication.

PQ64948/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

767. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 1545 of 13 January 2026, the approximate financial cost to the State of removing the means test for carers allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64993/26 | BARRY WARD

768. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the position regarding the phasing out of the carers allowance means test as committed to in the Programme for Government; if there is a timeline for this commitment to be met; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64991/26 | BARRY WARD

769. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he plans to amend the means-assessment system as it applied to savers in Budget 2027, in line with the recommendations contained in the 2024 report of the Social Welfare Oireachtas Sub-Committee, and further in line with the commitment in the Programme for Government to give effect to those recommendations.

PQ65026/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

770. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the rational for the exclusion of teachers and others in the education sector from accessing jobseeker's pay related benefit; and if his Department will re-examine this with a view to allowing them to apply for the payment when they become unemployed.

PQ65056/26 | BRIAN STANLEY

771. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when the €1,270 annual income exemption for seaweed harvesting under Article 152 of S.I. No. 142 of 2007 was last reviewed; if his Department has examined the impact of this threshold on recipients of jobseeker's allowance in coastal communities; and if he will amend the regulations to increase the exemption in recognition of inflation and the importance of traditional seaweed harvesting as a supplementary income source in coastal communities.

PQ65259/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

772. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the procedure by which a person resident in the State who was married in the Lithuanian Embassy in Dublin prior to 2020 may have that marriage registered or otherwise recognised; if any provision exists under the Civil Registration Act 2004 for the registration of marriages solemnised in foreign diplomatic missions in the State; and if he is aware that the General Register Office has advised such a person that it cannot provide this service.

PQ65330/26 | SORCA CLARKE

773. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if schools in County Leitrim (details supplied) have received their grants for hot school meals supply to date; if he will confirm the payment methods as advised to schools; and if the normal 30-day invoice period for suppliers and per the normal public service supplier code is in operation.

PQ65332/26 | FRANKIE FEIGHAN

774. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 62815/26 of 7 September 2026, if his Department will now undertake an assessment of the average cost incurred by families in preparing a child to return to school, measured against the value of the back to school clothing and footwear allowance; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65399/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

775. To ask the Minister for Social Protection in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65354/26 | BARRY WARD

776. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65324/26 | BARRY WARD

777. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total funding allocated to the work and access scheme for the financial years 2024, 2025 and 2026; the actual amount of funding drawn down or expended to date under the scheme; the total number of applications received for the work and access scheme since its commencement; the number of applications that have been approved, refused, and are currently pending or under review; and the total number of disabled individuals who have actively availed of, or are currently benefiting from, support or workplace accommodations under the work and access scheme.

PQ65565/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

778. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the average processing time from the date of submission to a final decision for applications under the work and access scheme; the measures being taken to streamline the application workflow; the steps being taken to reduce any undue administrative or financial burdens placed on disabled applicants and employers during the application process; if a dedicated public awareness or informational campaign was rolled out (details supplied); the details and budget of any such campaign; and if none, the plans to initiate one.

PQ65575/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

779. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to confirm consideration will be given to increasing the Household Benefits Package monthly sum for electricity and gas from €35 to support older people with energy costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65577/26 | COLM BURKE

780. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of WTE staff by grade, working in each INTREO office within Wexford, in tabular form.

PQ65588/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

781. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his views on the way in which Ireland compares to other EU countries in terms of the level of paternity benefit available through his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65632/26 | BARRY WARD

782. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his views on the way in which Ireland compares to the UK in terms of the level of paternity benefit available through his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65631/26 | BARRY WARD

783. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the total number of persons who availed of paternity benefit for each of the years 2022 to 2025 and to date in 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65629/26 | BARRY WARD

784. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a costings analysis has been carried out on the increasing the level of paid paternity leave available in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65628/26 | BARRY WARD

785. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his views on the way in which Ireland compares to other EU countries in terms of the level of paternity benefit available through his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65677/26 | BARRY WARD

786. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his views on the way in which Ireland compares to the UK in terms of the level of paternity benefit available through his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65676/26 | BARRY WARD

787. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons who availed of paternity benefit for each of the years 2022 to 2025 and to date in 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65674/26 | BARRY WARD

788. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a costings analysis has been done to increasing the level of paid paternity leave available in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65672/26 | BARRY WARD

789. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated cost of increasing the lower rate of PRSI currently set in line with minimum wage to €18.15.

PQ65495/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

790. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason the long-term carer's credit can be counted towards the minimum pension requirements, but HCPS cannot; and to confirm in line with the Programme for Government the actions the Government is taking to amend the legislative provisions so that individuals who have given up their careers to care for others will not be disadvantaged in their old age.

PQ65867/26 | COLM BURKE

791. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person with 520 PRSI contributions may rely on the home caring periods scheme to increase their entitlement to a near full State pension (contributory), while a person with substantial HCPS but less than 520 PRSI contributions is denied any benefit from using the HCPS to meet the minimum requirement; and if he will explain the rationale behind this distinction.

PQ65866/26 | COLM BURKE

792. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the statutory provision which explicitly excludes the home caring period scheme from being counted towards the minimum 520 contribution weeks required under the Social Welfare Consolidation Act 2005; and if no such provision exists, to explain the legal basis on which his Department excludes them.

PQ65865/26 | COLM BURKE

793. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost of abolishing the means test for social protection payments for disabled people and providing supports for all those who meet the criteria.

PQ65830/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

794. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost of abolishing the means test for carer's allowance and providing access to all who meet the other criteria.

PQ65829/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

795. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the action that has been taken to date to examine what modifications or changes may be made to support women who currently fall outside the existing schemes to qualify for a State pension as per the Programme for Government commitment; and the further action that is proposed.

PQ65885/26 | COLM BURKE

796. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person (details supplied) is not entitled for a State pension (contributory) despite the fact that they provided care for their children in the home for a number of years; and if this case will be reviewed.

PQ65882/26 | COLM BURKE

797. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) would be entitled to receive another State payment given it was concluded that they do not qualify for the State pension (contributory); and if any such support would be available to them.

PQ65884/26 | COLM BURKE

798. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost of increasing disability, blind pensions and invalidity pension to €350 per week.

PQ65828/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

799. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the estimated full-year cost of increasing disability, blind pensions and invalidity pension to €375 per week.

PQ65827/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

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

800. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if his Department can review a case (details supplied) where it appears that a systems error in INIS resulted in a case being prematurely closed, despite the applicant's best efforts to supply the required information.

PQ64173/26 | GED NASH

801. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if there are plans to introduce an independent complaints, review or oversight mechanism for the administration of naturalisation applications.

PQ64172/26 | GED NASH

802. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he considers it appropriate that an INIS applicant's principal external remedy for an alleged administrative or procedural failure with their application is judicial review before the High Court.

PQ64171/26 | GED NASH

803. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the mechanism that exists for an INIS applicant to have an alleged systemic or procedural failure independently examined, where the complaint does not concern the Minister's substantive decision on citizenship; and if there is no such mechanism, if there are plans to establish one.

PQ64170/26 | GED NASH

804. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the independent body that has oversight of the administrative procedures used in processing naturalisation applications.

PQ64169/26 | GED NASH

805. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will supply a breakdown of the funding the various front-line organisations that support gender based violence victims/survivors receive from his Department; and if he will consider a significant increase of the funding in view of the vital service it provides.

PQ64182/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

806. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration in circumstances where the Irish Prison Service has not been established on a statutory basis, the person or body that constituted the 'relevant authority' under the Department of Finance Circular 22/2007 for determining an application by a prison officer for retirement on grounds of ill health since 2019; the authority to make the final decision vested or delegated; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64177/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

807. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Garda vetting applications received and completed in 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the median processing time in each period; and the number of applications which took more than ten, 20 and 30 working days to complete, in tabular form.

PQ64207/26 | GARY GANNON

808. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of people who were the subject of more than one Garda vetting application within a three-year period in 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the number who underwent vetting twice, three times or more during that period; and the sectors in which these repeat applications arose, if available.

PQ64208/26 | GARY GANNON

809. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number and proportion of operational members of An Garda Síochána who had completed training on the Health Diversion Approach prior to its commencement on 1 September 2026, broken down by Garda division; the nature and duration of that training; and the arrangements in place to train members who had not completed it before the commencement date.

PQ64219/26 | GARY GANNON

810. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons currently subject to the notification requirements of the Sex Offenders Act 2001; the number assessed as presenting a low, medium or high risk; the number who breached their notification requirements and whose whereabouts became unknown or who were convicted of a further sexual offence, in each of the past five years, in tabular form.

PQ64229/26 | GARY GANNON

811. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether his Department has examined the establishment of a publicly accessible, State-operated register of persons convicted of serious sexual offences not covered under the Domestic Violence Register; the principal constitutional, data-protection and human-rights issues identified; and whether he will publish any policy analysis undertaken.

PQ64226/26 | GARY GANNON

812. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of disclosures authorised under section 14E and publications authorised under section 14G of the Sex Offenders Act 2001, as amended, since those provisions commenced; the guidance applied by An Garda Síochána when deciding whether disclosure is necessary; and whether the operation and adequacy of these provisions have been reviewed.

PQ64225/26 | GARY GANNON

813. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of appeals submitted for penalty points fines issued at two locations (details supplied); and the number of appeals that were successful.

PQ64140/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

814. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of interventions made in Dublin, by area within Dublin, and by age in each of the years from 2015 to 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64132/26 | EOIN HAYES

815. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the extent to which he has implemented the recommendations of the Comptroller and Auditor General's 2024 report on IPAS contracting, particularly regarding proof of ownership, fire certification, insurance documentation, and planning compliance; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64240/26 | CAROL NOLAN

816. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the measures he has introduced to prevent the awarding or renewal of IPAS contracts to companies whose directors or beneficial owners have been associated with criminal gangs, including those implicated in the Drogheda feud; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64239/26 | CAROL NOLAN

817. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of IPAS contracts currently under review or terminated due to concerns relating to ownership structures, undisclosed overseas funding sources, or links to organised criminality, as highlighted in recent media reporting; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64238/26 | CAROL NOLAN

818. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the steps he is taking to ensure that companies awarded International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) contracts are subject to full criminal background and financial probity checks, in view of recent reports that contracts were previously issued to entities linked to individuals investigated by the Criminal Assets Bureau and the UK Assets Recovery Agency; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64237/26 | CAROL NOLAN

819. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of legacy IPAS contracts that have been renewed despite documented lapses in planning permission, fire safety certification, or insurance compliance; the rationale for allowing such renewals; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64241/26 | CAROL NOLAN

820. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of garda interviews of persons in custody that have taken place in Garda stations since 1 July 2026 without the accused having consultation or representation by defence solicitors.

PQ64128/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

821. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration when a service provider will receive payment due (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64351/26 | NIALL COLLINS

822. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of actioned Garda transfer requests (D19 applications) across the State in each of the past five years to date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64304/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

823. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Gardaí transferred into the Galway division in 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025; and the districts and stations these Gardaí were assigned to as part of these transfers, in tabular form.

PQ64296/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

824. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Gardaí transferred out of the Galway division in 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025; the districts and stations these Gardaí were removed from as part of these transfers; and the division they were transferred to, in tabular form.

PQ64295/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

825. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether the education bond scheme has a restriction in place regarding the nationality of applicants.

PQ64407/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

826. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether the education bond scheme, which may be used by certain students as an alternative to bank statements for demonstrating financial means, permits the bond to be paid by a third party on behalf of a student visa applicant; and whether there are restrictions regarding the residence or nationality of such third-party funders.

PQ64405/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

827. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will provide measurable evidence demonstrating the actual changes for a victim of domestic violence seeking immediate protection and support in Ireland today as a direct consequence of the establishment of Cuan.

PQ64424/26 | PAULA BUTTERLY

828. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the measures being incorporated to ensure victims and survivors of domestic violence have safe, private, trauma-informed and appropriately separated facilities, including secure waiting areas so that victims are not required to wait in close proximity to alleged perpetrators in the new Dublin Family Courts; the dedicated facilities and supports that will be provided for victims of domestic violence and their children; and the consultation that has taken place directly with victims and survivors in the design and planned operation of the new complex.

PQ64423/26 | PAULA BUTTERLY

829. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will provide a current update on the proposed new Dublin Family Courts complex at Hammond Lane, Smithfield; the present status of the project; the current stage of procurement; the anticipated contract award date; the confirmed or anticipated date for construction to commence; and the estimated completion and opening date; and the current estimated total cost.

PQ64422/26 | PAULA BUTTERLY

830. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to provide a list of student accommodation facilities which are currently in use housing IPAS applicants and not available to students for the 2026-2027 school year.

PQ64376/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

831. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of accommodation contracts between IPAS and private companies that have been withdrawn or terminated since 1 January 2025; if he will provide a list of the companies concerned; the centres which they operated; and the reasons for the withdrawal or termination.

PQ64498/26 | CAROL NOLAN

832. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the position regarding the Hammond Lane Courthouse; the actions taken to ensure its delivery; the date on which this facility will be open for use; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64514/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

833. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the net number of Garda members assigned to DMR north in each year since 2022, having regard to recruitment, retirements and all other departures from the force; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64515/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

834. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if an IPAS inspection of Dolcain House accommodation centre, Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 (report reference IPPSI0073) has been carried out since the most recently published inspection report dated 1 August 2025; if so, the date on which any such inspection was carried; when the resulting report will be published; if not, when the next inspection of the centre is scheduled; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64559/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

835. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the average cost per bed, per night in designated IPAS accommodation centres; the average cost per bed, per night in those centres where contracts are due to expire in 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and after, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64557/26 | MATT CARTHY

836. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the current number of IPAS accommodation centres; the number with capacity for residents in ranges of 50, from 1-50, 51-100 and so on; and the number therein with contracts due to expire in 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and after, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64556/26 | MATT CARTHY

837. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the current number of designated IPAS accommodation centres within each local authority area or nearest comparable geographic area for which figures are available; the total number of IPAS accommodation spaces within each area; the average capacity rate per area; the average cost per bed per night in each area; and the corresponding figures for the years 2020-2025, in tabular form.

PQ64555/26 | MATT CARTHY

838. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will review correspondence (details supplied); the status of the Community Safety Fund application in question; and the expected timeframe for a decision.

PQ64564/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

839. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if his Department will expedite a stamp 4 IRP renewal for a person (details supplied).

PQ64543/26 | ROBERT TROY

840. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the current position regarding the former provision of court sittings in Tipperary Town; whether the Courts Service has considered the restoration of court sittings in the town; and the criteria which would have to be satisfied for their restoration.

PQ64572/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

841. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the capital investment undertaken at Carrick-on-Suir and Cashel courthouses in each of the past ten years; the works currently planned for each courthouse; whether either building has been assessed for refurbishment or redevelopment; and the estimated cost of identified works.

PQ64571/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

842. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons who, having been detained in Oberstown as children, subsequently entered the adult prison system in each of the past ten years.

PQ64630/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

843. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the average number of previous convictions held by a child prior to receiving a first detention order in Oberstown in each of the past ten years; and the highest number of previous convictions recorded before a first detention order in each year.

PQ64628/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

844. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons aged under 18 years who received detention orders in each of the past ten years, broken down by age, gender and offence type.

PQ64620/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

845. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons aged under 18 years who were convicted of a criminal offence in each of the past ten years, broken down by year and by offence category.

PQ64618/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

846. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons aged under 18 years-of-age who had accumulated more than ten convictions, more than 20 convictions and more than 30 convictions in each of the past ten years.

PQ64623/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

847. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the reoffending rate among children who received detention orders and were released from Oberstown in each of the past ten years; and the percentage who subsequently received further convictions.

PQ64622/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

848. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons aged under 18 years who appeared before the Children's Court in each of the past ten years; the number of individual children involved; and the number of cases heard.

PQ64616/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

849. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the highest number of convictions accumulated by a person under 18 years-of-age in each of the past ten years; and the number of such persons who received detention orders.

PQ64643/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

850. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of occasions in each of the past ten years on which a child charged with a serious offence was not detained due to a lack of available accommodation in Oberstown.

PQ64640/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

851. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the status of the effectiveness of Operation Tara in tackling street-level drug dealing; the number of arrests and charges made; the quantity and value of drugs seized under the operation to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64664/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

852. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration for an update on the effectiveness of Operation Táirge in tackling retail theft; the number of arrests and charges made under the operation to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64663/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

853. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration for an update on the effectiveness of Operation Saul in improving safety on public transport services in the Dublin Metropolitan Region; the number of arrests and charges made under the operation to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64662/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

854. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration for an update on the effectiveness of Operation Irene; the number of arrests and charges made under the operation to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64660/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

855. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration for an update on the effectiveness of Operation Citizen in improving public safety in Dublin city centre; the number of arrests and charges made under the operation to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64659/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

856. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of criminal legal aid certificates granted in the District Court, by county, for the months of July and August 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64714/26 | GARY GANNON

857. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of criminal legal aid certificate granted in the District Court, by county for the months of July and August 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ64713/26 | GARY GANNON

858. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of criminal legal aid certificates granted in the District Court to date in 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64712/26 | GARY GANNON

859. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of criminal legal aid certificates granted in the District Court in August 2025 and August 2026, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64711/26 | GARY GANNON

860. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of criminal legal aid certificates granted in the District Court in July 2025 and July 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64710/26 | GARY GANNON

861. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will provide an update on the appeal of student visa application (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64771/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

862. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of immigration checks carried out by An Garda Síochána in each of the Border counties of Louth, Monaghan, Cavan, Leitrim and Donegal in each of the past 12-months, by county and type of operation; and the number of persons detected during those checks who did not have lawful permission to enter or remain in the State.

PQ64777/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

863. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons detected entering or attempting to enter the State without a passport or other valid identity or travel documentation in each of the past 12-months, broken by, location, nationality and stated route of entry; and he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64776/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

864. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration for an update on the proposed Dublin Family Courts complex at Hammond Lane, including procurement, construction and opening timelines and estimated cost; the provisions being incorporated for separate entrances, secure waiting areas, private consultation rooms and safe facilities for children; and the consultation undertaken with victims, survivors and specialist domestic violence organisations.

PQ64728/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

865. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the immediate civil and criminal protections currently available to a victim of domestic violence; the average waiting times for protection, safety, interim barring and emergency barring order applications; the number of applications granted, refused or withdrawn in 2024 and 2025; and whether any gaps or delays in obtaining urgent protection have been identified.

PQ64727/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

866. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of people who accessed Cuan-funded services in 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; and the number unable to access accommodation or specialist assistance when requested.

PQ64724/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

867. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration for an update on the proposed new family court complex in Smithfield, Dublin 7.

PQ64742/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

868. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of domestic violence refuge units and safe-home units available when Cuan commenced and at present, by county; the number under development in each county; the expected opening date of each project; and the current and planned provision for County Louth.

PQ64722/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

869. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the standard procedure followed when a person enters or is found in the State without verifiable identity or travel documentation; the measures used to establish their identity, nationality and travel route; the use of fingerprints, photographs and national or international databases; the circumstances in which detention may be considered; and the consequences where a person is suspected of deliberately destroying, concealing or disposing of documents

PQ64780/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

870. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of undocumented persons detected entering or attempting to enter the State in each of the past 12-months who were refused leave to land, returned to their point of departure, issued with a deportation order, or removed from the State, broken down by month, nationality and category of action taken.

PQ64779/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

871. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration of those detected entering or attempting to enter the State unlawfully in each of the past 12-months, the number who subsequently applied for international protection, broken down by month, nationality and location of detection; and the number transferred into the international protection process.

PQ64778/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

872. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to provide an update on the status of an application (details supplied) in view that it is 40 months since the application was submitted which is beyond the standard processing timeframe for such application types.

PQ64799/26 | COLM BURKE

873. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of deportation orders signed in each year from 2020 to 2025; the number of confirmed departures recorded by the Garda National Immigration Bureau in respect of persons subject to those orders in each of those years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64816/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

874. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 2228 of 28 July 2026, the reason the gap is not recorded on the Corporate Risk Register, given that enforcement of the immigration system is described as a central priority of the Government (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64815/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

875. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if his Department has set any target or performance indicator for the proportion of signed deportation orders that are enforced; if not, whether his Department will consider setting one; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64811/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

876. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 403 and 404 of 16 July 2026, the details of which the ongoing review comprises in relation to the interaction between the confidentiality provisions and public confidence in the reporting of criminal proceedings, including whether any paper, submission or assessment has been prepared on that specific question; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64809/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

877. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 403 and 404 of 16 July 2026, whether consideration has been given, at either official or ministerial level, to introducing an amendment to section 26 of the International Protection Act 2015 or section 278 of the International Protection Act 2026; to provide for an exception to the prohibition on identifying an applicant once that person has been charged with a serious indictable offence; the outcome of any such consideration; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64808/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

878. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 315 of 15 July 2026, whether the review is a systematic review of all naturalised citizens convicted of such offences or a case by case process (details supplied); the number of such cases reviewed since 7 April 2025; the number referred for citizenship revocation proceedings in that period; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64818/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

879. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64856/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

880. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of incidents relating to anti-social behaviour, public order offences and fireworks reported in Celbridge in each of the years 2023, 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026.

PQ64885/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

881. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will provide an update on the application for student visas of students from Gaza; the number of applications that have been approved; and the stage at which all applications are at.

PQ64843/26 | ROBERT TROY

882. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will provide an update on the status of a join family visa (details supplied).

PQ64868/26 | SORCA CLARKE

883. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of citizenship revocation cases initiated, completed, discontinued and currently pending in each year from 2016 to date; the grounds relied upon in each case, categorised by grounds for revocation, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65007/26 | MATT CATHY

884. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of naturalised Irish citizens who have received a custodial sentence of five years or more in each year since 2016; the number in respect of whom citizenship revocation was considered; the number in respect of whom revocation proceedings were commenced; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65005/26 | MATT CATHY

885. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of cases identified since 2016 in which a person who had acquired Irish citizenship was subsequently found to have provided false, misleading or fraudulent information in an immigration, international protection, residence or citizenship application; the number in which revocation proceedings followed; and the outcome of those proceedings; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65008/26 | MATT CATHY

886. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of citizenship applications refused on good-character grounds in each year from 2016 to date; the number therein arising from criminal convictions, pending criminal proceedings, Garda investigations, tax matters, immigration offences, fraud, national-security concerns or other grounds, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65009/26 | MATT CATHY

887. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether Revenue Commissioners' tax-compliance information is currently sought or considered when determining whether an applicant for naturalisation satisfies the good-character requirement; the number of applications refused since 2016 arising wholly or partly from tax non-compliance; whether he intends that tax compliance will form part of the revised statutory good-character test; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65010/26 | MATT CATHY

888. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons granted citizenship in each of the past five years who, at the date of application, had between five and six, six and seven, seven and eight, and more than eight years of reckonable residence, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65011/26 | MATT CATHY

889. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the level of English or Irish proficiency that he proposes applicants for citizenship will be required to demonstrate; whether this will correspond with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages; the exemptions that are being considered on age, disability or other grounds; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65013/26 | MATT CATHY

890. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether his Department currently collects any information regarding the proficiency in English or Irish of persons granted citizenship; if so, the number granted citizenship in each of the past five years who were assessed as having limited or no proficiency in either language; and if not, the reason such information is not collected; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65012/26 | MATT CATHY

891. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons granted Irish citizenship by naturalisation in each year from 2016 to date, by previous nationality; the number of applications received and refused for each nationality; the refusal rate in each case, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65022/26 | MATT CATHY

892. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of certificates of naturalisation granted in each year since 2016 where one or more of the normal statutory naturalisation conditions were waived categorised by the condition waived and applicant country of origin, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65018/26 | MATT CARTHY

893. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons naturalised as Irish citizens who subsequently became ordinarily resident outside the State within one, two and five years of naturalisation, respectively; whether his Department monitors compliance with the declaration of an intention to continue to reside in the State; and the circumstances in which a breach of that declaration may result in revocation proceedings; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65023/26 | MATT CARTHY

894. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the provisions that will be made for individuals who are non-verbal or have other disabilities which may limit them in their ability to complete the new proposed language tests as part of the revised citizenship process; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ65044/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

895. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to consider legislating for cases in which a person who has been resident in the State for higher education that these years residing in the State are counted when applying for citizenship.

PQ65032/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

896. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to urgently respond to concerns raised regarding conditions for residents at an IPAS centre in Wicklow (details supplied).

PQ65031/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

897. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if under the Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026, a person who has started the residency needed for citizenship which currently stands at five years, will have to wait for the new proposed time of eight years.

PQ65030/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

898. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons granted citizenship on the basis of marriage or civil partnership with an Irish citizen in each year since 2015 and to date in 2026; the number of applications refused because the marriage or partnership was deemed not genuine or enduring; the number subsequently identified as marriages of convenience; the number of citizenship revocation proceedings arising from such cases, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65016/26 | MATT CARTHY

899. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the matters proposed to be covered by a citizenship civic-knowledge test; if applicants will be required to demonstrate knowledge of the Constitution, democratic institutions, Irish history, rights and responsibilities of citizenship and the values of the State; the proposed pass standard; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65015/26 | MATT CARTHY

900. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the total number of resignations received from the Criminal Legal Aid panel since 1 July 2026.

PQ65074/26 | MATT CARTHY

901. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of bench warrants issued in each month of 2025 and in each month of 2026 to date, in tabular form.

PQ65075/26 | MATT CARTHY

902. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Garda interviews conducted in respect of criminal investigations without a solicitor present; and the number of such interviews where a solicitor had been requested by the detained person but was not available to attend, by month in 2025 and by month to date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65057/26 | MATT CARTHY

903. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Section 16 naturalisation applications awaiting a decision; the average processing time for such applications; the measures being taken to reduce delays; and if applicants will be provided with clearer timelines where applications have been outstanding for a prolonged period.

PQ65055/26 | EAMON SCANLON

904. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of criminal legal aid certificates issued in each month of 2025 and in each month to date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65054/26 | MATT CARTHY

905. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will confirm that the proposed Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026 regarding proposed conditions as to reckonable residence, language testing, and economic self-sufficiency will apply solely to applications for a certificate of naturalisation for resident non-nationals, and will not apply to applications of citizenship by descent.

PQ65082/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

906. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will confirm that the proposed Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026 will make no change to the entitlement to Irish citizenship by descent under section 7 of the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1956, as amended, or to the entitlement of a person born outside the island of Ireland whose grandparent was born on the island of Ireland to become an Irish citizen on entry in the Foreign Births Register pursuant to section 7(3) and section 27 of that Act.

PQ65080/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

907. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of naturalised Irish citizens subsequently convicted of an indictable offence in Ireland in each of the past ten years, by offence category by year where possible, in which citizenship was granted; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65004/26 | MATT CARTHY

908. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will re-examine the decision to refuse 31 out of 59 Palestinian students who applied for study visas despite having secured full scholarships at Irish universities; if he accepts that Israel's genocidal rampage in Gaza and widespread destruction of infrastructure, educational institutions and homes makes it almost impossible for these students to obtain some of the original documentary evidence requested; and if he will take these difficulties into account when examining their applications.

PQ65003/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

909. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons granted Irish citizenship by naturalisation in each of the years 2016 to 2025 and to date in 2026 who had disclosed a criminal conviction in Ireland or another jurisdiction; the number by category of offence and sentence imposed; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65002/26 | MATT CARTHY

910. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to provide a breakdown of the cost of each citizenship ceremony held during 2025, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65087/26 | FIONNTÁN Ó SÚILLEABHÁIN

911. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the total revenue received by the State from citizenship-related fees in 2025; the amount spent on the administration of the citizenship process, including citizenship ceremonies; the destination of any surplus revenue generated; and if he will provide the information, in tabular form.

PQ65098/26 | FIONNTÁN Ó SÚILLEABHÁIN

912. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if in light of the Government's proposed changes to the residency requirements for naturalisation, transitional arrangements will be put in place for persons who are already resident in Ireland and who have accumulated four years or more of reckonable residence under the existing five year citizenship eligibility framework; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65105/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

913. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if the proposed Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026 will make no change to the entitlement to Irish citizenship by descent (details supplied); how the proposals have regard to the recognition in Article 2 of the Constitution of the special affinity of the Irish nation with people of Irish ancestry living abroad who share its cultural identity and heritage; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65136/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

914. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will include transitional protections and measures in the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Amendment Bill 2026 specifically in relation to the issue of spousal visas for the naturalisations of spouses of Irish citizens and the proposal to increase the residency requirement from three to five years

PQ65131/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

915. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the methodology and underlying calculation used by his Department to produce the 'weighted average number of appearances' (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65138/26 | BARRY WARD

916. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if there will be transitional arrangements for persons who are already resident in Ireland, in regards to the Government's proposed changes to the naturalisation process, who have accumulated four years of reckonable residence under the existing rules.

PQ65163/26 | PA DALY

917. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to review correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65170/26 | JAMES GEOGHEGAN

918. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to comment on the development status of women's refuges in the nine counties currently without a women's refuge; and the dates on which they can expect to see them opened.

PQ65179/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

919. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to previous commitments (details supplied) the measures he will implement to ensure delivery of a women's refuge in Carlow by the current target of 2028, and to fast track urgent projects like these going forward.

PQ65178/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

920. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the transitional arrangements that will be in place for workers already resident in Ireland who are concerned by plans to increase residency requirements to eight years in order to obtain citizenship; if the new residency rules will apply retrospectively to those already present in the State on appropriate visas or only to those who arrive in Ireland after its introduction; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ65186/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

921. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to provide a list of student accommodation facilities which are currently in use housing IPAS applicants and not available to students for the 2026-2027 school year; and the number of student beds no longer available to students as they are in use as IPAS accommodation.

PQ64375/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

922. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if his Department calculated the additional immigration-registration fees that will be paid by lawful residents as a direct result of extending the citizenship residence requirement from five to eight years; and his plans to reduce or waive those fees.

PQ65188/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

923. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he is aware of the serious delay in the processing of family reunification visas, with some regions reporting a two year wait; if he is aware of the disincentive this presents to highly skilled workers to remain in Ireland, including in the medical fields; if short stay visas may be made more easily and quickly obtainable for family visits to Ireland as an interim measure; and the measures that will be put in place to reduce this delay to a more reasonable timeframe.

PQ65244/26 | SEÁN CROWE

924. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the way in which the proposed changes to naturalisation will affect spouses, workers and so on, who are already living in Ireland for some years.

PQ65295/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

925. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the current average processing time for IRP renewals for each stamp category.

PQ65291/26 | MATT CARTHY

926. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether he will engage in dialogue with legal practitioners to bring the current legal aid scheme dispute to an end.

PQ65333/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

927. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will consider introducing legislative amendments to the upcoming Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1956 to provide a pathway to citizenship for the non-EEA spouses and civil partners of Irish citizens residing abroad outside the jurisdiction, in cases where the marriage or partnership has been of long duration exceeding five or ten years.

PQ65201/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

928. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if his attention has been drawn to the naturalisation application and the significant delays in the process for a person (details supplied); and the actions he will take to ensure that it is processed in a timely manner.

PQ65359/26 | BARRY WARD

929. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 59656/26 of 7 September 2026, the amount of the €125 million allocation to An Garda Síochána for EU Presidency policing and security that has been drawn down or expended to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65392/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

930. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 63165/26 of 7 September 2026, the measures being taken to reduce the average period of 56 to 57 days between the completion of a custodial sentence and the enforcement of a removal or deportation order; the number of persons subject to a valid deportation or removal order who were released from custody prior to removal in each of the years 2023 to 2025 and to date in 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65390/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

931. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of D study visa applications received each year for the past five years, in tabular form; and the number of D study visa applications approved each year for the past five years, in tabular form.

PQ65405/26 | SEÁN CROWE

932. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to report on the increased rate of refusal for D study visa applications for this academic year and the delay in processing applications which has left third level institutions uncertain as to student numbers; if there has been a change in the way in which the criteria for acceptance are being scrutinised; and if he will provide clarity to third level institutions as to the changes which have been made.

PQ65404/26 | SEÁN CROWE

933. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 63167/26 of 7 September 2026, the amount reclaimed, or expected to be reclaimed, under the EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund in respect of the charter flight operations conducted on grounds of criminality in 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65388/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

934. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of stinger courses held for Gardaí within Waterford-Kilkenny division in 2025 and to-date in 2026; and the number of Gardaí that participated in each of those courses, in tabular form.

PQ65420/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

935. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65351/26 | BARRY WARD

936. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if any written policy, protocol or operational guidance governs the actions of the Garda National Immigration Bureau when a person intercepted during an immigration check on a cross-Border road or public transport service is subsequently returned to Northern Ireland; whether such guidance provides for a formal handover to a UK authority; if so, which authority; and whether the guidance will be made publicly available.

PQ65452/26 | PAUL MURPHY

937. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration in relation to persons intercepted by An Garda Síochána or the Garda National Immigration Bureau during immigration checks on cross-Border roads and public transport services, the number subsequently detained; the locations in which they were detained; the number returned or escorted to Northern Ireland or Great Britain; in each case, the mode of return; and whether the return involved a formal handover to a UK authority, in each of the years from 2023 to date in 2026.

PQ65453/26 | PAUL MURPHY

938. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the way in which the Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026 has been reconciled with enterprise and IDA policy, which depends on Ireland being credible when it competes internationally for skilled workers.

PQ65473/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

939. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the evidence base for increasing reckonable residence from five years to eight years under the Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026.

PQ65472/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

940. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether there are currently delays or technical or administrative issues affecting the e-vetting process for citizenship applicants, particularly where applicants have submitted an e-vetting invitation but have not received the subsequent email required to progress the vetting process; the steps being taken to address any such issues; and the position regarding an applicant who has been required to submit the e-vetting invitation on a number of occasions (details supplied).

PQ65492/26 | PA DALY

941. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the way in which the proposed changes to naturalisation requirements for financial self-sufficiency will apply to children and young adults who were not born in Ireland but who have lived in the State for the majority or entirety of their childhood; how the proposed financial self-sufficiency requirement will be applied to young people who are still in full-time secondary or third-level education and are financially dependent on their parents; and whether parental or household income will be taken into account when assessing their financial self-sufficiency.

PQ65488/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

942. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if the Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026 will include a fair transitional provision protecting people who were already legally resident in Ireland and accumulating reckonable residence before this proposal was announced.

PQ65471/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

943. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the position regarding any flexibility that will be applied for people that are in the process of applying for citizenship prior to the imminent changes in citizenship requirements (details supplied).

PQ65468/26 | BARRY WARD

944. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if his attention has been drawn to the concerns of those already in Ireland and in the process of applying for citizenship in relation to the imminent changes in citizenship requirements (details supplied).

PQ65467/26 | BARRY WARD

945. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to ensure that a person (details supplied) receives the appropriate medical and mental health treatment as a matter of urgency before it becomes fatal; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65550/26 | ANN GRAVES

946. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65321/26 | BARRY WARD

947. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration for an update on the Government's position on the proposed EU Cybersecurity Act 2 (CSA2); and the timeline for consideration of the matter during the current EU Presidency.

PQ65562/26 | EMER CURRIE

948. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will clarify the proposed changes to citizenship and naturalisation requirements; if they will apply retrospectively to individuals and families already resident in the State and progressing through the naturalisation process; if spouses of Irish citizens will be affected; the transitional arrangements that will be put in place for applicants who made decisions to return to and reside in Ireland based on the rules in force at the time; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65535/26 | CATHAL CROWE

949. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration If he is aware of the case of a person (details supplied) whose family visit visa application was submitted on 27 November 2025 and remained under consideration for approximately seven months before being refused; if he is concerned that the refusal cited issues including expired travel dates, an outdated itinerary and documentation that had become out of date during the processing period; and if consideration will be given to reviewing the case.

PQ65524/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

950. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the reason the published processing date for join family visa applications handled by the Dublin visa office, specifically matching the cohort around late April 2024, has failed to advance for a consecutive period of six weeks; the specific operational bottlenecks preventing these applications from being finalized; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65603/26 | CATHAL CROWE

951. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the reason a significant disparity exists between the processing times for join family visas for dependents of critical skills employment permit holders, processed within 8–12 weeks, and those sponsored by Irish citizens or long-term residents which currently exceed 20 to 24 months; the total volume of standard join family visa applications currently awaiting a first-instance decision; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ65602/26 | CATHAL CROWE

952. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the specific volume of additional administrative and decision-making resources allocated to the Dublin visa office over the past 12 months to alleviate the backlog of family reunification visas; the reason these measures have failed to bring processing times down to his Department's own 12-month business target; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65600/26 | CATHAL CROWE

953. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the exact criteria used by visa officers to define a 'reasonable request' for expediting an application on humanitarian grounds outside of medical emergencies or bereavement; if documented threats to personal safety or civil instability in an applicant's country of origin are considered sufficient grounds to fast-track an application; and the mechanisms available to applicants when the digital customer service portal fails to accept follow-up documentation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65599/26 | CATHAL CROWE

954. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of Garda Public Order Unit vans attached to Wexford-Wicklow division, as of 9 September 2026, and in tabular form.

PQ65591/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

955. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if his Department can urgently process a join family visa application (details supplied) on the basis that there are concerns for the applicant's safety.

PQ65605/26 | CATHAL CROWE

956. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration for an update on the appointment of a visiting committee member for Cork Prison.

PQ65612/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

957. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether deportation can be considered in the case of an EU citizen convicted of unlawful killing; and the criteria that is applied for deportation in such a case.

PQ65619/26 | MATT CARTHY

958. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if there is consideration being given to decreasing the proposed naturalisation residency requirement increases for serving Defence Force members.

PQ65606/26 | NOEL MCCARTHY

959. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons who have been issued with a deportation order that are currently in IPAS accommodation; and the number being housed in private rental or State owned residential accommodation.

PQ65528/26 | CAROL NOLAN

960. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the current average processing time for join family long stay D-visa applications; and the measures being taken by his department to reduce processing times for such visas.

PQ65685/26 | NOEL MCCARTHY

961. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to outline precisely which categories of welfare payments are planned to render an applicant ineligible for naturalisation under the Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026; if there are specific time limits with regard to claiming particular welfare payments that will result in ineligibility; and clarify that being in receipt of children's allowance, maternity benefit, paternity benefit, parent's benefit or similar will not make a person ineligible for naturalisation.

PQ65743/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

962. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the status of a visa application appeal (details supplied); and when a decision on this application appeal will be made.

PQ65876/26 | RORY HEARNE

963. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 63286/26 of 7 September 2026, the number of cases since 7 April 2025, in which the revocation of a naturalised citizen's citizenship has been considered; the number in which the person had a criminal conviction; the number involving national security concerns; the number in which a notice of intention to revoke was issued; the number in which a revocation decision was overturned by a committee of inquiry; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65832/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

964. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 63282/26, the number of persons who acquired Irish citizenship by naturalisation and who have subsequently been convicted of serious criminal offences, including offences involving firearms, terrorism, terrorism-related activity or organised crime, in each of the past ten years and to date in 2026; and, if these data are not held, the reason they are not held.

PQ65831/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

965. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the status of a citizenship application (details supplied); if additional compliance documents submitted in February 2026 were successfully received and logged on the applicant's file; the steps being taken to resolve an ongoing technical error with the immigration service delivery portal that is locking the applicant out of their account; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65887/26 | CATHAL CROWE

966. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the amount spent by An Garda Síochána on purchasing specialist public order equipment to date in 2026.

PQ65784/26 | JOE COONEY

967. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration whether he is aware of work ongoing in the Cork Detention Barracks; the nature of the work; and the amount has been spent in the past 12-months in the building.

PQ65814/26 | THOMAS GOULD

968. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if any proposed changes to the timeline or eligibility requirements for Irish citizenship will apply to people who are resident in the State under a critical skills employment permit; and if individuals who have moved to Ireland on the basis of a critical skills employment permit and have established their careers and lives in the State will be protected from any retrospective changes to the citizenship pathway.

PQ65947/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

969. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to ensure that any new rules introduced by the Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026 will not apply to existing applicants; and that they will continue to be processed according to the rules which existed when they applied.

PQ66004/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

970. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration in the context of the recent Irish Nationality Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026, whether the Bill will include transitional provisions for people already lawfully resident; the number of people currently working towards naturalisation would be affected by the change; the consultation with employers, the IDA and the Department of Enterprise Tourism and Employment before creating an eight year pathway; the rationale for the extension of the residency provision from the current five to eight years; and the way in which this will give certainty to prospective Irish citizens.

PQ66085/26 | JOHN LAHART

971. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the impact of changes to citizenship requirements on spouses and parents unable to demonstrate financial independence due to caring responsibilities or lack of affordable childcare; if the impact on migrant women who interrupted their careers to raise children has been assessed; if transitional arrangements will be provided for families established in Ireland; and if the position of children growing up and integrating here, whose immigration status may restrict access to opportunities available to Irish and EU children, will be considered.

PQ66088/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

972. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the metrics, benchmarks and outcome indicators by which he intends to assess the success or failure of the proposed Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026, given that no anticipated reduction in demand for housing, education, healthcare or other public services has been identified by him; whether such reductions form part of the policy objectives underpinning the reforms and number of persons who currently possess between one and five years' reckonable residence in the State for naturalisation purposes, by year, in tabular form.

PQ66114/26 | GARY GANNON

973. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration given the proposed Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2026 relates only to citizenship acquired through naturalisation and not to citizenship acquired through descent, if there are plans to amend the rules, eligibility criteria, or administrative processing of applications for registration in the Foreign Births Register.

PQ66113/26 | GARY GANNON

Chun an Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara: To the Agriculture, Food and the Marine

974. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the timeframe for his Department to draw down the funding from the EU fertiliser support scheme; and if the Government will co-finance it with €30 million.

PQ64193/26 | MARTIN KENNY

975. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the funds that were unspent as part of the fuel support scheme remains in his Department; and his plans for these funds.

PQ64192/26 | MARTIN KENNY

976. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his Department will review the rules regarding the cut of dates and start dates for spreading fertiliser and slurry as the weather in recent years has not been compatible with the dates for spreading fertiliser and slurry.

PQ64198/26 | MARTIN KENNY

977. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he plans to provide additional funding to increase the number of applications approved under TAMS for solar panels on agricultural buildings.

PQ64397/26 | BRIAN BRENNAN

978. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if the Government is supportive of the Native Irish Honeybee Bill 2021.

PQ64591/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

979. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when the independent scientific evidence from the National University of Ireland, Galway, regarding the Irish Honeybee and the Native Irish Honeybee Bill, 2021 will be published.

PQ64592/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

980. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine whether the Office of the Attorney General has undertaken scrutiny of the Native Irish Honeybee Bill 2021, in particular, for its compatibility with EU law.

PQ64593/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

981. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason a Social Farming Programme (details supplied) has not received funding in the recent allocation of funding.

PQ64646/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

982. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to ensure road repair budgets are provided by the Department of Transport when issuing felling licences under the Single Consent System in County Clare and throughout the State so that roads damaged in felling and transportation operations can be promptly repaired.

PQ64829/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

983. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64857/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

984. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of herdowners by county that have not carried out a TB test since 1 September 2024.

PQ64906/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

985. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if media reports that Rásaíocht Con Éireann have settled a legal action being taken against them for defamation are true (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64930/26 | PAUL MURPHY

986. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will consider the creation of a strategic 90-day food reserve similar to the NORA model for fuel; his views on whether recent climate related disruption in the area of food production coupled with Ireland's reliance on imports for both food and livestock production that it is prudent to explore the feasibility of such an approach; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64947/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

987. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will ensure that the €60 million that was assigned for farmers and contractors for the diesel rebate scheme will be ring fenced for them and distributed to them over the next four months.

PQ64970/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

988. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the current status of the Protection of the Native Irish Honeybee Bill 2021; and the measures being taken to protect the native Irish honeybee *apis mellifera mellifera* from the impact of imported non-native bee strains.

PQ65264/26 | CATHERINE CALLAGHAN

989. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65308/26 | BARRY WARD

990. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to detail the information technology system used to administer producer organisation operational programmes and claims; the extent to which the system relies on spreadsheets or manual processes; and whether his Department has examined procuring or adapting a dedicated system used by another European Union Member State.

PQ65241/26 | GRACE BOLAND

991. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine whether officials from his Department attended the principal annual European conference for producer organisations in each year from 2022 to 2025 and to date in 2026; the number of officials attending in each year; and, where his Department was not represented, the reason for non-attendance, in tabular form.

PQ65240/26 | GRACE BOLAND

992. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of producer organisation inspections completed in each year from 2022 to 2025 and to date in 2026; the number delayed beyond the scheduled date; the average delay; and whether such delays resulted in delayed payments to producer organisations or their members, in tabular form.

PQ65239/26 | GRACE BOLAND

993. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine whether an assessment has been undertaken of the staffing and other resources required to administer producer organisations as the number of recognised organisations increase; and whether additional resources are planned.

PQ65238/26 | GRACE BOLAND

994. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of whole time equivalent staff assigned to the administration, inspection and oversight of producer organisations in each year from 2022 to 2025 and to date in 2026, by grade, in tabular form.

PQ65237/26 | GRACE BOLAND

995. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65339/26 | BARRY WARD

996. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine whether he accepts that dog breeding establishments licensed to keep in excess of 300 breeding bitches may give rise to significant animal welfare concerns relating to individual care, exercise, socialisation and oversight; whether his Department has undertaken any review of the appropriateness of existing licensing thresholds; and if he will outline any plans to amend the legislation governing dog breeding establishments.

PQ65465/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

997. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will review the Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010 and associated regulations with a view to introducing a maximum cap on the number of breeding dogs that may be kept at a single licensed dog breeding establishment.

PQ65464/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

998. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the governance arrangements are in place to ensure that appellants before the Forestry Appeals Committee have access to the procedures governing the conduct of their appeals, particularly while the FAC's published Procedures are stated to be "currently being updated".

PQ65461/26 | PAUL MURPHY

999. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to introduce legislation to regulate the welfare of horses used to transport tourists throughout Dublin City.

PQ65523/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1000. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to a matter (details supplied); if his Department have considered establishing a strategic food reserve in light of the risks posed by climate change; if his Department will carry out a public assessment of Ireland's food import dependency and supply chain vulnerability; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65625/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

1001. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine whether further DNA testing is needed in relation to cattle (details supplied); the timeline for the resolution of the issue; and to request that his Department communicate with the family in regard to this process.

PQ65737/26 | HOLLY CAIRNS

1002. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when his Department was initially informed of a serious animal welfare issue (details supplied); the measures his Department is taking to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the cattle; and the steps being taken to assist the farm in question throughout this process.

PQ65736/26 | HOLLY CAIRNS

1003. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the process for farmers to request replacement identification tags for cattle; and to detail the internal processes within his Department for the approval of such requests.

PQ65734/26 | HOLLY CAIRNS

1004. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if under ACRES an extension could be applied to the geese and swans grazing due the drought during the summer.

PQ65738/26 | MICHAEL FITZMAURICE

1005. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason for the delay in issuing the farming for water's grant to people who were approved.

PQ65722/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

1006. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a field inspection can be carried out to confirm access to two parcels of land declared and actively farmed by a farmer in County Kerry (details supplied) for a 2026 BISS payment.

PQ65750/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

1007. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the total number of farmers in Galway, Roscommon, Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim and Donegal that apply for BISS; the average number of hectares in applications; the average BISS payment per hectare not including ECO; and the average including BISS, CRISS and ECO.

PQ65836/26 | MICHAEL FITZMAURICE

1008. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when he last met formally with the CEO of Bord Bia and the topics discussed.

PQ65520/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

Chun an Leanaí, Míchumais agus Comhionannais: To the Children, Disability and Equality

1009. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether full-day crèches in core funding are subject to minimum hours to assist parents in drop-offs and pick-ups when they work full-time, as some crèches are open from 8.30am to 5.30pm so parents cannot use them.

PQ64174/26 | EMER CURRIE

1010. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the supports available to families who must travel significant distances for access to disability and educational services.

PQ64201/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

1011. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of special needs preschools in Tipperary; and if her Department plans to open more preschools for children with special needs, specifically preschools for children with Down syndrome.

PQ64200/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

1012. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the current waiting times for children with Down syndrome to access appropriate speech and language therapy in Tipperary.

PQ64197/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

1013. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to explain the new update for the AIM Level 7 funding; the rationale for restricting a room to one maintenance of reduced ratio arrangement; if this will be reconsidered where a Service Needs Review demonstrates that this best meets the children's needs; if transitional arrangements can be made for services that have already planned their 2026-2027 provision on the basis of the previous arrangements; when AIM Level 7 payments will commence; and how services are expected to fund additional AIM staff in the interim.

PQ64134/26 | MARK WARD

1014. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will clarify whether the National LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Strategy can override or qualify statutory child protection obligations; her views on the primacy of safeguarding duties in all publicly funded services involving infants; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64329/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1015. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the sanctions that have been imposed on childcare providers found to be in breach of core funding fee-freeze rules.

PQ64365/26 | DANIEL ENNIS

1016. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of childcare providers that have been subject to fee reviews under Core Funding in each year since the introduction of the national fee review team; the number of breaches identified; and the nature of those breaches.

PQ64364/26 | DANIEL ENNIS

1017. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether any childcare providers have been required to refund parents following findings that they overcharged families in breach of core funding rules; and if so, the total value of refunds issued.

PQ64366/26 | DANIEL ENNIS

1018. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps she is taking to address the shortage of speech and language therapists available to children with additional needs given disability support services in North Tipperary have been impacted for a number of years by vacant posts and a lack of resources; the current waiting times for children with Down syndrome to access appropriate speech and language therapy in County Tipperary; and the contingency plans in place when experienced therapists leave positions such as the one recently vacated in the area this month.

PQ64467/26 | MICHAEL LOWRY

1019. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she is aware of childcare providers operating from publicly funded school premises that do not participate in the national childcare scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64512/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

1020. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the staffing levels of CDNTs in County Clare; if she is aware that a vacancy has been created within the Ennis CDNT (details supplied); the steps being taken to immediately fill this vacancy to prevent further waitlist delays for children in the region; if her Department has a policy to ensure that the expansion of the education therapy service does not pull existing frontline therapists away from understaffed CDNTs; the total number of staff recruited for the education therapy service rollout nationwide who were previously employed within a CDNT; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64579/26 | CATHAL CROWE

1021. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the supports that will be available to parents if their childcare facility withdraws from core funding and prices go up as a result; and the steps she will take to address this issue.

PQ64590/26 | MARK WARD

1022. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of occasions in each of the past ten years on which a court sought a detention place in Oberstown but no place was available due to capacity constraints; and the outcome in each of those cases.

PQ64636/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1023. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the certified capacity of Oberstown Children Detention Campus in each of the past ten years; the average occupancy level in each year; and the number of days on which the campus operated at full capacity.

PQ64634/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1024. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of young persons transferred from Oberstown Children Detention Campus to the adult prison system in each of the past ten years; and the reasons for each transfer.

PQ64632/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1025. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of persons aged under 18 years-of-age who had accumulated 30 or more criminal convictions in each of the past ten years; and the highest number of convictions recorded for any child in each year.

PQ64627/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1026. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of young persons detained in Oberstown children detention campus in each of the past ten years; and the average daily population in each year.

PQ64621/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1027. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality given the significant changes to AIM Level 7, the transitional arrangements in place immediately for families and providers who planned for the 2026-2027 year based on the previous rules; if any assessment has been done regarding the best interests of children in this circumstance; and if a review will be undertaken.

PQ64746/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

1028. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the details of any contracts in place between her Department and agencies under her remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64858/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

1029. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if an ability to talk is a criterion used to decide if a child with complex needs requires access to CDNT support (details supplied).

PQ64536/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1030. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the specific assessment criteria used by the assessment to decide they were no longer suitable for the CDNT waiting list (details supplied).

PQ64533/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1031. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to give a detailed breakdown on the expenditure of "Cara's Fund"; the number of children have received assessments of needs under the fund; the way in which children who require assessments of needs but are experiencing significant wait times access the fund to receive an assessment privately; and if those who face paying for an assessment privately can be reimbursed.

PQ64529/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

1032. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps her Department is taking to ensure that the educational standards and professional practice of early years educators working in crèches are maintained and continuously developed through ongoing professional training; whether all registered early learning and care services are required to have a structured CPD programme for their staff; the minimum level of CPD that is expected of educators each year; the way in which compliance with these expectations is monitored through inspection and quality-development processes.

PQ64866/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

1033. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether her Department has evidence demonstrating a consistent level of CPD and educational practice across registered early learning and care services; whether she will publish her Department's most recent data showing the percentage of early years educators who have completed CPD and the average number of CPD hours undertaken per educator; and to confirm the existing approach is sufficient to ensure a consistent standard of education and care for children attending crèches across the State.

PQ64876/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

1034. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the mechanisms in place to engage with childcare providers that indicate they plan to withdraw from the core funding scheme.

PQ64942/26 | BARRY WARD

1035. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality further to Parliamentary Question No. 3021 of 7 September 2026, the number of children placed at each of the set weekly rates published in the most recent tender competition, by multi-occupancy, dual occupancy, single occupancy and each other category in 2024 and in 2025; and the total annual expenditure on single-occupancy private placements in each year.

PQ64982/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1036. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality further to Parliamentary Question No. 3020 of September 2026, to confirm in a yes or no answer, whether profit margin is assessed as a criterion in the award of private residential childcare contracts.

PQ64980/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1037. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality further to Parliamentary Question No. 3022 of 7 September 2026, if she will require private providers of residential childcare to submit segmented or open-book accounts for State-funded placements as a condition of any future tender, so that the profit earned on public contracts can be verified; and if not, the reason for same.

PQ64978/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1038. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality further to Parliamentary Question No. 3023 of 7 September 2026, to reconcile the stated intention of the Child and Family Agency to incrementally reduce dependency on private residential care with the increase in the number of privately funded placements from 834 in 2024 to 1,038 in 2025; and the target number of private residential placements the agency is working toward in each of the years 2026 to 2030.

PQ64976/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1039. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality when a report commissioned by her office in 2024 (details supplied) will be publicly released.

PQ64975/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1040. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she is aware of continued frustration among childcare providers regarding the use of the HIVE system (details supplied) and the impact this administrative burden has on busy providers; and if she will commit to reduce such a burden.

PQ65040/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1041. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she is aware of concerns being raised by providers regarding the new system for AIM (details supplied); if an AIM worker is expected to be sent home when a child is absent; and if she will ensure greater clarification for on the ground in settings for providers.

PQ65039/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1042. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the rationale for changes to attendance for children in ECCE to register five days per week; the consultation that took place on this change before its implementation; and if she acknowledges the importance of flexibility in ECCE for parents and the difficulty for providers in enforcing attendance that may not suit parents and children in ECCE.

PQ65038/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1043. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether Children First provides specific national guidance on the sex of adults supervising children in circumstances involving changing, showering, toileting or sleeping arrangements; whether it provides guidance where the sex of a supervising adult differs from their gender identity; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65159/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1044. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether organisations working with children are permitted to determine independently the sex or gender of adults considered suitable to supervise children in changing rooms, showers, toilets and sleeping accommodation; whether her Department monitors consistency in such safeguarding arrangements; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65158/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1045. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether national child safeguarding guidance requires consideration of the sex of adults supervising children in settings involving changing, showering, toileting or sleeping arrangements; whether her Department has provided guidance on how such arrangements should operate where the sex of a supervising adult differs from their gender identity; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65157/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1046. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the actions being taken to address concerns raised in correspondence (details supplied) regarding a three-year-old child with significant communication and developmental needs who is non-verbal and known to the Children's Disability Network Team.

PQ65161/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

1047. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of referrals to the national special care referrals committee per month, over the previous 24 months.

PQ65166/26 | PAUL MURPHY

1048. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the supports available to assist a child (details supplied) in accessing appropriate early learning, childcare and early intervention services; and whether transport supports will be made available where a suitable placement is not available locally.

PQ65164/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

1049. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department is considering a review or revision of the implementation of the Time to Move on from Congregated Settings policy developed under the Transforming Lives Programme.

PQ65258/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

1050. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will provide a detailed, itemised timeline for the implementation of the reforms cited in Departmental correspondence (ref: DCDE-MFO-01419-2026), including the review of the Missing Children in Care Joint Protocol, the update to the Child Sexual Exploitation Procedure, and proposed amendments under the Child Care (Amendment) Bill 2025; if she will specify which measures have formally commenced; their key operational milestones; and their expected completion dates.

PQ65257/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1051. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the statutory, regulatory, and inspection frameworks governing privately operated or externally contracted residential care settings, including Section 38 and Section 39 commissioned placements; whether any regulatory, transparency, or reporting exemptions apply to commercial providers compared with State-operated services; and the specific legislative safeguards ensure that profit motives do not compromise child safety, staffing ratios, or governance standards in commissioned care settings.

PQ65256/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1052. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the assessment that has been undertaken of the increasing reliance on private, for-profit care providers in the provision of residential services for children, including placements commissioned under Section 38 or Section 39 arrangements or external private commercial providers; the proportion of children in State care currently accommodated through such external providers; the average annual cost to the State of such placements compared with equivalent public or not-for-profit provision; and if an assessment has been conducted on whether expanding public capacity would deliver better service.

PQ65255/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1053. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the statutory protections available to frontline social care professionals, advocates, and members of the public who raise child-safeguarding concerns in good faith involving public bodies or publicly funded services; whether her Department has identified any evidentiary or legal gaps in those protections where concerns relate to multi-agency settings or external providers; and the legislative reforms being considered in this area.

PQ65254/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1054. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the details of whether any automated technical mechanism currently exists within Tusla's case management system to cross-reference children identified as exhibiting indicators of trafficking or exploitation with children reported missing from care; and if the Government intends to introduce such a statutory cross-referencing mechanism as part of the ongoing review of the Missing Children in Care Joint Protocol.

PQ65252/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1055. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether the Government has undertaken, or intends to undertake, an independent joint audit of the operational handover and follow-up arrangements between An Garda Síochána and Tusla following emergency child removals under section 12 of the Child Care Act 1991; and the statutory framework that exists to ensure joint inspection and clear allocation of safeguarding responsibilities during and immediately following such interventions.

PQ65251/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1056. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether consideration has been given to establishing an independent, cross-agency statutory oversight mechanism for cases where responsibility for the safeguarding, care, or welfare of a child crosses organisational boundaries between Tusla, the HSE, and An Garda Síochána; the mechanism currently that exist to examine the actions and responsibilities of these public bodies collectively rather than separately; and if no such joint mechanism exists, the reason it has not been implemented.

PQ65250/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1057. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the formal statutory or administrative mechanism that exists to ensure that children with complex co-occurring needs including severe intellectual disabilities, neurodivergence, or acute mental health crises are not left without an appropriate support plan where responsibility involves both Tusla under its welfare mandate and the HSE under its clinical and disability mandate; and the way in which jurisdictional disputes regarding care responsibility and financial liability are resolved between these bodies.

PQ65249/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1058. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether consideration has been given to the construction of a second youth detention facility; whether a feasibility study or business case has been prepared; and the estimated capital cost of providing an additional youth detention campus.

PQ64642/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1059. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of WTE behavioural specialists posts filled at each CDNT within CHO8 as of 8 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65216/26 | SEAN FLEMING

1060. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of WTE family support workers posts filled at each CDNT within CHO8 as of 8 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65215/26 | SEAN FLEMING

1061. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the breakdown of current staffing across all children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65297/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1062. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of WTE speech and language therapists posts, by grade that have been filled within intellectual disability services in CHO5 area as of 9 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65411/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

1063. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of children currently awaiting physiotherapy services across children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA; the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and in excess of 12 months.

PQ65304/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1064. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the current number of children awaiting speech and language services across children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA; the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and in excess of 12 months.

PQ65303/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1065. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the current number of children awaiting occupational therapy services across children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA; the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and in excess of 12 months.

PQ65302/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1066. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the breakdown of current children's disability network teams operating in the Louth Meath IHA; the location of each; the geographical area of each team service; the services currently provided by each team; and the number of children/families currently assigned to each team.

PQ65296/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1067. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the average waiting time from initial referral to services until initial appointment with children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65299/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1068. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of children currently waiting for an initial appointment with children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA; the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and in excess of 12 months.

PQ65298/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1069. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of referrals made to the children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA in each of the years 2020 to 2026.

PQ65301/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1070. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the priority given to disabled people who become an orphan in relation to access to long-term residential care; the way in which this works; and if it is the same process State wide for everyone in such a circumstance.

PQ65433/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1071. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality in cases in which a building under her control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; her plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65340/26 | BARRY WARD

1072. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the supports available and offered to children and families awaiting their initial appointment with children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65300/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1073. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to reply to the matters raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65466/26 | NIALL COLLINS

1074. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her views on the way in which Ireland compares to the UK in terms of the level of statutory paid paternity leave and other related supports; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65633/26 | BARRY WARD

1075. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her views on the way in which Ireland compares to other EU countries in terms of the level of statutory paid paternity leave and other related supports; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65634/26 | BARRY WARD

1076. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the position regarding research carried out by her Department into the benefits of paternity leave.

PQ65638/26 | BARRY WARD

1077. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her views on the merits of the proposals of a campaign (details supplied) that is seeking an increase in the level of paternity leave available to fathers in Ireland.

PQ65637/26 | BARRY WARD

1078. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her attention has been drawn to a campaign seeking a statutory increase in paid paternity leave in Ireland (details supplied); if she will consider facilitating a meeting with this group; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65636/26 | BARRY WARD

1079. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the position regarding the ongoing review into the merits of expanding the level of paid paternity leave available; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65635/26 | BARRY WARD

1080. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of children currently awaiting psychotherapy services across children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and in excess of 12 months.

PQ65305/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1081. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality when a child in County Kildare (details supplied) will be given an appointment for an assessment of need and to see the CDNT, as the child's needs have significantly increased since being referred.

PQ65695/26 | MARK WALL

1082. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the current status of the transposition of the EU Pay Transparency Directive into Irish law; if there is a timeline for same; and the further measures that must be undertaken.

PQ65875/26 | COLM BURKE

1083. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department will consider expanding the building blocks extension scheme for pre-schools to assist with the cost of upgrades such as air conditioning and PV solar panels (details supplied).

PQ65837/26 | ROBERT TROY

1084. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide a progress report on the provision of childcare facilities at the former convent in Listowel, County Kerry, and timeframe for final decisions on applications; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65770/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1085. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she plans to extend paid paternity leave, in light of the proven benefits of this leave.

PQ65732/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

1086. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the childcare affordability measures currently under consideration by her Department in advance of Budget 2027; whether changes to national childcare scheme subsidy rates are being examined.

PQ65655/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

1087. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under her control; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65902/26 | BARRY WARD

1088. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will examine opening a childcare facility in a vacant school in north Kerry (details supplied).

PQ65892/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

1089. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of WTE consultant child and adolescent psychiatrist with a special interest in learning disabilities posts filled within CHO3 disabilities services as of 7 September 2026; if she will provide the same figures as of 31 December 2023, in tabular form.

PQ65781/26 | JOE COONEY

1090. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her position on two recent applications to reduce the size of an associated creche space in a residential development (details supplied) in the context of the Programme for Government commitment to review the 2001 childcare facilities guidelines for planning authorities to ensure childcare spaces are provided and put to use.

PQ65800/26 | EMER CURRIE

1091. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether her Department has undertaken a comparative review of paternity leave entitlements available in Ireland and other EU Member States; the outcome of any such review; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65791/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

1092. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether her Department has assessed the potential impact of extending paid paternity leave on child development, parental wellbeing, maternal recovery following childbirth and workforce participation; the findings of any such assessment; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65790/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

1093. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the research, analysis or reviews that have been undertaken by her Department within the past five years regarding the potential benefits of extending paid paternity leave; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65789/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

1094. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether she is currently considering proposals to increase the duration of statutory paid paternity leave beyond the current entitlement; if so, the changes under consideration and the timeframe for their implementation; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65788/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

1095. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether her Department has plans to extend statutory paid paternity leave beyond the current entitlement of two weeks; whether consideration is being given to increasing paid paternity leave to eight weeks; and whether any review, consultation, or comparative analysis of paternity leave arrangements in other EU member states has been undertaken.

PQ65948/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

1096. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps being taken by her Department to address the ongoing issues experienced by early learning and childcare providers across the country in using the HIVE system, particularly the significant difficulties and administrative problems reported by providers throughout the summer; whether her Department has assessed the impact these ongoing system issues have had on providers, including the additional staff time and administrative workload involved in resolving issues and accessing supports; whether she will undertake comprehensive usability and accessibility testing of the hive.

PQ65966/26 | ROBERT O'DONOGHUE

1097. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on the provision of residential placement for a person (details supplied); if the HSE will meet with me as the public representative to discuss this specific matter and the broader issue of residential places for adults with intellectual disabilities.

PQ65025/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

1098. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if funding for transport will be provided for a person (details supplied).

PQ65269/26 | COLM BURKE

1099. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will request the HSE to establish the whereabouts and status of the outstanding CDNT assessment reports concerning a child (details supplied); if a series of matters will be addressed; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ66463/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

Chun an Sláinte: To the Health

1100. To ask the Minister for Health her views on concerns regarding the conditions of community paramedics in the national ambulance service (details supplied).

PQ64195/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1101. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a list of all professional representative organisations that received funding, grants, sponsorship, educational support or service-level funding from the HSE in each of the past five years; the amount provided to each body and the purpose of the funding, in tabular form.

PQ64194/26 | JOE COONEY

1102. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE registrars in neurology based at Tallaght University Hospital as of 31 August 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64188/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

1103. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE paediatric physiotherapists posts filled within CHO7 primary care services as of 31 August 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64187/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

1104. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant anaesthesiologists based at CHI Crumlin as of 31 August 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64186/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

1105. To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide a list of mental health services currently available in counties Cavan and Monaghan; and the way in which persons can access those services, by county.

PQ64176/26 | CATHY BENNETT

1106. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of reports of staffing shortages in the maternity services in CUH, including concerns that recruitment has ceased, nurses are reluctant to take sick leave due to staffing pressures, and difficulties in securing annual leave.

PQ64213/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1107. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department intends to establish any criteria, mechanism or review process to ensure equivalence of assessment criteria for publicly funded procedures across hospitals and specialties; the timeframe for doing so; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64212/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1108. To ask the Minister for Health whether protests outside In-vitro fertilisation and surrogacy clinics fall within the protections for and definition of healthcare facilities, as defined under the Health (Termination of Pregnancy Services) (Safe Access Zones) Act 2024; and whether consideration is being given to such inclusion; and if she will make a statement on the matter,

PQ64218/26 | SEÁN KYNE

1109. To ask the Minister for Health the assessment her Department has carried out of the effect on equity of access where, as confirmed by the Health Service Executive, no mechanism exists to ensure that a procedure approved for public funding in one hospital or specialty is assessed against equivalent criteria in another hospital or specialty; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64210/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1110. To ask the Minister for Health further to PQ 44070/26, to confirm the position stated by the Health Service Executive namely that there is no criteria or review process to consider equivalence of publicly funded procedures across hospitals; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64209/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1111. To ask the Minister for Health the engagement that has taken place between her Department, the HSE, clinicians, patient organisations and the manufacturer of a medication (details supplied) regarding access to the treatment of patients with Von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) disease; whether interim or compassionate access arrangements are being considered pending a reimbursement decision; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64206/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

1112. To ask the Minister for Health the steps being taken by her Department and the HSE to ensure timely and equitable access to a medication (details supplied) for eligible patients with Von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) disease, in view of its potential to reduce the need for repeated surgeries and improve quality of life; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64204/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

1113. To ask the Minister for Health the current status of the assessment, appraisal and reimbursement process for a medication (details supplied) for the treatment of patients with Von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) disease; the timeline for a decision on its approval and reimbursement; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64203/26 | PAUL NICHOLAS GOGARTY

1114. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 840 of 30 June 2026, and the HSE confirmation of 25 August 2026 that no interim system or process will be introduced for Regional Immunisation Committees before the first NIIS report in early 2027, the specific coverage threshold or trigger that would prompt Regional Immunisation Committee intervention in a low-coverage cohort during the intervening period; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64160/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1115. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 840 of 30 June 2026, the specific process by which a child whose immunisation record fails to transfer successfully to the National Immunisation Information System is identified and flagged for vaccination follow-up; the safeguards in place to ensure such a child is not lost to the vaccination schedule; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64159/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1116. To ask the Minister for Health To ask the Minister for Health if she will review correspondence from a person (details supplied); if she will provide an update on the HSE's consideration for a medication (details supplied) for reimbursement; and the timeline for a decision.

PQ64150/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1117. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of concerns raised by newly qualified community paramedics regarding proposed daytime only rostering within the National Ambulance Service; the impact this may have on staff earnings; the impact on the rollout of community paramedic services, including two planned posts in Killarney (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64149/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1118. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 840 of 30 June 2026, the total number and percentage of legacy primary childhood immunisation records migrated to NIIS to date (details supplied); the number confirmed to have failed migration; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64157/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1119. To ask the Minister for Health the number of individuals currently on waiting lists for specialist dementia home care services in CHO3; the steps being taken to expand the local operational capacity of an organisation (details supplied) in this area; and the timeline for the delivery of additional home care hours locally.

PQ64135/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

1120. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the strategic expansion plan for the 27 specialist home care services operated nationwide by an organisation (details supplied); and the specific geographical areas or CHO regions targeted for new or expanded services under current funding allocations.

PQ64133/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

1121. To ask the Minister for Health the current plans her Department has to include PGT-M in publicly funded fertility care; and the timeline for the implementation.

PQ64131/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1122. To ask the Minister for Health when the two community paramedics planned for location (details supplied), are expected to commence; and whether their commencement has been affected by proposed rostering arrangements.

PQ64260/26 | PA DALY

1123. To ask the Minister for Health whether she is aware of concerns regarding proposed daytime-only rostering for newly qualified community paramedics in the National Ambulance Service, and the position regarding the application of LCR23254 to these staff.

PQ64257/26 | PA DALY

1124. To ask the Minister for Health the protocols in place at Cork University Hospital to ensure that a registered nurse with the required clinical competencies is available on each ward at all times, including at night and during staff breaks; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64342/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1125. To ask the Minister for Health the number of complaints relating to patient care, nursing standards and communication received in respect of Cork University Hospital in each of the years 2023, 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the average time taken to resolve such complaints; the outcomes recorded; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64341/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1126. To ask the Minister for Health the number of clinical nurse manager posts assigned to each inpatient ward at Cork University Hospital; the number of those posts currently vacant or filled on an acting basis; the arrangements in place to ensure ward level nursing leadership at all times, including during staff breaks and training periods; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64340/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1127. To ask the Minister for Health the current nursing complement and the nurse to patient ratios on the oncology and neurology wards at Cork University Hospital; the manner in which the nursing skill mix on each ward is determined; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64339/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1128. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department has received complaints from midwives, nurses or lactation consultants regarding the inclusion of a speaker (details supplied); the number of complaints received; and the actions taken in response.

PQ64336/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1129. To ask the Minister for Health if she will clarify the extent to which gender mainstreaming is being applied within maternal, perinatal and infant feeding policy; if she will provide details of any HSE funded training relating to gender diverse lactation; and if she will address concerns raised by clinicians regarding the appropriateness of such training.

PQ64335/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1130. To ask the Minister for Health if she will confirm whether any practice involving the use of infants in sexualised adult lactation contexts would constitute child sexual abuse under Irish law; if her Department has issued guidance to healthcare professionals on this matter; her views on the safeguarding implications; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64334/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1131. To ask the Minister for Health the standards and criteria used by the HSE when assessing the appropriateness of training content delivered by publicly funded lactation support organisations (details supplied).

PQ64333/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1132. To ask the Minister for Health the oversight mechanisms in place to ensure that organisations receiving HSE funding do not promote or endorse practices that may present safeguarding risks to infants; the specific oversight applied in respect of an organisation (details supplied); and whether her Department will review the organisations funding in view of recent concerns raised by healthcare professionals and elected representatives.

PQ64332/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1133. To ask the Minister for Health if she is satisfied that an organisation which receives annual funding from the HSE, is fully compliant with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015; if her Department has undertaken a safeguarding risk assessment in light of a decision (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64331/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1134. To ask the Minister for Health the current status of the implementation of radioligand therapy services in Ireland; the role assigned to the Radioligand Therapy Advisory Committee in this regard; and if she will provide an update on planned service developments.

PQ64315/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

1135. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the Radioligand Therapy Advisory Committee has not met since its first and only meeting in March 2025; whether obstacles have arisen in progressing the work of the committee; the actions that have been taken by her Department and the HSE to support the committee's work; when it is intended that the committee will next convene; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64314/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

1136. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1011 of 6 May 2026, whether any audit or review since 2020 has examined the correctness or consistency of individual approval and refusal decisions under the treatment abroad scheme, as distinct from audit of the scheme's expenditure or financial controls; and if so, to provide the dates and findings of each such review; and if none has taken place, to state this plainly.

PQ64313/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1137. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1024 of 6 May 2026, to provide the title, scope, commencement and completion dates, reporting line, and final report reference of the Comptroller and Auditor General audit of the treatment abroad scheme referred to; to state whether that report is publicly available; and if it is not, to arrange for a copy to be provided to this Deputy.

PQ64312/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1138. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1032 of 6 May 2026, which stated that the Comptroller and Auditor General conducted an audit of the treatment abroad scheme in 2020, and Parliamentary Question Nos. 1011 and 1024 of 6 May 2026, which stated that the audit was conducted in 2022, to confirm the correct year of the audit; to state whether these references are to one audit or to separate audits; and to provide the title and published report reference for each audit referred to.

PQ64311/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1139. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant paediatric medical oncologists posts filled at CHI Crumlin as of 14 August 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64252/26 | GRACE BOLAND

1140. To ask the Minister for Health if she plans to expand the number of eye clinic liaison officers in public hospitals.

PQ64251/26 | GRACE BOLAND

1141. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant paediatric dermatologists posts filled at CHI Temple Street as of 2 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64250/26 | GRACE BOLAND

1142. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients awaiting ophthalmology appointments, diagnostics and treatment for glaucoma and other non-cataract eye conditions in HSE Dublin and north-east region as of 2 September 2026, by hospital and age cohort.

PQ64248/26 | GRACE BOLAND

1143. To ask the Minister for Health if she will review the criteria for the long-term illness scheme to consider the inclusion of serious lifelong cardiac conditions, particularly in cases where patients require permanent medication following major procedures such as triple bypass surgery.

PQ64368/26 | JOHN LAHART

1144. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of serious concerns raised by a patient regarding standards of care, patient dignity, privacy and infection prevention practices in the surgical day ward at Mayo University Hospital following surgery on 13 August 2026; whether the HSE has investigated these allegations; if any breaches of patient dignity, privacy or infection control procedures were identified; the actions that have been taken as a result; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64395/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1145. To ask the Minister for Health whether the HSE maintains records of consultants working outside their registered speciality; the number of such consultants currently employed in each acute hospital; and whether any review has been undertaken of the practice at Mayo University Hospital since 2021.

PQ64389/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1146. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nursing vacancies currently approved in Mayo University Hospital; and the number currently filled.

PQ64429/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1147. To ask the Minister for Health the number of nurses recruited to Mayo University Hospital in each of the years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026, broken down by permanent, temporary and agency appointments.

PQ64428/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1148. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of complaints regarding care standards, patient dignity and infection control practices at Mayo University Hospital following surgery on 13 August 2026; whether a patient was required to change for surgery in a public toilet due to bed shortages; whether concerns regarding post-operative supervision, privacy during wound examinations and infection prevention procedures have been investigated; the findings of any such investigation; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64427/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1149. To ask the Minister for Health the services the HSE and her Department have in assisting a person who has been living in an area for five years and is struggling to secure a GP place; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64436/26 | JOE NEVILLE

1150. To ask the Minister for Health the number of newly qualified nurses who applied for nursing positions in Mayo University Hospital in each of the past five years, that were interviewed and offered employment.

PQ64431/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1151. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 766 of 14 July 2026, to identify who holds national accountability for detecting and reducing unnecessary or duplicate laboratory testing across the 41 hospital laboratories (details supplied); the estimated annual cost of unnecessary or duplicate testing nationally; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64446/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1152. To ask the Minister for Health the reason equivalent guidance (details supplied) cannot be adopted or adapted in the State before 2028 to 2030; whether the HSE has considered adopting the existing published guidance on an interim basis; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64445/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1153. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos 1089 and 1092 of 19 May 2026, and 768 of 14 July 2026, to reconcile these two positions (details supplied); the date on which this document was reclassified from in development to not scheduled before 2028; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64444/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1154. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 745 of 31 July 2026, to confirm directly whether any such review, audit or costing has ever been carried out (details supplied); if not, whether one will now be commissioned; the total number of lipid profile tests processed nationally in the most recent 12-month period for which figures are available; the estimated cost of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64443/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1155. To ask the Minister for Health the number of student nurses who graduated from nursing programmes in County Mayo in each of the past five years; and the number who subsequently obtained employment in Mayo University Hospital.

PQ64430/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1156. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE permits multi task attendants (Grade 6015) to undertake the duties of theatre operatives (Grade 6013) within acute hospitals; if such arrangements are in place at Mayo University Hospital; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64454/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1157. To ask the Minister for Health whether the HSE has received reports, complaints, industrial relation concerns or patient safety concerns regarding multi task attendants covering theatre operative duties at Mayo University Hospital; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64456/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1158. To ask the Minister for Health the current approved complement, filled posts and vacancies for theatre operatives and multi task attendants at Mayo University Hospital; the number of agency personnel engaged in either role, in tabular form.

PQ64457/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1159. To ask the Minister for Health the training, competency assessment and governance requirements that must be met before a staff member who is not employed as a theatre operative can perform duties within an operating theatre environment; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64455/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1160. To ask the Minister for Health if she will consider making the testing of lipoprotein available to general practitioners given this will help to identify individuals who are at high risk for developing cardiovascular disease due to the nature of their genetics; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64362/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

1161. To ask the Minister for Health whether consideration was given to allocating the social deprivation practice support grant at practice level rather than individual GP level, given that the grant is intended to support additional clinical, nursing and key-worker resources within the practice; and if she will provide the analysis underpinning the decision taken.

PQ64466/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

1162. To ask the Minister for Health the number of perinatal psychiatrists per WTE, by location in September 2026, 2025 and 2024.

PQ64470/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

1163. To ask the Minister for Health the rationale for assessing eligibility for the Social Deprivation Practice Support Grant under Circular NCO-02-2026 on the basis of individual GMS GP patient panels rather than on the basis of the overall patient population served by a GP practice; and whether an assessment was undertaken of the impact of this approach on group practices.

PQ64465/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

1164. To ask the Minister for Health the number of GP practices that received the Social Deprivation Practice Support Grant under the previous application-based system but were deemed ineligible under the 2025 geo-coding and deprivation ranking model; and if she will provide a county-by-county breakdown.

PQ64463/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

1165. To ask the Minister for Health the current staffing levels in the surgical day ward at Mayo University Hospital compared with approved levels; the number of complaints received in 2026 concerning patient supervision, discharge procedures and complaint handling; whether a review

has been undertaken following reports of patients being discharged without written discharge information or adequate post-operative support; and the actions being taken to address these concerns.

PQ64462/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1166. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of complaints regarding care standards, patient dignity and infection control practices at Mayo University Hospital following a surgery on 13 August 2026 (details supplied); whether a patient was required to change for surgery in a public toilet due to bed shortages; whether concerns regarding post-operative supervision, privacy during wound examinations and infection prevention procedures have been investigated; the findings of any such investigation; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64461/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1167. To ask the Minister for Health the number of specialist perinatal mental health services clinical staff, by WTE and location, in each of the years 2024, 2025, and to date in 2026.

PQ64471/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

1168. To ask the Minister for Health the current status of the implementation of radioligand therapy services in Ireland; the role assigned to the Radioligand Therapy Advisory Committee in this regard; and if she will provide an update on planned service developments.

PQ64493/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

1169. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the Radioligand Therapy Advisory Committee has not met since its first and only meeting in March 2025; whether any obstacles have arisen in progressing the work of the committee; the actions that have been taken by her Department and the HSE to support the committee's work; when it is intended that the committee will next convene; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64492/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

1170. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has undertaken an assessment of the risks associated with artificial intelligence chatbots and applications marketed as substitutes for counselling, psychotherapy, or other mental health services; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64481/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

1171. To ask the Minister for Health the measures being considered in Budget 2027 to address staffing shortages within community mental health teams; to improve access to counselling and psychotherapy services; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64480/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

1172. To ask the Minister for Health the current number of vacancies across community mental health teams, by discipline and HSE health region; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64479/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

1173. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a doctors practice in Tipperary did not qualify for the social deprivation practice support grant for 2025-2027 despite serving an area identified as experiencing significant socio-economic disadvantage under the Pobal HP (Haase-Pratschke) Deprivation Index; whether the HSE considered deprivation at practice level or solely at individual GP panel level; the reason it was assessed at individual doctor level and not the practice as a whole; and if this decision will be reviewed.

PQ64473/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

1174. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE intends to add amivantamab, which has been approved by the European Medicines Agency, to the list of reimbursable medicines (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter

PQ64521/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

1175. To ask the Minister for Health the number of applications for reimbursement of rare disease and orphan medicines considered by the HSE in each of the years 2022 to 2026 to date; and the number approved and rejected.

PQ64552/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1176. To ask the Minister for Health whether a specific strategy is being developed to improve access to rare disease and orphan medicines; and the measures under consideration.

PQ64551/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1177. To ask the Minister for Health whether the current cost-effectiveness criteria used in the assessment of medicines adequately reflect the needs of patients with rare diseases and small patient populations; and whether any changes are under consideration.

PQ64550/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1178. To ask the Minister for Health the average length of time between European Medicines Agency approval and reimbursement approval in Ireland for rare disease and orphan medicines; and the way in which this compares with other EU countries.

PQ64549/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1179. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department intends to review the current medicines reimbursement process following concerns raised during the consideration of skylarys for patients with Friedreich's ataxia; and if lessons have been identified regarding the assessment of treatments for rare diseases.

PQ64548/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1180. To ask the Minister for Health if she will consider the introduction of a dedicated reimbursement pathway for rare disease and orphan medicines; the work undertaken to date in this regard; and if international models have been examined.

PQ64547/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1181. To ask the Minister for Health if she will allow community paramedics to work appropriate NAS shift patterns that reflect local patient demand, service need and existing terms and conditions (details supplied).

PQ64545/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

1182. To ask the Minister for Health the current policy framework within the HSE regarding the practice of retaining organs following the conduct of a post-mortem examination (details supplied); if standardised procedures are in place for communicating with next-of-kin in relation to same; if it is a clear requirement for the HSE or coroners to communicate with the next-of-kin immediately following a post-mortem where an organ is to be retained; if she is satisfied that next-of-kin are always dealt with in an appropriately sensitive manner; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64565/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

1183. To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of staff vacancies in Thurles CMHT; the length of time each of the vacancies have been in existence; and the status of recruitment efforts for each position.

PQ64542/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

1184. To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of staff vacancies in Nenagh CMHT; the length of time each of the vacancies have been in existence; and the status of recruitment efforts for each position.

PQ64541/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

1185. To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the staff positions currently filled in Thurles CMHT.

PQ64540/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

1186. To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the staff positions currently filled in Nenagh CMHT.

PQ64539/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

1187. To ask the Minister for Health if an appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied).

PQ64537/26 | ROBERT TROY

1188. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the stem cell tissue establishment and aseptic compounding unit in Cork University Hospital.

PQ64538/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

1189. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the reimbursement of a medication (details supplied) for persons suffering with eosinophilic oesophagitis.

PQ64578/26 | DUNCAN SMITH

1190. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of the case of a person (details supplied); if the decision will be urgently reviewed; if a medical card will be granted as a matter of priority given the exceptional circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64577/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1191. To ask the Minister for Health the actions being taken to raise the level of psychotherapy standards and criteria; the level with which she and her Department have engaged with the sector on this matter; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64585/26 | COLM BURKE

1192. To ask the Minister for Health the role counselling and psychotherapy services will have in the development of early-intervention and community-based mental health care under forthcoming service and Budget 2027 plans; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64584/26 | COLM BURKE

1193. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department has examined the increasing use of artificial intelligence-based applications and chatbots which are marketed as providing therapeutic or mental-health support; the safeguards currently in place to protect users; if further regulation or clinical guidance is being considered; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64582/26 | COLM BURKE

1194. To ask the Minister for Health the measures that are planned in Budget 2027 to improve access to counselling and psychotherapy services and to address workforce and capacity pressures within community mental health services; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64581/26 | COLM BURKE

1195. To ask the Minister for Health If she will address the urgent issues regarding the neonatal services at the Midlands Regional Hospital, Mullingar; the steps needed to expand the paediatrics and neonatal service capacity; the assessment that has been carried out of the current and projected demand for neonatal and paediatric services in the region; the funding and resources required to increase SCBU capacity beyond the current five beds; the plans she and her Department have to deliver this expansion; and the timeframe for same.

PQ64594/26 | ROBERT TROY

1196. To ask the Minister for Health to urgently examine and allow for financial assistance in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64641/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1197. To ask the Minister for Health the safeguards in place to prevent elderly patients with significant care needs from being discharged from short-term nursing home placements before a long-term placement has been secured; the supports available where family members are unable to provide care due to their own health conditions; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64612/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1198. To ask the Minister for Health the progress made to date in each of the six HSE health areas on the delivery of each of the neurorehabilitation commitments outlined on page 94 of the Programme for Government; her plans and the timeframes for delivery of all outstanding commitments in each region; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64605/26 | JOE NEVILLE

1199. To ask the Minister for Health her plans to locate a new dental school in Donegal; and if she has considered the benefits of locating a dental school in the north-west.

PQ64604/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

1200. To ask the Minister for Health the research conducted by the Health Research Board on chronic migraine in Ireland; the plans she has to support additional research on this topic; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64608/26 | JOE NEVILLE

1201. To ask the Minister for Health the number of clinicians, by health region; the protocol that enables them to prescribe approved medicines (details supplied); the number of clinicians who have prescribed chronic migraine treatments via the protocol annually since its establishment, by health region; the number of clinicians who have prescribed episodic migraine treatments annually via the protocol since its expansion to that therapy area, by health region, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64603/26 | JOE NEVILLE

1202. To ask the Minister for Health the steps that have been taken to deliver the new Sláintecare clinical pathway for headache in each of the six HSE health areas since the announcement by the then Minister on 14 April 2022; the outstanding aspects to be delivered in each health area; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64602/26 | JOE NEVILLE

1203. To ask the Minister for Health if she will request the HSE to establish the whereabouts and status of the outstanding CAMHS-ID assessment reports concerning a child (details supplied); if a series of matters will be addressed; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64598/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1204. To ask the Minister for Health to request HSE urgently locate and release the outstanding CAMHS-ID and CDNT assessment reports (details supplied); to ask HSE to explain where outstanding reports are held and the reason they have not been released; the way in which outstanding complaints concerning the principal consultant psychiatrist were dealt with before their retirement from HSE; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64595/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1205. To ask the Minister for Health if a patient (details supplied) will be approved for continuous glucose monitoring with a dexcom device.

PQ64648/26 | PAUL MURPHY

1206. To ask the Minister for Health to provide a list of all facilities in Donegal used by the HSE to store patient records and medical files; and the location of each facility and whether each facility is owned, leased or rented for each of the past ten years.

PQ64668/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1207. To ask the Minister for Health the amount spent by the HSE and each CHO region on leasing and renting properties in each county in the state in each of the past five years; and to provide a list of all such properties and the annual cost associated with each.

PQ64667/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1208. To ask the Minister for Health the amount spent by the HSE and Saolta University Health Care Group on leasing and renting properties in Donegal, Sligo and Leitrim in each of the past five years; and to provide a list of all such properties and the annual cost associated with each.

PQ64666/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1209. To ask the Minister for Health whether the payment of the €645,000 Data Protection Commission fine will impact any health service budget, staffing allocation or capital project.

PQ64675/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1210. To ask the Minister for Health from which HSE budget heading the €645,000 fine imposed by the Data Protection Commission in relation to the unlawful storage of patient records will be paid.

PQ64674/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1211. To ask the Minister for Health whether a national audit has been carried out of HSE facilities used to store patient records; and whether any deficiencies have been identified.

PQ64673/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1212. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the investigation into the unauthorised storage and exposure of patient records at St Conal's Hospital, Letterkenny took more than three years to conclude.

PQ64672/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1213. To ask the Minister for Health whether An Garda Síochána was notified of the GDPR breaches involving patient records at St Conal's Hospital, Letterkenny, and St Loman's Hospital, Mullingar; and whether any investigation was carried out.

PQ64671/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1214. To ask the Minister for Health whether patients affected by the GDPR breaches relating to records stored at St Conal's Hospital, Letterkenny, and St Loman's Hospital, Mullingar, were notified of the breaches; the number of patients affected; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64670/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1215. To ask the Minister for Health the person or body held accountable for the GDPR breaches relating to the storage of patient records at St Conal's Hospital, Letterkenny, County Donegal, and St Loman's Hospital, Mullingar, County Westmeath; and if any disciplinary, managerial or other actions have been taken arising from these incidents.

PQ64669/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1216. To ask the Minister for Health her current plans to address the understaffing of community mental health teams.

PQ64698/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1217. To ask the Minister for Health the peer-reviewed evidence that supports the practice of encouraging an infant to suckle at the breast of an adult male who has not given birth to the infant; whether the HSE considers this an evidence-based clinical practice; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64697/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1218. To ask the Minister for Health whether the HSE has assessed the potential risks to an infant where an adult inducing lactation has used hormones or medicines to stimulate milk production, including whether such substances may be present in the milk; the guidance that is available to healthcare professionals in such circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64696/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1219. To ask the Minister for Health her plans to introduce legalisation to regulate and safeguard artificial intelligence mental health tools.

PQ64694/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1220. To ask the Minister for Health whether she will establish robust regulation and safeguards for artificial intelligence (AI) mental health tools in Ireland; whether she acknowledges the increasing public safety threat from the rise of unregulated, commercial artificial intelligence (AI) 'therapy' chatbots; whether the Government will introduce regulation of AI tools that market themselves as therapeutic substitutes for qualified mental health professionals as part of Budget 2027; and to address the structural understaffing of community mental health teams and HSE services.

PQ64702/26 | SEÁN KYNE

1221. To ask the Minister for Health whether she has examined legislation or other forms of laws, at local level for example, in terms of the sale and availability of nitrous oxide cannisters for recreational use; and the steps available to her to deal with this matter

PQ64691/26 | JOHN LAHART

1222. To ask the Minister for Health the public health information content that has been put in place by her Department regarding factual material concerning vaping, and nitrous oxide; and the location it can be accessed.

PQ64688/26 | JOHN LAHART

1223. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will be reimbursed under the Cross Border Directive; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64707/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

1224. To ask the Minister for Health If she will review the case of a person (details supplied); if she will provide an update on the spinal cord stimulator procedure scheduled at St Vincent's University Hospital; if she will address the cancellation of the procedure on two separate occasions, the most recent on financial grounds; to confirm the meaning of 'financial constraints' in this context; and the steps being taken to resolve the matter.

PQ64705/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1225. To ask the Minister for Health to address a case (details supplied) and provide a full detailed care plan; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64715/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1226. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2902 of 14 April 2026, whether the HSE currently holds a comparable measure of agency savings across all HSE regions; and if not, the date by which such a measure will be in place.

PQ64767/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1227. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2902 of 14 April 2026, the total HSE agency spend to the most recent available date in 2026, set against the €720 million ceiling in the National Service Plan 2026, broken down by HSE region; and whether the HSE is currently on profile to meet that ceiling.

PQ64766/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1228. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2902 of 14 April 2026, the number of occasions on which each of Tiers 1 to 4 of the Performance and Accountability Framework escalation process has been invoked in relation to agency staffing controls to date in 2026, broken down by HSE region.

PQ64765/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1229. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2902 of 14 April 2026, if any non-compliance with agency staffing controls has been identified across the HSE to date in 2026; and if so, the number of instances identified, broken down by HSE region.

PQ64764/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1230. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Questions 57689/26 and 57690/26, given that there is no entry on the National Incident Management System relating to the ambulance service or ambulance allocation, the mechanism used to record and count patient harm arising from delayed ambulance allocation; and if she intends to establish such a field within the National Incident Management System.

PQ64763/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1231. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question 57690/26, which did not provide the yes or no requested, whether delayed ambulance allocation is a recordable category or field within the National Incident Management System; and to state yes or no.

PQ64762/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1232. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question 57688/26, which did not provide the yes or no requested, whether delayed ambulance allocation is a specified trigger for review under the HSE Incident Management Framework; and to state yes or no.

PQ64761/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1233. To ask the Minister for Health if she will review the case of a person (details supplied); if she will provide an update on the home care package; and the reason the hours awarded have not been fully delivered.

PQ64760/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1234. To ask the Minister for Health further to PQ 42510/26, whether any official within her Department, as distinct from the HSE, holds responsibility for determining whether procedures funded under the treatment abroad scheme should be subject to national clinical audit or outcome monitoring; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64755/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1235. To ask the Minister for Health the mechanism by which the HSE verifies that an overseas provider is a public healthcare service, as distinct from a private provider, prior to authorisation under the treatment abroad scheme; whether that verification is conducted centrally or relies on the referring consultant; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64754/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1236. To ask the Minister for Health the number and total value of invoices under the treatment abroad scheme in each of the past three years where the final invoice exceeded the pre-authorisation estimate by 25% or more; the number of those cases in which payment was queried, reduced or withheld; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64753/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1237. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm that funding has been set aside both in respect of the capital cost, commissioning and recruitment of the required number of staff in order to proceed with the development of a stem cell transplantation and advanced cellular therapies unit in Cork University Hospital; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64736/26 | COLM BURKE

1238. To ask the Minister for Health the name, grade and unit of the official within her Department, and separately within the HSE, who holds responsibility for clinical, as distinct from financial, outcome monitoring of procedures funded under the treatment abroad scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64752/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1239. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the planned development of a stem cell transplant unit at Cork University Hospital, in view of the fact that many patients from the south/south-west area have to travel either to Dublin or Galway, therefore there is an urgent need to prioritise the delivery of the unit; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64735/26 | COLM BURKE

1240. To ask the Minister for Health the geographical breakdown of the 174 authorised officers that were appointed in 2025 under the Mental Health Act 2001; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64749/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

1241. To ask the Minister for Health whether the HSE maintains any record of clinical outcomes, including complications, readmissions or mortality, for patients treated under the treatment abroad scheme; if so, to provide those data in tabular form for each of the past five years; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64751/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1242. To ask the Minister for Health the number of referrals under the treatment abroad scheme in each of the past five years that have been suspended, restricted, reviewed or escalated on grounds of clinical outcome, standard of care or patient safety, as distinct from cost or eligibility; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64750/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1243. To ask the Minister for Health the geographical breakdown of the 174 authorised officers currently appointed under the Mental Health Act 2001; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64748/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

1244. To ask the Minister for Health Ireland's position in EU negotiations on the proposed introduction of maximum permitted levels for vitamins and minerals in food supplements and whether Ireland will seek to defer any agreement on such levels until the most up-to-date scientific evidence has been assessed.

PQ64731/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

1245. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the rollout of Skyclarys (omaveloxolone) for patients with Friedreich's ataxia; the reason for delays following reimbursement approval; when eligible patients can expect to access the treatment; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64785/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1246. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on an application for pricing and reimbursement (details supplied); if engagement with clinicians, patient organisations and other stakeholders has taken place, or is intended; and if timely access to this drug will be ensured for those who require it.

PQ64800/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

1247. To ask the Minister for Health the number of fillings that took place under the dental treatment services scheme in each of the years 2021 to 2025 and to date in 2026.

PQ64803/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

1248. To ask the Minister for Health the number of extractions that took place under the dental treatment services scheme in each of the years 2021 to 2025 and to date in 2026.

PQ64802/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

1249. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 723 of 14 July 2026, to provide the terms of reference for the ongoing update to the Model of Care for Gender Healthcare; to identify by role the expert clinician leading that work; to state the expected completion date; to confirm whether the revised Model of Care will reference any version of the WPATH Standards of Care; and whether it will reflect the findings of the Cass Review.

PQ64812/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1250. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 723 of 14 July 2026, which confirmed that the job description referencing the WPATH Standards of Care Version 7 is now obsolete, to confirm whether the WPATH Standards of Care Version 7 are referenced in any other HSE job specification, service specification, clinical guidance document, or Model of Care currently in use; and if so, to list each such document.

PQ64810/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1251. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 691 of 28 May 2026 and 723 of 14 July 2026, to specify the stakeholder and advocacy group representatives who fed into the work led by the HSE Quality Improvement Lead on the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services consultant post concerned; and to confirm whether any external advocacy input, as distinct from documented clinical governance, informed the decision to reference the WPATH Standards of Care Version 7 in the job specification.

PQ64807/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1252. To ask the Minister for Health the total number of approved treatments that took place under the dental treatment services scheme in each of the years 2021 to 2025 and to date in 2026.

PQ64805/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

1253. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dental cleanings that took place under the dental treatment services scheme in each of the years 2021 to 2025 and to date in 2026.

PQ64804/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

1254. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of a case (details supplied); if there is a comprehensive explanation for the significant delay in emergency service availability to the child following the accident; and what if any efforts are ongoing to ensure such delays do not occur in the future.

PQ64834/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

1255. To ask the Minister for Health If she will urgently review the case of a person (details supplied); if she will provide an update on the cardiac ablation waiting list at the Mater Hospital; if the case could be expedited given the circumstances.

PQ64837/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1256. To ask the Minister for Health the steps being taken to ensure urgent access to welireg (belzutifan) for people with von Hippel-Lindau disease.

PQ64863/26 | MARK WALL

1257. To ask the Minister for Health the details of any contracts in place between her Department and agencies under her remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64859/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

1258. To ask the Minister for Health if she intends to initiate a safeguarding review of an organisation (details supplied) in light of concerns raised by elected representatives and healthcare professionals; the criteria used when determining whether a publicly funded organisation requires such a review; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64328/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1259. To ask the Minister for Health if she has assessed whether the inclusion of a speaker (details supplied) who has previously discussed induced lactation for sexual gratification purposes at a publicly funded infant feeding conference raises concerns under the Children First child protection framework; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64326/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1260. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding any engagement she has had with the Department of Health in relation to the proposal by an organisation (details supplied) to remove VAT on counselling and psychotherapy services to make these services more affordable.

PQ64923/26 | BARRY WARD

1261. To ask the Minister for Health if she will confirm that any instance in which an infant is used, or proposed to be used, in a sexualised adult lactation context constitutes a mandated reporting concern under the Children First Act 2015; if she will outline the guidance issued to professionals in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64327/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1262. To ask the Minister for Health her views on the merits of extending standard health expense tax relief to counselling and psychotherapy fees to make these services more affordable.

PQ64921/26 | BARRY WARD

1263. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the company which has the contract for printing medical cards has been unable to do so for over a month; the reason medical card holders are being asked to download the HSE application in lieu of a physical card; when the printing of medical cards will resume; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64916/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

1264. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on staffing numbers in the primary care centre in Cherry Orchard; the number of vacancies per post; the waiting times for child psychology, child occupational therapy and child physiotherapy; and the number of children waiting for each of these services, by month, in tabular form.

PQ64589/26 | MARK WARD

1265. To ask the Minister for Health if she will detail the risk assessment obligations placed on organisations providing infant feeding or maternal health education; whether her Department has reviewed the compliance of an organisation (details supplied) with these obligations; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64330/26 | CAROL NOLAN

1266. To ask the Minister for Health the number of specialised coronary care beds provided in UHG, CUH, UHL, the Mater, St. James's and St. Vincent's hospitals that have real time telemetry monitoring connected at bed to a live CCU monitoring station.

PQ64881/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

1267. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 56368/26, the total number of nursing and midwifery staff recruited internationally by HSE services outside the national frameworks in 2023, 2024 and 2025, given the reply's own caveat that framework data does not capture direct international recruitment by services.

PQ64878/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1268. To ask the Minister for Health when personnel in the National Ambulance Service, including paramedics will receive the agreed pay increase and due back pay.

PQ64879/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1269. To ask the Minister for Health If she will provide an update on the construction and refurbishment works at St Christopher's Hospice, Cavan; and if she will confirm the expected completion date and opening timeline.

PQ64890/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1270. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 3446 of 28 July 2026, the specific measures in place to ensure that domestic supply of nurses and midwives is expanding at a rate sufficient to replace the fall in international recruitment, including projected domestic graduate output for each year to 2028.

PQ64877/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1271. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 761 of 28 July 2026, the assessment her Department has made of the impact of this reduction on nursing and midwifery staffing levels, including any effect on vacancy rates and safe staffing frameworks.

PQ64875/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1272. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 3446 of 28 July 2026, whether the reduction in internationally recruited nursing and midwifery staff appointed through HSE frameworks, from 1,886 in 2023 to 371 in 2025, reflects a deliberate policy decision to reduce reliance on international recruitment or a decline in available international supply, as the previous reply did not address this.

PQ64874/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1273. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2320 of 9 June 2026, of the consultants recorded as being on POCC23 terms, the number who are new appointees; and the number who transferred from a previous contract, in each year since the introduction of the contract.

PQ64873/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1274. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No.2320 of 9 June 2026, the evidential basis for attributing the change in outpatient and day case activity to the public-only consultant contract; to confirm whether elective inpatient discharges fell by 8.3% between 2019 and 2025 as reported; and if so, the reason for that reduction.

PQ64872/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1275. To ask the Minister for Health her plans to ensure that the reduction of income to public maternity hospitals as a result of the ending of private maternity care will be offset and not result in a reduction in hospital budgets; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64946/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

1276. To ask the Minister for Health the actions she will take to support women seeking alternative menopause treatments due to them being unable to take HRT for medical reasons, specifically in relation to the significant financial burden the cost of these treatments place on them.

PQ64941/26 | BARRY WARD

1277. To ask the Minister for Health if her attention has been drawn to the concerns of women seeking alternative menopause treatments due to them being unable to take HRT for medical reasons, specifically in relation to the significant financial burden the cost of these treatments place on them.

PQ64940/26 | BARRY WARD

1278. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 43613/26 of 12 August 2026, the number of patients recorded on trolleys in each year from 2019 to 2025 and to date 2026; and if the public-only consultant contract has been assessed against trolley numbers, given that the reply did not refer to trolley numbers at any point.

PQ64871/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1279. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2320 of 9 June 2026, if any formal evaluation of the effectiveness of the public-only consultant contract has been undertaken or commissioned; the title, author, date and terms of reference of any such evaluation; and to confirm, if none exists, that no evaluation of the contract's effectiveness has been carried out.

PQ64870/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1280. To ask the Minister for Health the progress made on a national care pathway to help those diagnosed with Huntington's disease; the additional resources and staffing that will be made available to support patients diagnosed with this disease; when it is expected a national care pathway for this disease will be implemented; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64955/26 | DENISE MITCHELL

1281. To ask the Minister for Health her views on the merits of financially supporting alternative menopause treatments for women who cannot take HRT for medical reasons.

PQ64939/26 | BARRY WARD

1282. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding any research ongoing in her Department into the merits of financially supporting alternative menopause treatments for women who cannot take HRT for medical reasons.

PQ64938/26 | BARRY WARD

1283. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the long-awaited GP service at the new Adamstown Primary Care Centre; given HSE assurances advised a GP service would operate from here by June 2026 and this has not happened.

PQ64959/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

1284. To ask the Minister for Health the average hourly pay of home support workers providing State-funded home care services; the proportion of the total hourly cost accounted for by wages.

PQ64958/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1285. To ask the Minister for Health the rate paid by the HSE to home care providers for each home support hour delivered under State-funded home support schemes; the rates paid to public, private and not-for-profit providers, respectively.

PQ64957/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1286. To ask the Minister for Health the total expenditure on State-funded home support and home care hours in each of the past five years; the total number of home support hours delivered in each year; and the average cost per hour to the State.

PQ64956/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1287. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons awaiting the allocation or commencement of State-funded home support hours in each county, at the latest available date; and the average waiting time in each county.

PQ64960/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1288. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who have been clinically discharged from hospital but remain awaiting discharge due to the unavailability of home support or home care services, by hospital, at the latest available date; and the average length of delay in each hospital and the longest delay recorded in each hospital.

PQ64962/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1289. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons assessed as requiring additional home support hours beyond those currently allocated to them, by county; and the total number of additional hours recommended but not currently funded.

PQ64961/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1290. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department will introduce a funding pathway for Huntington's disease care.

PQ64966/26 | TOM BRABAZON

1291. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on work of the National Ambulance Service NRS panel; the number of potential employees that are on the panel; the number that have been recruited in the past year; the reason staff are not being called up from the panel given the staffing shortage; to confirm whether the disbandment of the panel is planned; and the plan for persons on the panel at that time.

PQ64994/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1292. To ask the Minister for Health the reason ambulance call out response times have deteriorated in the past year despite a 14% reduction in the number of call outs.

PQ65001/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1293. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on waiting lists for access to dental treatment under sedation at the end of July 2026, by sedation type, by patient type, by wait time band, in County Kerry, in tabular form.

PQ64974/26 | PA DALY

1294. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm that the NAS train 240 paramedics per year; the number which are employed by the NAS; and the number which are not. the reasons for that.

PQ65000/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1295. To ask the Minister for Health the number of medical interns produced each year who could be deployed to the NAS; the number which are so deployed; and the reason other interns are not deployed.

PQ64999/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1296. To ask the Minister for Health to ensure a community paramedic is based in both West Clare and North Clare where they can triage/treat patients locally in order to relieve the NAS, rather than have them based in Ennis.

PQ64997/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1297. To ask the Minister for Health to ensure a seven week roster is implemented for the NAS in Clare, complete with extra night crews in Kilrush and Ennistymon; and the rationale behind failing to do so.

PQ64996/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1298. To ask the Minister for Health when HSE estates will carry out the requisite preparatory work to allow the new ambulance base at Buncrana, County Donegal to proceed; and to provide a timeframe for the completion and opening of the new base.

PQ65006/26 | PÁDRAIG MAC LOCHLAINN

1299. To ask the Minister for Health in regard to online prescriptions of weight loss medication, what happens when a patient deliberately provides inaccurate information or photographs of their current condition (details supplied); the minimum clinical assessment required before high-dose weight-loss medication is prescribed remotely; and if patients with very low body weight or a history of eating disorders are subject to enhanced safeguards.

PQ65036/26 | SEÁN KYNE

1300. To ask the Minister for Health if there is there currently a system that allows prescribers of weight loss medication to identify whether a patient is receiving such medication from multiple prescribing providers; if an online private prescriber can see relevant prescription information issued by other providers; the identity-verification requirements that apply to online prescribing services; and the mechanisms for identifying repeated attempts to obtain medication after one provider has declined to prescribe.

PQ65035/26 | SEÁN KYNE

1301. To ask the Minister for Health to clarify the rules surrounding provision of medical supports (details supplied) to those in need and their provision by the HSE to non-medical card patients; and if such equipment when provided to all patients, is returned and reused making it more cost effective for her Department.

PQ65029/26 | SEÁN KYNE

1302. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department has assessed the practice of an infant being encouraged to suckle at the breast of a male adult who has not given birth to the child raises any child safeguarding or child welfare considerations; whether Children First provides guidance to professionals in such circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64692/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1303. To ask the Minister for Health whether, where an adult male seeks to induce lactation and breastfeed an infant, the child's welfare and best interests should be independently considered when assessing the practice; whether any national guidance exists for professionals advising parents in such circumstances; and if she will make a statement on the matter

PQ64695/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1304. To ask the Minister for Health the waiting times for BreastCheck screening appointments, assessment clinics and diagnostic follow-up appointments, by county; if she has identified regional disparities in access to BreastCheck services; and the actions being taken to address any such disparities.

PQ65062/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1305. To ask the Minister for Health if an assessment has been undertaken of the impact of BreastCheck screening delays on cancer detection rates, cancer staging at diagnosis and patient outcomes; and if so, the findings of that assessment.

PQ65061/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1306. To ask the Minister for Health the specific actions being taken to reduce BreastCheck waiting lists and restore screening appointments to within recommended timelines; the additional funding allocated to BreastCheck services in 2026 for this purpose; and the timeline by which the HSE expects any existing backlog to be eliminated.

PQ65063/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1307. To ask the Minister for Health the reason new HSE staff are not entitled to increments from previous HSE experience (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65070/26 | CATHAL CROWE

1308. To ask the Minister for Health the number of approved and filled posts within BreastCheck for consultant radiologists, radiographers, advanced nurse practitioners and support staff, respectively; the current vacancy rate within the service; and the steps being taken to address workforce shortages impacting screening capacity.

PQ65060/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1309. To ask the Minister for Health the number of women whose BreastCheck screening appointment has been delayed beyond the recommended two-year screening interval in each of the past five years; the reasons for such delays; and the measures being taken to restore compliance with national screening timelines.

PQ65059/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1310. To ask the Minister for Health the current average waiting time for a routine BreastCheck screening appointment in each BreastCheck region; and the number of women currently waiting for screening beyond the target interval.

PQ65058/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1311. To ask the Minister for Health the waiting lists for primary care psychology care in each primary care centre in the country, in tabular form.

PQ65086/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

1312. To ask the Minister for Health the number of healthcare assistants rostered on night duty in the Emergency Department of Mayo University Hospital on each night over the past 12 months; whether a staffing review has been conducted regarding overnight healthcare assistant cover in the department; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65096/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1313. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of concerns regarding staff fatigue and burnout arising from staffing levels in the Emergency Department of Mayo University Hospital, particularly during night shifts; whether an assessment has been undertaken of the impact of staffing levels on patient safety and staff wellbeing; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65097/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1314. To ask the Minister for Health the staffing levels in microbiology, haematology and related laboratory services at Mayo University Hospital during overnight hours; whether the HSE has assessed the impact of laboratory staffing levels on turnaround times for infectious disease testing, including COVID-19 and influenza testing; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65099/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1315. To ask the Minister for Health the protocols in place at Mayo University Hospital regarding the transfer of admitted patients from the Emergency Department to inpatient wards during overnight hours; whether restrictions apply to the movement of patients to available ward beds overnight; and the measures being taken to improve patient flow and reduce overcrowding in the Emergency Department.

PQ65100/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1316. To ask the Minister for Health the mechanisms that are available to staff in Mayo University Hospital to raise concerns regarding patient safety, staffing levels and workplace practices; the protections available to employees who raise such concerns; whether the HSE has reviewed compliance with its protected disclosure and speaking-up policies in the hospital; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65101/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1317. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the expected waiting time for a person has increased (details supplied); their position on the waiting list; the current realistic timeframe for their first appointment; and the steps that can be taken to progress their appointment sooner, given the length of time they have been waiting.

PQ65160/26 | AENGUS Ó SNODAIGH

1318. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant psychiatrists posts filled at St Francis Primary Care Centre, Galway as of 7 September 2026; if she will provide the same figures as of 31 December 2023, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65165/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

1319. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE general dental surgeons posts filled at Shantalla health centre Galway as of 7 September 2026; if she will provide the same figures as of 31 December 2023, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65168/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

1320. To ask the Minister for Health the amount of funding allocated to Portiuncula University Hospital through the National Treatment Purchase Fund in 2024 and 2025; the amount allocated for 2026, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65167/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

1321. To ask the Minister for Health if the position of a paediatric physiotherapist in Dungarvan primary care centre is vacant; if so, when this vacancy will be filled given west Waterford is without a HSE paediatric physiotherapist; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65169/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

1322. To ask the Minister for Health whether the HSE, when considering an application for a medical card on discretionary grounds, can take into account the exceptional and lifelong medical needs of a child with an extremely rare genetic syndrome, including the requirement for specialist therapies, orthotics, medical equipment, medications and frequent medical appointments; whether she considers that the current medical card assessment adequately recognises the significant additional financial burden placed on families caring for children with complex disabilities and rare conditions, particularly where both parents are working.

PQ65177/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1323. To ask the Minister for Health to provide details of the healthcare available to a person (details supplied); and if they are entitled to the same level of healthcare as any other Irish citizen.

PQ65187/26 | ANN GRAVES

1324. To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide an update on the approval of skylarys for the treatment of Friedreich's ataxia; the cause for the delay in completing the final administrative arrangements between the HSE and an organisation (details supplied); when will hospital neurologists be given the formal, logistical clearance to begin prescribing and dispensing skylarys to eligible patients.

PQ65199/26 | ROBERT TROY

1325. To ask the Minister for Health the number of applications for the disabled drivers and disabled passengers scheme of the PMC process that has been approved and refused in each of the past five years; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65210/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1326. To ask the Minister for Health the way in which continuity of strategic direction in cancer care will be maintained during the period between the expiry of the National Cancer Strategy 2017–2026 and the adoption of its successor.

PQ65263/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1327. To ask the Minister for Health the provisions that will be made for meaningful representation of patients in the development and governance of the next national cancer strategy.

PQ65262/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1328. To ask the Minister for Health when a steering group will be appointed to oversee the development of the next national cancer strategy.

PQ65261/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1329. To ask the Minister for Health when an evaluation of the National Cancer Strategy 2017–2026 will be commissioned; and the date by which that evaluation is scheduled for completion.

PQ65260/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1330. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the replacement of the 14 Linear accelerators, six CT scanners and two MRI units within the St. Luke's radiation oncology network; and her views on the adequacy of existing equipment given that 85% of this equipment is beyond the internationally recommended lifespan.

PQ65246/26 | IVANA BACIK

1331. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of the significant level of vacant posts across the St. Luke's radiation oncology network; and the way in which she proposes to address this.

PQ65245/26 | IVANA BACIK

1332. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for childrens dietitian appointments within community care services in Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65290/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1333. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children currently waiting for initial dietitian services appointments in the Louth Meath I HA; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and over 12 months.

PQ65289/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1334. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for childrens speech and language appointments within community care services in Louth Meath .

PQ65288/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1335. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children are currently waiting initial speech and language assessment in the Louth Meath I HA; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and over 12 months.

PQ65287/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1336. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for childrens audiology appointments within community care services in Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65286/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1337. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children are currently waiting initial audiology assessment in the Louth Meath I HA; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and over 12 months.

PQ65285/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1338. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE senior medical scientist in haematology posts filled at Galway University Hospital as of 7 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65328/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

1339. To ask the Minister for Health if any helicopter emergency medical service operated by or on behalf of the National Ambulance Service is currently capable of operating at night; if the North-West service commenced at Sligo Airport in July 2026 is intended to acquire a night capability; and if so, the timeline and estimated cost.

PQ65230/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

1340. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for adult audiology appointments within community care services in Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65275/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1341. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults are currently waiting initial audiology assessment in the Louth Meath IHA; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, 6-12 months, and over 12 months.

PQ65274/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1342. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children/families currently awaiting social work support services across children's disability network teams in the Louth Meath IHA; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and in excess of 12 months.

PQ65306/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1343. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for childrens occupational therapy appointments within community care services in Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65284/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1344. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children are currently waiting initial occupational therapy assessment in the Louth Meath IHA community care services; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and over 12 months.

PQ65283/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1345. To ask the Minister for Health the number of GP practices and practising GPs currently serving Celbridge and the wider North Kildare area; whether an assessment has been undertaken of GP capacity and demand in the area; the measures that are being taken to increase GP and primary care capacity in light of ongoing population growth.

PQ65214/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

1346. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for childrens physiotherapy appointments within community care services in Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65282/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1347. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children are currently awaiting initial physiotherapy assessment in the Louth Meath IHA community care services; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, between 6-12 months and over 12 months.

PQ65281/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1348. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for adult dietitian appointments within community care services in Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65280/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1349. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the delay for public health nurses to be released from posts when a transfer has been accepted to another county.

PQ65278/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

1350. To ask the Minister for Health the number adults that are currently waiting initial dietitian services appointments in the Louth Meath IHA; and the number that have been waiting between 0-6 months, 6-12 months and over 12 months.

PQ65279/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1351. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for adult chiropody and podiatry appointments within community care services in Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65277/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1352. To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware that the civil registration office in Tullamore, County Offaly has advised a person seeking to register a marriage solemnised in a foreign embassy in the State that it does not have staff trained to provide this service; the training provided to HSE civil registration staff on marriages with a foreign or diplomatic element; the arrangements in place for such cases where local staff are unable to assist; and to provide a list of offices that provide this service.

PQ65331/26 | SORCA CLARKE

1353. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults that are currently waiting initial chiropody or podiatry assessment in the Louth Meath IHA; the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, 6-12 months and over 12 months.

PQ65276/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1354. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for adult occupational therapy appointments within community care services in Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65273/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1355. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults currently waiting initial occupational therapy assessment in the Louth Meath IHA community care services; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, 6-12 months; and over 12 months.

PQ65272/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1356. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for adult physiotherapy appointments within community care services in Louth Meath IHA.

PQ65271/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1357. To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults are currently awaiting initial physiotherapy assessment in the Louth Meath IHA community care services; and the number who have been waiting between 0-6 months, 6-12 months and over 12 months.

PQ65270/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1358. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an appointment in the Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore.

PQ65267/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

1359. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive a hospital appointment.

PQ65266/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

1360. To ask the Minister for Health the progress on the recruitment of a specialist mental health nursing team for Beaumont Hospital; and the timeline for commencement.

PQ65336/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

1361. To ask the Minister for Health if a commercial relationship exists between a company (details supplied) and the HSE; and if so, the extent of that relationship and the cost to the HSE.

PQ65364/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

1362. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a child's appointment (details supplied) for an ADHD assessment with CAMHS, which they have been waiting for since July 2024, was cancelled; when a new appointment will be urgently rescheduled due the needs of the child; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64806/26 | COLM BURKE

1363. To ask the Minister for Health when the next intake for the National Ambulance Service student paramedic apprenticeship (NRS14980) will commence, and when prospective students will be interviewed.

PQ65397/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1364. To ask the Minister for Health whether consideration will be given to offering patients facing lengthy waits for orthopaedic or pain medicine appointments at South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital an appointment at another public hospital or through the National Treatment Purchase Fund.

PQ65394/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

1365. To ask the Minister for Health if she will supply the bed occupancy figures of ICU beds, adult inpatient beds, paediatric inpatient beds in model 4 hospitals for Q1 and Q2; the number of beds included in each count, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65393/26 | CATHAL CROWE

1366. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who have been removed from a GP patient list in each of the past five years, by county; the measures in place to support patients who cannot secure a place with another GP; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65389/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1367. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a patient who has been on the urgent orthopaedic outpatient waiting list at South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital since February 2025 has not been given an indicative appointment date; and the measures that will be taken to expedite urgent cases.

PQ65386/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

1368. To ask the Minister for Health the specific actions and timelines in place to increase capacity and reduce orthopaedic and pain medicine outpatient waiting times at South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital.

PQ65384/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

1369. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients currently on the urgent outpatient waiting list for orthopaedic appointments at South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital; the average and longest waiting times; and the additional capacity being considered to reduce these waiting lists.

PQ65383/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

1370. To ask the Minister for Health further to public assurances given by the HSE in December 2024, and in July 2025, that unit 1 at St. Stephen's Hospital, Sarsfield's Court, Glanmire, would remain open and continue to admit residents, the specific reasons the position has now reversed with the announced deregistration and phased closure of the unit; the date on which the decision to close was taken; and the person or body within the HSE who authorised that decision.

PQ65370/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1371. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm, for each current resident of unit 1, that a suitable dementia-specific placement will be offered within their own community in Cork city; the number of dementia-specific residential beds currently available; the current waiting list for such beds, in the Cork city area; and the additional dementia capacity the HSE states has come onstream, including at Heather House, specifying location, bed numbers and registration status.

PQ65377/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1372. To ask the Minister for Health to publish in full the recent HIQA inspection report into unit 1 at St. Stephen's Hospital; the recent Mental Health Commission inspection findings in respect of block 8 at the same hospital; and if the deficiencies identified by HIQA in unit 1 relate to resourcing, staffing or management decisions taken by the HSE, rather than to the standard of care provided by the staff of the unit.

PQ65375/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1373. To ask the Minister for Health the amount spent on community podiatry services in Cork city and county in each of the years 2023, 2024 and 2025, including any expenditure on outsourcing or private provision; the number of patients referred to private providers in each of those years; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65421/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1374. To ask the Minister for Health the arrangements in place to provide community podiatry to persons with disabilities and reduced mobility, including wheelchair users and persons with spinal cord injuries, who are unable to access mainstream clinic settings; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65419/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1375. To ask the Minister for Health the eligibility criteria for accessing HSE community podiatry services in Cork; whether those criteria have been changed or narrowed in the past three years; the categories of patient currently prioritised for treatment; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65418/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1376. To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting list for community podiatry and chiropody services in the HSE south-west health region, covering Cork city and county; the number of persons waiting and the average and longest waiting times, broken down by care area; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65415/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1377. To ask the Minister for Health the number of podiatrists, expressed in whole-time equivalents, currently employed in community services in Cork city and county; the number of funded posts; the number of vacant posts as of the latest date available; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65417/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1378. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant ophthalmic surgeons posts filled at University Hospital Waterford as of 9 September 2026; and if she will provide the same figures as of 31 December 2023, in tabular form.

PQ65413/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

1379. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE clinical geneticists, genetic counsellors and genetic resource associates that have been recruited into HSE in 2025 and to-date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65414/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

1380. To ask the Minister for Health if she is will to provide an update on the case of a person (details supplied); if she is aware that the patient was advised by that on 8 September 2026 that appointments were being cancelled due to a lack of available beds; the number of appointments cancelled on that date; the reasons; the steps being taken to reschedule affected patients as a matter of urgency; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65437/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1381. To ask the Minister for Health to resolve issues and long delays with PHN transfers between different regional HSE areas (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65429/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1382. To ask the Minister for Health in cases in which a building under her control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; her plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65349/26 | BARRY WARD

1383. To ask the Minister for Health the number of residents accommodated and the number of admissions in each year from 2019 to date in 2026, in respect of unit 1 at St. Stephen's Hospital, Glanmire; the nursing and healthcare assistant posts assigned to the unit in each of those years; the number left unfilled at year end; if admissions to the unit were paused at any point; and if so, on whose instruction and the reason.

PQ65373/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1384. To ask the Minister for Health the number of CAMHS referrals in 2025 and to date 2026 that were not accepted for treatment.

PQ65491/26 | SORCA CLARKE

1385. To ask the Minister for Health to address the serious delays in processing power of attorney cases which are needed to access the nursing home loan schemes in some cases (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65499/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1386. To ask the Minister for Health if she will urgently carry out changes to the fair deal scheme, as there seems to be certain anomalies in the scheme (details supplied).

PQ65457/26 | ROBERT TROY

1387. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 868 of 24 March 2026, to confirm that any employee who has auto-enrolled for the pension, that their employer contributions be included in the funding calculations and when these funds may be released to the charity (details supplied).

PQ65470/26 | MICHAEL LOWRY

1388. To ask the Minister for Health whether the HSE remains on schedule to recommence the South Tipperary Memory Clinic in October 2026, as advised in response to PQs 45675/26–45684/26; the precise date on which clinics will recommence; whether all staffing and administrative arrangements necessary to facilitate reopening are now in place;

PQ65502/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

1389. To ask the Minister for Health the current number of patients awaiting an initial assessment and a follow-up appointment at the South Tipperary Memory Clinic; the corresponding figures at 8 July 2026 were 450 and 168 respectively; the number waiting longer than 6, 12 and 18 months;

PQ65503/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

1390. To ask the Minister for Health the number of referrals to the South Tipperary Memory Clinic that have been returned to GPs since the service was paused to referrals on 1 January 2026; the clinical pathway available to those patients; whether they will require re-referral when the clinic reopens.

PQ65504/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

1391. To ask the Minister for Health if her attention has been drawn to concerns raised by the South Tipperary Faculty of the Irish College of General Practitioners regarding the continuing unavailability of the Memory Clinic; the additional pressure being placed on GPs, patients and family carers; the risk of delayed diagnosis and treatment; and the action being taken in response.

PQ65505/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

1392. To ask the Minister for Health what specialist assessment pathway is currently available in the public health service to a patient in South Tipperary presenting with suspected dementia or cognitive decline while the Memory Clinic remains unavailable; whether patients can access an alternative memory service elsewhere; and how equitable access is being ensured for patients unable to obtain a private assessment.

PQ65506/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

1393. To ask the Minister for Health further to the HSE confirmation in July 2026 that a risk assessment had been undertaken in respect of the suspension of the South Tipperary Memory Clinic, if a copy or summary of that assessment will be provided; the risks identified in relation to delayed diagnosis and treatment; the mitigation measures implemented; and whether the assessment has subsequently been reviewed.

PQ65507/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

1394. To ask the Minister for Health whether a formal recovery plan has now been developed for the South Tipperary Memory Clinic in advance of its anticipated reopening; the additional clinical capacity that will be provided to address the backlog; the projected number of initial and review appointments per month; and the timeframe within which the existing waiting list is expected to be reduced.

PQ65508/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

1395. To ask the Minister for Health the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under her control; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65319/26 | BARRY WARD

1396. To ask the Minister for Health if she will consider a fulsome review of the AMPDS coding and priority assigned by the National Ambulance Service to calls involving falls in elderly and vulnerable patients given the risk of occult fractures, particularly hip fractures, prolonged pain and deterioration while patients are waiting on the floor.

PQ65542/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1397. To ask the Minister for Health if she will engage with the National Ambulance service regarding the current AMPDS code for falls in older people to examine its efficacy from a patient-safety perspective; and whether a more timely ambulance response may be more beneficial in this regard.

PQ65541/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1398. To ask the Minister for Health when the most recent review of current AMPDS coding and priority assigned by the National Ambulance Service to calls involving falls in elderly and vulnerable patients was undertaken.

PQ65540/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1399. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE registrar in stroke service posts filled at Beaumont Hospital as of 8 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65572/26 | TOM BRABAZON

1400. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE clinical nurse specialists in Migraine posts filled at Beaumont Hospital as of 8 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65571/26 | TOM BRABAZON

1401. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE speech and language therapists posts filled within adult community rehabilitation services in CHO9 as of 8 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65570/26 | TOM BRABAZON

1402. To ask the Minister for Health the number of roles vacated at Bloomfield Hospital since 1 December 2025, by discipline and grade; and the number of those roles that have since been filled.

PQ65568/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1403. To ask the Minister for Health the number and WTE of staff employed at Bloomfield Hospital, Rathfarnham as of 1 September 2026, by discipline and grade; and the number of residents in the hospital on that date.

PQ65567/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1404. To ask the Minister for Health the number and WTE of staff employed at Bloomfield Hospital, Rathfarnham as of 1 December 2025, by discipline and grade; and the number of residents in the hospital on that date.

PQ65566/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1405. To ask the Minister for Health to provide details of the current clinical evidence and criteria used to determine the priority of current AMPDS coding, and the priority assigned by the National Ambulance Service to calls involving falls in elderly and vulnerable patients.

PQ65539/26 | JOANNA BYRNE

1406. To ask the Minister for Health if she will consider overhauling her Department's policy that pertains to medical card holders accessing audiology services (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65538/26 | CATHAL CROWE

1407. To ask the Minister for Health to clarify if the processing of samples from sites which hold a HSE contract (details supplied) is permitted in public laboratories.

PQ65525/26 | EOIN HAYES

1408. To ask the Minister for Health to urgently address the very serious delays in processing power of attorney cases which are needed to access nursing home loan schemes in some cases (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65578/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1409. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on a matter regarding job vacancies in a hospital (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65534/26 | DANNY HEALY-RAE

1410. To ask the Minister for Health when a steering group will be appointed for the development of the next National Cancer Strategy.

PQ65532/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

1411. To ask the Minister for Health when an evaluation of the existing National Cancer Strategy will be commissioned and scheduled for completion.

PQ65531/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

1412. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE consultant geriatric medicine posts filled at Wexford General Hospital, as of 9 September 2026; and if she will provide the same figures as of 30 September 2023, in tabular form.

PQ65590/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

1413. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE dietitians by grade, working within Wexford Older Persons Services, as of 9 September 2026, and in tabular form.

PQ65589/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

1414. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department will provide funding to enable free access to ICS-formoterol combination inhalers when prescribed as maintenance and reliever therapy (MART), given the low uptake of MART in Ireland, the over-prescription and over-reliance on short-acting reliever inhalers, and the comparatively high rates of asthma-related hospitalisations and deaths in Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65587/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

1415. To ask the Minister for Health the measures that will be included in Budget 2027 to increase access to ICS-formoterol combination inhalers prescribed as maintenance and reliever therapy (MART), given the low uptake of MART in Ireland and concerns regarding the over-prescription and overuse of short-acting reliever inhalers and the associated risk of asthma exacerbations.

PQ65611/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

1416. To ask the Minister for Health where the HSE or a public hospital contracts for cleaning services; the person or body that verifies the contractor's compliance with the employment regulation order; if a contractor is required, at tender or during a public contract, to demonstrate that mandatory safety training is provided as paid working time; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65627/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

1417. To ask the Minister for Health if funding for ICS-formoterol combination inhalers prescribed as maintenance and reliever therapy (MART) will be included as a measure in Budget 2027, in view of the low uptake of MART in Ireland, and the potential to reduce asthma exacerbations, hospitalisations and reliance on short-acting reliever inhalers; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65623/26 | CATHAL CROWE

1418. To ask the Minister for Health her views on the importance of establishing good dental habits early on life; if her Department has examined the possibility of providing free dental check-ups for children; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65621/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

1419. To ask the Minister for Health if consideration has been given to support those under the age of 18 years-of-age who are found in possession of drugs and cannot be referred to the health referral scheme.

PQ65653/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

1420. To ask the Minister for Health the anticipated wait time for a referee through the health referral scheme in accessing addiction services.

PQ65652/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

1421. To ask the Minister for Health if additional resources have been allocated to meet the growing need of addiction services with the recent introduction of the health referral scheme.

PQ65651/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

1422. To ask the Minister for Health if an assessment has been conducted regarding existing HSE addiction services in accommodating additional referrals that may arise through the health referral scheme.

PQ65650/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

1423. To ask the Minister for Health the safeguards that are in place to ensure there is consistency of referral decisions for the health referral scheme.

PQ65649/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

1424. To ask the Minister for Health the provisions that will be made for meaningful representation of patients in the development and governance of the next National Cancer Strategy.

PQ65533/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

1425. To ask the Minister for Health whether her Department or the HSE has tested the way in which major AI chatbots respond to Ireland-specific questions about unintended pregnancy and abortion; whether users are directed to accurate information, including the HSE's My Options service; whether she will arrange such testing if none has been undertaken; and if she will publish the findings.

PQ65529/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

1426. To ask the Minister for Health the caseload of patients in the National Forensic Mental Health System (NFMHS) that are ordinarily in the custody of the IPS on 31 January 2025, 30 June 2025 and 31 December 2025.

PQ65673/26 | MATT CARTHY

1427. To ask the Minister for Health the relocation financial assistance available to EU and non-EU candidates recruited to physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, dietetics and psychology posts; the number of eligible candidates in each profession in each of the years 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the number offered the assistance; the number who received it; the total expenditure; and the way in which candidates are informed of the scheme during recruitment.

PQ65668/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1428. To ask the Minister for Health whether the HSE has assessed whether the annual number of graduates from Irish physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy and dietetics programmes is sufficient to replace staff leaving the HSE and also meet planned service expansion; the projected additional workforce requirement in each discipline to 2030; and the proportion of that requirement the HSE expects will need to be met through recruitment of overseas-qualified professionals.

PQ65667/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1429. To ask the Minister for Health the arrangements in place to ensure that diabetic retinopathy screening appointments under the RetinaScreen programme are scheduled in a timely manner; and if she will address the issue of recurring delays experienced by patients who require annual screening for occupational reasons.

PQ65735/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1430. To ask the Minister for Health the number of 2026 graduate nurses who trained at CUH are being offered posts; and the number who have been left without a job.

PQ65733/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

1431. To ask the Minister for Health if GP's are permitted to limit patient appointments to 12 minutes (details supplied).

PQ65718/26 | ROBERT TROY

1432. To ask the Minister for Health to provide additional home help supports (detail supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65741/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

1433. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE or a public hospital contracts for cleaning services, who verifies the contractor's compliance with the employment regulation order; if a contractor is required, at tender or during a public contract, to demonstrate that mandatory safety training is provided as paid working time; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65713/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

1434. To ask the Minister for Health the number of inspections have been carried out in contract cleaning in publicly funded health settings in 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; if any breaches were found; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65712/26 | CIAN O'CALLAGHAN

1435. To ask the Minister for Health the data that will be collected and published on the operation of the Health Diversion Approach; the number considered for referral, referred to the HSE, accepting and completing an intervention, deemed ineligible and prosecuted, disaggregated by drug type, Garda division, age, gender, ethnicity and socio-economic background; and whether subsequent offending outcomes will be evaluated.

PQ64223/26 | GARY GANNON

1436. To ask the Minister for Health her views on whether the existing grant supports for persons with mobility issues to make private homes accessible are fair, specifically in terms of the means testing applied.

PQ65768/26 | BARRY WARD

1437. To ask the Minister for Health If her attention has be drawn to a case (details supplied); if she will clarify whether Roscommon Injury Unit is currently equipped and authorised to assess acute eye injuries in children: if so, the reason the child was directed elsewhere for assessment; and if not, the reason HSE information indicates that injury units can treat objects stuck in the eye and other minor eye injuries.

PQ65749/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1438. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated costs in 2027 of fully staffing five additional CAMHS ID teams.

PQ65748/26 | SEAMUS HEALY

1439. To ask the Minister for Health the number of dietitians currently on HSE recruitment panel within CHO5; and when does this panel expire.

PQ65747/26 | SEAMUS HEALY

1440. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE specialist registrar in dermatology posts filled at Cork University Hospital.

PQ65746/26 | SEAMUS HEALY

1441. To ask the Minister for Health the number of funded vacant posts in physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, dietetics and psychology at the latest available date; the number of applicants for those posts who were CORU-registered and required employment sponsorship; the number deemed appointable or offered posts; and the number whose appointment did not proceed because sponsorship was not provided.

PQ65663/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1442. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients estimated to be eligible for treatment with skylarys (omaveloxolone); if additional clinical appointments or resources are being provided to the National Ataxia Clinic at Tallaght University Hospital or other relevant services to facilitate the assessment and treatment of eligible patients; whether any capacity constraints that could delay access to the medication have been identified; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65856/26 | MATT CARTHY

1443. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department or the HSE has engaged with a company (details supplied) and the relevant neurology and ataxia services regarding the roll-out of skylarys (omaveloxolone) following its approval for reimbursement; if a national implementation or treatment pathway has been agreed; the arrangements being made to ensure eligible patients can be assessed and prescribed the treatment without unnecessary delay; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65855/26 | MATT CARTHY

1444. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the implementation and availability of skylarys (omaveloxolone) for patients with Friedrich's ataxia following its approval for reimbursement; the date on which it is expected that the first patients in Ireland to commence treatment; the steps that must be completed before prescribing will begin; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65854/26 | MATT CARTHY

1445. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an overview of the supports available to individuals diagnosed with bipolar; the reason these individuals report being excluded from access to the HSE and partner organisation's one-to-one counselling services; the rationale for this approach; if this will be reviewed; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65881/26 | JOHN BRADY

1446. To ask the Minister for Health if agency workers who take up employment with the HSE do not have their experience as agency workers taken into consideration and effectively start again on the pay scale; to confirm that this was not always the practice; and if she will consider reverting to the previous practice of taking experience into consideration regardless of if it is with an agency.

PQ65834/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1447. To ask the Minister for Health the criteria needed for a referral for a breast clinic appointment to be classed as urgent at University Hospital Waterford; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65772/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

1448. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for an urgent appointment at the breast clinic at University Hospital Waterford; the average waiting time for a non-urgent appointment; her plans to reduce these waiting times; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65771/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

1449. To ask the Minister for Health the arrangements that are in place with schools in County Roscommon where a child suffers an injury requiring urgent medical or ophthalmic assessment, including the advice available to schools regarding appropriate services to contact.

PQ65769/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1450. To ask the Minister for Health to outline the formal pathway for a child in County Roscommon who suffers an acute eye injury (details supplied).

PQ65766/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

1451. To ask the Minister for Health whether the HSE has assessed whether the annual number of graduates from Irish physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy and dietetics programmes is sufficient to replace staff leaving the HSE and also meet planned service expansion; the projected additional workforce requirement in each discipline to 2030; and the proportion of that requirement the HSE expects will need to be met through recruitment of overseas-qualified professionals.

PQ65662/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1452. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists and dietitians who left HSE employment in each year from 2019 to 2025 and to date in 2026; the number newly recruited in each profession in each year; the number of new graduates from Irish higher-education programmes in each profession who entered HSE employment; and the net annual change in HSE staffing in each discipline, in tabular form.

PQ65660/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1453. To ask the Minister for Health the number of candidates in physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, dietetics and psychology who were offered HSE posts in 2025 and to date in 2026 but were unable to take them up because they required an employment permit or employer sponsorship; the figures by profession and HSE Health Region; and the reasons sponsorship was not provided.

PQ65659/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1454. To ask the Minister for Health the number of funded vacant posts in physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, dietetics and psychology at the latest available date; the number of applicants for those posts who were CORU-registered and required employment sponsorship; the number deemed appointable or offered posts; and the number whose appointment did not proceed because sponsorship was not provided.

PQ65658/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1455. To ask the Minister for Health the HSE's policy on providing employment-permit sponsorship to suitably qualified candidates recruited to physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, dietetics and psychology posts; whether individual Health Regions or services may refuse sponsorship to an otherwise successful candidate; and whether a national policy applies.

PQ65657/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1456. To ask the Minister for Health the number of candidates in physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, dietetics and psychology who were offered HSE posts in 2025 and to date in 2026 but were unable to take them up because they required an employment permit or employer sponsorship; the figures by profession and HSE Health Region; and the reasons sponsorship was not provided.

PQ65656/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1457. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE dental surgeons and senior dental surgeons posts filled at Dundalk Orthodontist Unit as of 7 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65519/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

1458. To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting times to see a Consultant Paediatric Ophthalmologist at CHI Temple Street for a first appointment.

PQ65518/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

1459. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) is waiting on a dental appointment so long in Cavan.

PQ65786/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1460. To ask the Minister for Health if her Department has undertaken an assessment of the cost and potential healthcare savings associated with providing funded access to ICS-formoterol combination inhalers prescribed as maintenance and reliever therapy (MART) (details supplied); if the findings of this assessment will inform Budget 2027;

PQ65825/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

1461. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE operates any protocol requiring succession or continuity planning for specialist clinical services on the retirement of a lead consultant, so that established patient services are not discontinued without replacement or notice; if such a protocol was followed in the case of the Cork University Hospital mole screening service; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65824/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1462. To ask the Minister for Health the steps her Department and the HSE intend to take to ensure continuity of melanoma surveillance for affected patients, including those who are unable to meet the cost of accessing this screening privately; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65823/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1463. To ask the Minister for Health if any other hospital or facility within the public system is currently providing an equivalent mole screening or dermatoscopic surveillance service to which affected Cork University Hospital patients can be referred; if so, to list same; the current waiting times; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65822/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1464. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) is waiting on an MRI in the Mater Hospital Dublin; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65780/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1465. To ask the Minister for Health if patients with a previous melanoma diagnosis who relied on this annual surveillance have been provided with an alternative public pathway for continued screening; if not, the reason therefor; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65821/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1466. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who were under active mole screening or melanoma surveillance at Cork University Hospital at the time the service ceased; the manner in which those patients were notified that the service was no longer available to them; the date on which any such notification issued; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65820/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1467. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE environmental health officers, senior environmental health officers and principal environmental health officers employed by HSE as of 7 September 2026; if she will provide the same figures as of 31 December 2023, in tabular form.

PQ65779/26 | JOE COONEY

1468. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE addiction counsellors and senior addiction counsellors posts filled within CHO3 as of 7 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65778/26 | JOE COONEY

1469. To ask the Minister for Health the number of trainee psychologists graduating from doctoral courses in 2025 and to date in 2026; the number of those graduates who took up positions within HSE within 3 months of graduating.

PQ65777/26 | JOE COONEY

1470. To ask the Minister for Health the status of funding for orthopaedic surgery at Cappagh Hospital; the amount allocated for the year ahead; if planned procedures are still proceeding; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65918/26 | JOHN BRADY

1471. To ask the Minister for Health the HSE supports that are available to people with Addisons disease; and if additional supports will be considered in the future.

PQ65917/26 | MARK WARD

1472. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the mole screening and pigmented lesion surveillance service previously provided at Cork University Hospital was discontinued following the retirement of the lead consultant and specialist nursing staff in early 2026; if any successor or transition arrangement was put in place before the service ceased; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65819/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1473. To ask the Minister for Health the list of all services and the frequency of each, available at the Kilrush primary care centre as of August 2026; and the list of all services available in August 2024 and in August 2025, in tabular form.

PQ65808/26 | JOE COONEY

1474. To ask the Minister for Health if the design brief for the new surgical hub building at Letterkenny University Hospital incorporates inpatient wards on the upper floors of the building and a link corridor connecting said wards to the main hospital; and if so, if the architectural design brief specifically references the need to isolate the surgical hub from such inpatient wards as may be built on the upper floors of the building.

PQ65930/26 | PÁDRAIG MAC LOCHLAINN

1475. To ask the Minister for Health if persons whose disability directly affects their ability to meet the BMI threshold of 30 for publicly funded IVF may be assessed on an individual clinical basis; if she plans to provide reasonable accommodation within the scheme's eligibility criteria; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65928/26 | SHAY BRENNAN

1476. To ask the Minister for Health if, 13 months after she awarded a surgical hub to Letterkenny University Hospital, the HSE has identified the precise site on the hospital campus where the hub is to be built; and if not, the reason.

PQ65937/26 | PÁDRAIG MAC LOCHLAINN

1477. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists and dietitians who left HSE employment in each year from 2019 to 2025 and to date in 2026; the number newly recruited in each profession in each year; the number of new graduates from Irish higher-education programmes in each profession who entered HSE employment; and the net annual change in HSE staffing in each discipline, in tabular form.

PQ65666/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

1478. To ask the Minister for Health the safety-netting protocols which exist for women already known to specialist perinatal mental health services for post-pregnancy care.

PQ65946/26 | HOLLY CAIRNS

1479. To ask the Minister for Health the number of men and women who were diverted from prison by the Prison In-Reach and Court Liaison Service to mental health services in between 1 January 2025 and 31 December 2025.

PQ65675/26 | MATT CARTHY

1480. To ask the Minister for Health to review the correspondence (details supplied); the steps this person should next take; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65744/26 | NIALL COLLINS

1481. To ask the Minister for Health to confirm that support will be given to counselling and psychotherapy professionals in the industry and to persons who require the service; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ66374/26 | COLM BURKE

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

1482. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the current cost of student accommodation; and the steps his Department has taken to ensure the aforementioned cost does not obstruct students' plans to pursue third level education.

PQ64165/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1483. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps his Department has taken to resolve the shortage of student accommodation in the State.

PQ64153/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1484. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to review income thresholds for SUSI grants; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ64290/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

1485. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the level of interest there has been from HEI's to build PBSA on their lands as per the new Student Accommodation Strategy.

PQ64297/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1486. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether his Department has assessed the future workforce skills that will be required to support increased adoption of artificial intelligence among Irish businesses over the next five years; and whether new training, apprenticeship or micro-credential programmes are planned to address anticipated gaps.

PQ64244/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

1487. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department has been made aware of concerns regarding inconsistent application of SUSI eligibility criteria for students undertaking doctorate in clinical psychology programmes with partial HSE fee support; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64635/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

1488. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of students enrolled on doctorate in clinical psychology programmes who received SUSI support in each of the past five academic years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64631/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

1489. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if receipt of partial HSE funding towards tuition fees automatically renders a student ineligible for SUSI grant assistance; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64629/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

1490. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether students undertaking the doctorate in clinical psychology programme who receive partial HSE funding towards tuition fees are eligible for support under the student grant scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64624/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

1491. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he has undertaken an assessment of the financial sustainability of the higher education sector in light of indications from the Higher Education Authority (details supplied); the findings of any such assessment; the measures being considered to address the financial sustainability of the sector; and if addressing the outstanding core funding deficits in higher education will be a priority in Budget 2027.

PQ64619/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1492. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if supplementary funding will be provided in 2026 to address recognised legacy shortfalls in funding for public sector pay awards in the higher education sector; the estimated value of any such outstanding shortfall; and the measures planned to address these costs on a recurring basis through core grant funding.

PQ64617/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1493. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the amount of funding provided towards closing the identified funding gap of €307 million per annum since the publication of Funding the Future in May 2022; the remaining annual funding gap each year; and the cumulative value of these funding shortfalls over the period for each year, in tabular form.

PQ64615/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1494. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the research conducted by Research Ireland on chronic migraine in Ireland; his plans to support additional research on this topic; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64610/26 | JOE NEVILLE

1495. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to report on the current average cost for student accommodation per month; and his views on whether the current accommodation costs have obstructed young people from pursuing third level education.

PQ64596/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

1496. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the safeguards in place to ensure that healthcare practices presented to students and healthcare professionals in higher education institutions are appropriately distinguished between established evidence-based practice, emerging research, and unproven practice; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64701/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1497. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether he is satisfied that University College Cork's child safeguarding and research governance procedures have been appropriately considered in relation to educational material concerning infants and lactation presented at the TransCare 2026 conference; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64700/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1498. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether his Department has any role in ensuring appropriate research, clinical evidence and safeguarding standards are applied to healthcare-related educational events hosted by publicly funded higher education institutions, in view of the TransCare 2026 conference at University College Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64699/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1499. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason Solas was allowed to give exam papers to apprentices on modules that were not covered (details supplied).

PQ64786/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

1500. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64860/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

1501. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number and percentages of Hear/Dare scheme applicants from fee paying schools compared to those from DEIS schools, and other non-fee-paying schools, in each of the years 2020 to 2025 and to date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64896/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1502. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of students that applied to the hear/dare scheme; and the number that were accepted and not accepted in each of the years from 2020 to 2025 and to date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ64893/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

1503. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measurable action he and the HEA will take to identify and support student carers, and to monitor their access, participation and outcomes, before the National Access Plan concludes in 2028.

PQ64234/26 | JEN CUMMINS

1504. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware of concerns regarding the removal or alteration of progression pathways from the BA Home Economics programme at St Angela's College to Professional Master of Education programmes.

PQ64928/26 | PEADAR TÓIBÍN

1505. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason a student (details supplied) cannot defer their third level course.

PQ65334/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

1506. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if the veterinary medicine course offered in Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences is equivalent in terms of qualification to the veterinary medicine course offered in UCD; and if not, the reason for this.

PQ65438/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

1507. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65348/26 | BARRY WARD

1508. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether education and training boards, micro-credential programmes, lifelong learning initiatives or other further education and training funding streams may be utilised to support the delivery of specialist programmes in areas such as apiculture and pollinator conservation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65481/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1509. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether his Department has assessed the impact of funding pressures within the higher education sector on the viability of specialist or niche programmes, particularly those relating to biodiversity, environmental sustainability and rural skills development; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65480/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1510. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures being taken by his Department to address the funding shortfall facing higher education institutions; the impact this shortfall is having on continuing and adult education programmes; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65479/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1511. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the funding mechanisms that exist or are planned to support specialist educational programmes which contribute to national biodiversity, pollinator protection and environmental sustainability objectives, including programmes in apiculture; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65478/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1512. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his attention has been drawn to the suspension of the Diploma in Apiculture programme at the University of Galway; whether any engagement has taken place between his Department and the university regarding the future provision of apiculture education; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65477/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

1513. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65318/26 | BARRY WARD

1514. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the assessment his Department has made of the potential for converting vacant and disused buildings into affordable student accommodation; and the funding or incentives are available to facilitate such conversions.

PQ64681/26 | CONOR SHEEHAN

1515. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason a person (details supplied) has been refused the SUSI grant.

PQ65785/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1516. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans for new apprenticeships to be offered in County Clare; and the timeframe to have them up and running.

PQ65783/26 | JOE COONEY

1517. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether any funding is available for a website aimed at identifying grants available to communities and individuals.

PQ65922/26 | THOMAS GOULD

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

1518. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the funding allocated to Coillte for the maintenance, upkeep and improvement of Derroua cycle trail, Connemara since 2020; if that funding has been spent on Derroua; where exactly the money has been spent; the reason the track is in such poor condition considering the State investment; and if his Department officials will walk the trail to examine this expenditure and future needs.

PQ64490/26 | SEÁN KYNE

1519. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht if an application (details supplied) will be reviewed and an update provided.

PQ64703/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

1520. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht if any financial support has been provided to businesses whose primary activity is the retail of vaping products, e-cigarettes or nicotine inhaling products under the town and village renewal scheme, the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund, or any related scheme administered by local authorities on behalf of his Department, in each of the years 2020 to date, by local authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64770/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

1521. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht his Department's policy regarding the national Gaeltacht gallery; the funding awarded to the national Gaeltacht gallery in Gaoth Dobhair over the past five years; if there have been changes to the funding provided to the gallery; and if so, the reason for this.

PQ64743/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

1522. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the details of any contracts in place between his Department and agencies under his remit with a company (details supplied) known to have provided material support to the IDF in Gaza, which the Government considers to be guilty of genocide, since 2023.

PQ64861/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

1523. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the number of full-time IT specialists at the grade of higher executive officer based within his Department as of 7 September 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65412/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

1524. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht in cases in which a building under his control is not wheelchair accessible, the reason for this; his plans to remedy this; and the timeline for measures to be completed.

PQ65353/26 | BARRY WARD

1525. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht if there is any avenue available for community groups who had broadband supplied through the WIFI4EU programme to have the service expanded to cover additional parts of their facilities.

PQ65372/26 | ROBERT TROY

1526. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the wheelchair accessibility of all buildings under his control; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65323/26 | BARRY WARD

1527. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the total funding provided through the Community Services Programme in Dublin 5, 13 and 17 areas in each of the years 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ65569/26 | TOM BRABAZON

1528. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the total funding provided to date under the New Communities Funding for Volunteer Centres broken down by year and county.

PQ65776/26 | BARRY WARD

1529. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht his views on the merits of creating a multiannual fund for the volunteer sector under the New Communities Funding for Volunteer Centres.

PQ65775/26 | BARRY WARD

1530. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the position regarding any engagement he has had with an organisation (details supplied) in relation to their asks to continue funding under the New Communities Funding for Volunteer Centres.

PQ65774/26 | BARRY WARD

**QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL ANSWER ON
THURSDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2026****Chun an Aeráide, Fuinnimh agus Comhshaoil: To the Climate, Energy and the Environment**

7. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the assessment his Department has made of the impact of the exceptionally hot and dry conditions experienced in Ireland during summer 2026 (details supplied); the additional measures he intends to introduce to protect and support communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65985/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

8. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if his attention has been drawn to a report issued by the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council titled the Hidden Costs of Inaction July 2026, which warned of the costs Ireland will face in financial penalties if we fail to meet our climate targets; if he will outline the likely costs; and the margin by which costs are projected to be missed.

PQ64910/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

9. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to urgently address Ireland's isolation in the context of oil and gas and all aspects of energy demands and expedite the provision of offshore floating windfarms, to secure Ireland's long-term energy security and eliminate our structural vulnerability to volatile global fossil fuel markets; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65723/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

10. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he aware of cases whereby people eligible for fuel poverty supports including the better energy warmer homes scheme go through the lengthy application process and are ultimately, on decision, only deemed eligible for minimal upgrading works due building regulations requiring a heating system that they do not have.

PQ65809/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

11. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the impact of electricity demand for data centres on the public network; and the studies that have been carried out to determine the impact on the householder in terms of additional costs and so on.

PQ65585/26 | BRIAN STANLEY

12. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he is aware of the work being done to introduce high temperature heat pumps in the UK; and if he will consider accelerating the roll out in Ireland.

PQ65221/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

13. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the actions he has taken following his concerns regarding the level of underspending by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland in 2025, the changes to governance, structures and delivery arrangements that he has sought; and the measures being put in place to ensure that allocated funding is translated into increased delivery of home energy upgrades in 2026 and 2027.

PQ65126/26 | GRACE BOLAND

14. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if his Department has received any reports from the National Waste Collection Permit Office since March 2025; the issues addressed in any such reports; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65951/26 | MATT CARTHY

15. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will report on updates to Ireland grid as part of PR6; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65910/26 | PA DALY

16. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment when he expects to publish the Climate Action Plan 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65428/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

17. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he is aware of anomalies with the better energy warmer homes scheme whereby people who are experiencing energy poverty and are eligible for upgrades, cannot get works done on their house due to current building regulations and heat loss issues.

PQ65826/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

18. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the national level assessment being conducted by the SEAI centre of excellence, which will provide a report on the potential areas for district heating.

PQ65700/26 | JAMES GEOGHEGAN

19. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will report on small scale renewable electricity generation; if he is satisfied with progress being made; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65908/26 | PA DALY

20. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures he is taking to prepare Ireland for increasingly extreme weather; the concrete measures that have been delivered since his time in office; if he is satisfied these are sufficient to withstand potential storms and flooding this winter; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65907/26 | PA DALY

21. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the planned publication of the Climate Action Plan 2026.

PQ65687/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

22. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures he and his Department are taking to establish serious offenses for environmental damage, creating personal liability and introducing strict penalties for company directors whose actions harm the environment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65642/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

23. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his response to a recent United Nations Environment Programme report which concluded that global warming is certain to overshoot the 1.5C threshold; if he is satisfied that Ireland has to date made its fair contribution towards limiting global warming; if this Government will now significantly scale up its climate action measures to play our part in limiting the overshoot of the threshold and reach the legally binding targets that we have committed to; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65978/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

24. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his proposals to support consumers financially burdened by rising energy prices.

PQ65973/26 | CATHY BENNETT

25. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether consideration is being given to the introduction of a boiler replacement or scrappage scheme for households that do not qualify for assistance under the SEAL warmer homes scheme; the supports currently available to assist such households in replacing older, inefficient and high-emission heating systems; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65967/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

26. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he has engaged with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage regarding developing guidelines for solar farms.

PQ65912/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

27. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the total amount of funding transferred from the NORA levy to the Climate Action Fund (CAF) in each of the years from 2020 to 2025; the projected transfer for 2026; the total annual expenditure drawn down from CAF over the same period; the current unspent balance remaining in the fund's account; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64909/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

28. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will commission a report into the number of data centres that the Irish energy grid and water networks can handle; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65430/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

29. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures being taken to reduce waiting times under the warmer homes scheme; the target waiting time for applicants by the end of 2026 and 2027; and whether additional delivery capacity will be put in place to ensure increased funding results in a corresponding increase in completed home energy upgrades.

PQ65127/26 | GRACE BOLAND

30. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures his Department is taking to ensure that local communities are provided with clear, accessible and comprehensive information regarding large-scale renewable energy developments, including solar farms, battery energy storage systems and associated grid infrastructure.

PQ64931/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

31. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will expand the role of the Commission for Regulation of Utilities to regulate retail consumer energy prices.

PQ65840/26 | SÉAMUS MCGRATH

32. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the input his Department has had into the development of wind energy development guidelines as initiated by the Department for Housing; Local Government and Heritage.

PQ64891/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

33. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the up-to-date position in relation to the implementation of additional legislative measures to protect electricity transmission lines and enable the establishment of forestry corridors; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65863/26 | BRENDAN SMITH

34. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the actions being taken to address delays in the development of offshore wind energy projects; the reasons a number of projects remain behind schedule; the impact these delays will have on the achievement of Ireland's offshore renewable energy targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65767/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

35. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures that are being taken to reduce household electricity bills.

PQ65958/26 | EDWARD TIMMINS

36. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will provide an update on the general scheme of the Private Wires Bill 2025; and when he expects legislation to be introduced.

PQ65701/26 | JAMES GEOGHEGAN

37. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures his Department is taking to improve energy affordability.

PQ64895/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

38. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the national framework governing the development and operation of battery energy storage systems; and whether he plans to review current guidance relating to safety standards and emergency response procedures.

PQ64932/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

39. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his Department's assessment of the outlook for household electricity and gas prices over winter 2026–2027, in view of continuing disruption to LNG supply through the Strait of Hormuz; the contingency measures in place to protect households at risk of energy poverty; and the engagement he has had with the Commission for Regulation of Utilities on customer protections for the coming winter.

PQ65859/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

40. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures being taken to ensure that investment in electricity generation and grid infrastructure keeps pace with growing demand from households, businesses and large energy users.

PQ65913/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

41. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the input his Department has had into the development of the revised Wind Energy Guidelines.

PQ65691/26 | PETER ROCHE

42. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to outline the plans, to 2030, for the development of district and communal heating systems.

PQ65853/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

43. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his plans to address the particular challenges associated with decarbonising rural homes that remain dependent on oil (kerosene) and other fossil fuels for heating; and whether his Department is developing a transitional pathway for households for which immediate installation of a heat pump and associated retrofit works may not be technically or financially feasible.

PQ65877/26 | JOHN CLENNEN

44. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the schemes under his Department's remit funded from carbon tax receipts, including home energy upgrade grants, and the 2026 allocation to each; the estimated impact on those schemes of the deferral of the scheduled carbon tax increase from 1 May to 14 October 2026, and of any further deferral; and the way in which a resulting shortfall will be met.

PQ65860/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

45. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the status of the Climate Action Plan 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65972/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

46. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he or his senior officials have had any meetings with National Waste Collection Permit Office since March 2025; the issues discussed at any such meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65950/26 | MATT CARTHY

47. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the role he envisages for sustainable bio-liquids, renewable liquid fuels and other lower carbon heating solutions in reducing emissions from rural homes during their transition away from fossil fuel heating; and whether such fuel options could provide an interim decarbonisation pathway for such households.

PQ65878/26 | JOHN CLENNEN

48. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures he is taking to reduce the cost of electricity to households.

PQ64789/26 | DARREN O'ROURKE

49. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the current number of consumers in arrears regarding electricity bills; and the cadence at which such data is reported to Government.

PQ65975/26 | CATHY BENNETT

50. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the steps that are being taken to reduce the applications backlog in the warmer homes scheme.

PQ65851/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

51. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the progress made in implementing the requirement that new data centre developments match at least 80% of their electricity demand with new renewable generation.

PQ65914/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

52. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will report on progress to deliver offshore wind; the earliest date a project will commence construction; the projects and work he anticipates will have been delivered by 2030; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65905/26 | PA DALY

53. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if it is proposed to implement additional measures that would assist in the reduction of littering in public places and along roads throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65864/26 | BRENDAN SMITH

54. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he has read a report (details supplied); and to outline his plans to deal with the increased costs of electricity for households as a result of data centre usage.

PQ65815/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

55. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures his Department hopes to introduce as part of the budget to reduce energy costs for businesses.

PQ65852/26 | JOE NEVILLE

56. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the number of grants that have been awarded for geothermal heat pump systems, by county, for each of the years 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; and the actions his Department is taking to raise awareness of these systems and increase the numbers of such grants.

PQ65883/26 | JOE COONEY

57. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the additional supports he is considering to help families cope with increasing home-heating oil prices.

PQ65816/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

Chun an Leanaí, Míchumais agus Comhionannais: To the Children, Disability and Equality

64. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the progress that has been made towards the Programme for Government's commitments to further reduce childcare costs for families; the measures implemented to date to improve affordability; the planned measures to improve affordability and availability of childcare for families.

PQ65916/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

65. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the amount spent on litigating judicial reviews in Cork for failure to complete AON in the necessary timeframe since 2020.

PQ65644/26 | THOMAS GOULD

66. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality in the targeted plans to reduce childcare costs for parents, are there plans in place to review the Core Funding Programme to ensure that funding reflects the increasing costs faced by childcare providers and if consideration will be given to increasing funding and, where necessary, allowing providers greater flexibility to adjust fees to ensure the continued financial viability and sustainability of services.

PQ65960/26 | EDWARD TIMMINS

67. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of children on the waiting list for an assessment of need in counties Cavan and Monaghan, by county; and the number waiting more than three, six and 12 months.

PQ65953/26 | MATT CARTHY

68. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will consider increasing the duration of parent's leave to support more working parents to stay at home with their children during the first year, given her Department has policy and legal responsibility for all family leaves.

PQ65895/26 | MARK WALL

69. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to give an update on the sites to be selected for the rollout of the State-led childcare pilot; and if she has considered the inclusion of County Kildare given it has one of the lowest levels of community childcare provision.

PQ65891/26 | MARK WALL

70. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will confirm that pay increases agreed under the public sector pay discussions will automatically apply to health and social care workers employed by Section 39 organisations.

PQ65462/26 | JOE COONEY

71. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures she is considering in Budget 2027 to expand childcare capacity, particularly in rural areas experiencing significant shortages of places; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65983/26 | KEIRA KEOGH

72. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures she is taking to increase residential places for adults with intellectual disabilities in County Meath; and the number of new residential places planned for 2026 and 2027.

PQ64790/26 | DARREN O'ROURKE

73. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department has assessed the impact that the lack of affordable childcare could have on labour market participation, particularly among women; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65982/26 | KEIRA KEOGH

74. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the assessment her Department has made of the potential discriminatory impact of the increasing move by Government Departments and public bodies towards online-only or predominantly digital access to public services and supports (details supplied); whether she accepts that equality of access requires meaningful non-digital alternatives where necessary; and the oversight or mechanism exists to ensure that public services being digitised do not create new barriers to accessing rights and entitlements.

PQ65792/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

75. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether she considers it acceptable that the HSE has been unable to provide complete national data on the distance from home at which children and adults with disabilities are placed in residential services, despite such information being available in some parts of the country; if adequate scrutiny can take place in relation to human rights, family and community connections, service planning and value for money in the absence of consistent national data; the steps she will take to ensure that this information is collected and published nationally; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65594/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

76. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality following her meeting and engagement with an organisation (details supplied), the recent measures she and her Department have taken to address the key concerns of the organisation; and the way in which she intends to address the issues related to the future planning and care of adults with an intellectual disability.

PQ65802/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

77. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether she is aware that there are no available residential beds for children with disabilities in Cork city and that parents in crisis are being forced to leave their children in emergency departments because their calls for help are continuously ignored.

PQ65643/26 | THOMAS GOULD

78. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to review the unfair situation where parents working in private industry are limited to parental leave to the age of 12 for their child, compared to age 16 for parents working in the public service.

PQ65957/26 | EDWARD TIMMINS

79. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will expand the mother and baby institutions payment scheme to include survivors who are currently excluded.

PQ65898/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

80. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she is exploring mechanisms to ease the administrative burden on childcare providers who are in core funding.

PQ65704/26 | JAMES GEOGHEGAN

81. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if equine therapy facilities will be developed at the HSE's Toghermore campus in Tuam, County Galway.

PQ64901/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

82. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of children currently waiting on an assessment of need under the Disability Act 2005, by county; and the longest length of time a child currently on the list has been waiting for an assessment.

PQ64907/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

83. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of disability residential and respite properties operated by the HSE, section 38 organisations and section 39 organisations which are leased or rented from private landlords; the total annual expenditure on rent or lease payments in respect of such properties in 2025 and the estimated expenditure for 2026; and the number of properties in each category at risk of lease expiry or sale within the next three years.

PQ65596/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

84. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether she will consider reforming the administration of the national childcare scheme to ensure that parents are not financially penalised for collecting their children early where they are paying the childcare provider for the full period booked.

PQ65931/26 | EMER CURRIE

85. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will provide an update on the number of childcare providers nationally and in Dublin who were in core funding on January 1st and 31st December for each of the years 2023, 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026.

PQ65703/26 | JAMES GEOGHEGAN

86. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the recent investment in family resource centres (FRC's); if she will consider making funding available to FRC's to expand the current work they are doing around domestic violence.

PQ65896/26 | MARK WALL

87. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the current waiting times for the Children's Disability Network Team services in Galway and nationally; the vacancies that currently exist within those teams; and the specific actions being taken to ensure children can access assessments and therapies within clinically appropriate timeframes.

PQ64933/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

88. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the roll-out of State-led childcare facilities; the number of additional places these will provide; where these facilities will be located; and when they will become operational.

PQ65933/26 | DANIEL ENNIS

89. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if consideration is being given to integrating county and city childcare committees into local authorities, similar to the previous integration of county and city enterprise boards into local authorities.

PQ65964/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

90. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for enhanced services at a location (details supplied); to create a centre of excellence for respite for both adults and children; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65721/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

91. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether she will consider the State taking responsibility for staff costs as part of the commitment to cap monthly childcare fees at €200 per month.

PQ65934/26 | EMER CURRIE

92. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the grant-aid available at present for the expansion of existing childcare facilities and the provision of new childcare accommodation; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65924/26 | BRENDAN SMITH

93. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department have plans to establish a cross-departmental working group, led by her Department to examine the needs of young carers and develop aligned supports across Government, ensuring an integrated, coordinated, and effective response to their needs; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65927/26 | SEÁN KYNE

94. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether the HSE Single Point of Access for children's services has launched; the HSE regions it is operational in; the number of referrals received through it to date; the status of implementation of the Autism Assessment and Intervention Pathways Protocol launched on 26 May 2026; and whether waiting times for autism assessment are now recorded consistently across primary care, mental health and disability services.

PQ65861/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

95. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether, in the development or expansion of equality policies and services, she requires Government Departments and public bodies to assess the impact on the capacity, accessibility and waiting times of existing services where eligibility is expanded to include additional groups (details supplied); and whether she is satisfied that such changes can be implemented without adversely affecting access to services for the population those services were originally established to serve.

PQ65795/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

96. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will ensure Budget 2027 invests in not-for-profit residential care for children in the care of the State.

PQ65904/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

97. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her views on whether equality of access to State services cannot depend upon a person's ability to navigate digital technology; the assessment she has made of whether the rapid digitisation and automation of public services is creating indirect discrimination or barriers for persons(details supplied); and the statutory or administrative safeguards are in place to ensure that such persons can access public services, supports and legal or administrative processes through an equally effective alternative where they cannot use the digital system.

PQ65793/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

98. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will consider introducing multi annual funding arrangements for capital projects undertaken by disability service providers and disability organisations, in order to provide greater funding certainty and enable more effective planning and delivery of essential disability infrastructure.

PQ65122/26 | GRACE BOLAND

99. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her views on the current implementation of the HSE single point of access model for children's primary care, Children's Disability Network Team and CAMHS services; the extent to which the model is operational, by health region; whether CAMHS psychiatry in each health region have formally agreed to participate in the model; the process by which referrals are adjudicated where there is disagreement as to whether a child should be seen by primary care, a CDNT or CAMHS; the person with ultimate decision-making responsibility in such cases; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65595/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

100. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will be carrying out a consultation on the issues impacting young family carers in Ireland.

PQ65893/26 | MARK WALL

101. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether she has engaged with an organisation (details supplied); and the way in which her Department intends to provide homes for all adult children with intellectual and other disabilities who are currently in need of residential services, or who foreseeably will need them in the short to medium term, with particular regard for those currently receiving care from older family members.

PQ65835/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

102. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if a resolution has been agreed with her Department and a union (details supplied) on the ongoing industrial action in Oberstown Children Detention Centre; to comment on the number of work related injuries sustained by staff since 2020; and the steps she is taking to improve safe working conditions in the centre for both staff and the young people detained there.

PQ65888/26 | MARK WARD

103. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the progress made towards progressively reducing the cost of childcare to €200 per month per child through the National Childcare Scheme; the progress made towards exploring options to cap costs for larger families.

PQ65915/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

104. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the assessment undertaken of childcare capacity in Galway East; the measures being taken to create additional childcare places in rapidly growing communities; and if consideration is being given to targeted supports for childcare providers operating in rural towns and villages.

PQ64934/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

105. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on her consultation with childminders.

PQ65901/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

106. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for a progress report on the move to State acquisition of childcare facilities; whether plans have been developed for the future management and operation of acquired facilities, including the process by which their operation may be tendered.

PQ65965/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

107. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the current status of the implementation of the new Autism Assessment and Intervention Pathway Protocol; and the number of the proposed in-reach teams that have been established to date.

PQ65879/26 | JOHN CLENDENNEN

108. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the provision of a State pension for foster carers, in consultation, with the Minister for Social Protection.

PQ65900/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

109. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her plans to increase the availability of afterschool childcare spaces.

PQ65745/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

110. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality with respect to the recently published Action Plan for the National Strategy for Women and Girls, which commits her Department to working to eliminate violence against women, the way in which she intends to work with her counterparts at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and in local authorities to ensure that women and girls subject to domestic violence in the home can quickly change addresses to ensure their safety.

PQ65838/26 | RICHARD BOYD BARRETT

111. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department have plans to expand Family Resource Centres (FRC's) in 2027 given the benefits of having Family Resource Centres for local communities; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65923/26 | SEÁN KYNE

112. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the urgent additional measures are being taken to bring down the number on waiting lists for assessment of needs in County Mayo.

PQ65971/26 | ROSE CONWAY-WALSH

113. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the criteria applied in prioritising projects for the current phase of the State-led Early Learning and Childcare Capital Programme; the number and locations of the projects prioritised to date; whether the planning status and estimated fit-out period of the premises proposed for a facility of up to 150 places in Glanmire, Cork, submitted by Cork City Childcare Committee, were assessed in reaching the decision not to prioritise that proposal; when the next phase of project selection will take place; and when decisions are expected to be confirmed.

PQ65862/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

114. Chun a fhiafraí den an Aire Leanaí, Míchumais agus Comhionannais an bhfuil sí ag breathnú ar pholasaí iontrála maidir leis an nGaeilge do leanaí i naíonraí sna ceantacha Gaeltachta; agus an ndéanfaidh sí ráiteas ina thaobh.

PQ65911/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

115. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps her Department is taking to eliminate the backlogs in accessing therapies in speech and language occupational therapy and psychology in Laois through local CDNTs and the expected timelines; the actions the Government and her Department are taking to prioritise recruitment and retention in frontline workforce for occupational therapy and child disability teams in Laois.

PQ65773/26 | BRIAN STANLEY

116. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether the Equality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2024 will appear on the Autumn legislative programme.

PQ65689/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

117. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on the State-led Early Learning and Childcare Capital Programme 2026; the locations have been selected; and when they are expected to commence.

PQ65699/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

118. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures she is taking to increase day services for adults with intellectual disabilities in County Meath; the number of new places planned for 2026 and 2027.

PQ64791/26 | DARREN O'ROURKE

119. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her proposals to address the gap in levels of funding for childcare against the increased costs borne by providers.

PQ65990/26 | CATHY BENNETT

120. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the targets that have been established for the new Autism Assessment and Intervention Pathway Protocol in relation to the number of assessments to be completed, waiting times and anticipated reduction in demand for statutory Assessments of Need.

PQ65880/26 | JOHN CLENDENNEN

121. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the progress made on the development of a State led model for the provision of childcare infrastructure in areas experiencing acute shortages of places; the way in which areas of unmet demand will be identified; and the timeframe for the first facilities under this model to become operational.

PQ65123/26 | GRACE BOLAND

122. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her proposals to provide additional respite capacity for adults and children with disabilities in County Monaghan.

PQ65952/26 | MATT CARTHY

123. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department will consider fast growing population towns like Naas, Kilcock and Maynooth to be included in the pilot scheme on State-led childcare as there is a major childcare availability shortage in these areas currently.

PQ65846/26 | JOE NEVILLE

124. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether Budget 2027 will include a multi-annual funding framework for disability services, covering both current and capital expenditure; whether such a framework will set out planned investment in residential services, respite, home support, personal assistance, day services and children's disability services over a defined number of years; and her views on whether multi-annual funding is necessary to allow the HSE and funded service providers to plan workforce, capacity and infrastructure on a sustainable basis.

PQ65597/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

125. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality in the context of the preparations for Budget 2027, if any funding secured for pay parity for Section 39 disability organisations will include full provision for employer pension and PRSI costs, and not solely the basic pay increase; and the timeline for closing the outstanding pay and pension gap between these workers and their HSE/Section 38 counterparts.

PQ65463/26 | JOE COONEY

126. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of children in Cavan and Monaghan that received an assessment of need within the statutory timeframe in the years 2024 to date; and the number that did not.

PQ65987/26 | CATHY BENNETT

127. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to outline measures to encourage greater numbers into fostering.

PQ65731/26 | MALCOLM BYRNE

128. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide the latest update on the Programme for Government commitment to progressively reduce the cost of childcare to €200 per month per child through the national childcare scheme; and the way in which she intends to address the issue of afterschool childcare places.

PQ65804/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

129. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the progress of the restructuring of special care; and whether consideration is being given to dealing with the difficulties created by the loss of high support units.

PQ65849/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

130. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps being taken to improve transport supports for persons with disabilities accessing respite care services.

PQ65693/26 | PETER ROCHE

131. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the engagement she has had with a campaign (details supplied) since she took office; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ64908/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

132. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality in respect of children in disability residential placements, the total expenditure attributable to agency staffing and directly employed staffing in 2025 and to date in 2026 (details supplied); the proportion of total staffing expenditure represented by agency staffing in each provider category; whether the HSE requires providers of commissioned residential placements to report the level and cost of agency staffing; and, if this information is not collected centrally, how the HSE assesses workforce stability, continuity of care and value for money in these high cost placements.

PQ65601/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

133. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will consider allowing single parent families to take the same amount of leave as two parent households taking parent's leave, given her Department has policy and legal responsibility for all family leaves.

PQ65894/26 | MARK WALL

134. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will outline funding for family resource centres in north Dublin for 2026.

PQ65714/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

135. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the current number of staffing vacancies on Mayo children's disability network teams (CDNTs); the additional resources and service capacity being provided to address long waiting lists for the CDNTs; and the timeframe for reducing waiting times and ensuring children can access appropriate assessment and intervention.

PQ65974/26 | ROSE CONWAY-WALSH

136. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of towns that will be included in the pilot scheme on State-led childcare; and when her Department hopes the first pilot will begin.

PQ65848/26 | JOE NEVILLE

137. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on the progress of the Equality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2024; whether she will confirm that socio-economic disadvantage will be included as the 10th protected ground in the Bill; and whether she remains committed to its inclusion as a protected ground.

PQ65936/26 | DANIEL ENNIS

138. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of young people whose assessment of need were not delivered within the statutory timeline of six months in the past five years; and the steps her Department is taking to deliver these on time.

PQ65889/26 | MARK WARD

139. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on pay for early years educators and school age care practitioners, and the €45 million ringfenced for a pay increase for them this year.

PQ65899/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

140. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures her Department is taking to provide additional respite capacity in County Galway, in view of the increasing waiting lists for these services.

PQ64899/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

141. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of social workers, social care workers and foster carers that are currently required in Tusla; and the efforts being made to address the shortfall.

PQ65847/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

142. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps being taken to deliver a reduction in childcare costs towards the Programme for Government's target of €200 per month per child.

PQ65694/26 | PETER ROCHE

143. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her views on whether elected Deputies have a fundamental role in raising concerns on behalf of their constituents (details supplied); whether she has concerns about any publicly funded organisation seeking to influence or restrict the manner in which elected representatives raise legitimate matters of public concern; and the safeguards that exist to ensure that efforts to combat discrimination or hate speech do not inadvertently suppress legitimate political debate or discourage Deputies from raising issues affecting their constituents.

PQ65794/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

144. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the up to date position regarding the roll-out of the future building blocks scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ65926/26 | BRENDAN SMITH

145. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to outline measures to increase employment opportunities for those with learning disabilities.

PQ65729/26 | MALCOLM BYRNE